

from: Spokes <spokes@spokes.org.uk> [via](#) gmail.com
to: spokes <spokes@spokes.org.uk>
bcc:
date: 21 Jan 2019, 21:29
subject: Spokes Action Mini-Update

This is a mini-update to emailable Spokes members to notify you of some forthcoming dates, including two very important consultations which close soon...

Jan 28 [next Monday] – Closing date for your opportunity to comment on the Bill to make **20mph the default speed limit in urban areas** in Scotland. **Please do respond to the short survey below. There is strong lobbying against the Bill, so every response is important.**

- The survey is [here](#), from the Scottish Parliament Committee dealing with the Bill. You can just answer a single yes/no question, or you can answer an additional 6 short questions.
- If you wish to make more detailed comments, or to find out more, see [here](#).



Jan 25 [this Friday] – Closing date for comments on the future of **George Street**.

- The Consultation web pages are [here](#) and there is a lot more background [here](#). If you are short of time, a quick response is fine. Or, if you can, read the full Spokes response and make a detailed response of your own, emphasising any points that especially concern you.
- The Spokes response is [here](#). Our top concerns are... (1) A **high quality cycleroute**, kerb-separated from both the motor and the pedestrian areas. This is particularly important as George Street is at the heart of the Council's flagship [CCWEL West to East cycleroute](#) project, but this central section is being designed separately under the George St project. (2) Removal of central car parking is great, but we don't feel the design goes far enough in **reducing traffic**.

Jan 28 – East Lothian Ageing Well taster session 11am-2pm. Ageing Well are considering setting up weekly cycling group outings in East Lothian, and this event is a trial ride and discussion of whether to proceed. Meeting at Ormiston Community Centre – bring your own bike. Sorry, we don't have a website link, but for more info, whether or not you can go on the 28th, contact Parvine Jazayeri email, pjazayeri@eastlothian.gov.uk phone 01620 827240.

Jan 31 – Carbon Neutral Edinburgh – Transition Edinburgh and FOE Edinburgh are holding a joint meeting, 17.30-20.30 to discuss practical steps and actions towards a Carbon Neutral Edinburgh. Details here... www.facebook.com/events/400426684027262 [refreshments included].

Feb 1 - Closing date to comment on **Edinburgh Council Physical Activity & Sport strategy**. We emphasise that the most universal and widespread opportunity for physical activity for most people is everyday movement rather than special events or activities, though they do have their place. Therefore one of the most cost effective initiatives the Council can take to increase physical activity is to ensure that conditions on the roads are as safe and welcoming as possible for getting about by bike and on foot. You could make this point strongly in question 1, and elsewhere. Consultation here... <https://consultationhub.edinburgh.gov.uk/cf/physical-activity-and-sport-strategy-2019-23/>

Feb 11 – Closing date to comment on **Edinburgh Council Budget 2019/20**. We have not yet had time to look at this carefully, but delighted to see that the '[Full Strategy' document](#) confirms that the budget retains the commitment that 10% of the Council's transport budget is allocated to cycling [though of course, if there are transport cuts that will affect the actual amount]. Even if you don't have time to look into or comment on the rest of the budget, please consider a quick response to say you are pleased to see this. The budget consultation is here... <https://consultationhub.edinburgh.gov.uk/bi/changephase2/>

Mar 15 – Closing date to get into the EdFoC printed programme if you'd like to organise an event for **Edinburgh Festival of Cycling 2019** (which runs between June 6-16). Details here... edfoc.org.uk/2018/12/12/call-for-events-2019. Spokes will be running a public meeting on the City Centre Transformation and our usual Bike Breakfast.

Mar 20 – **Spokes Public Meeting - Cycling, Transport & Climate. Put the date in your diary now!** With the [Climate Bill](#) reaching a crucial stage in the Scottish Parliament, the [catastrophic science-based warnings](#) of Sir David Attenborough, and [still-growing transport emissions](#) in Scotland, we're planning an important meeting on the lines of our [2015 meeting on this topic](#). Venue and further details to be announced soon, but note that Augustine United is not available that night.

Urban Arrow Cargo Bike for new Food Sharing Hub Edinburgh

Spokes was delighted to contribute towards the purchase of a cargo-bike for the newly opened Food Sharing Hub at 22 Bread Street. The cargo-bike, with Spokes logo, will be seen extensively round the city streets.

More info and pictures here... <https://twitter.com/SpokesLothian/status/1087046527837712386>



To campaign effectively Spokes needs as many supporters as possible. If you are not already a member, you like what we do, and you'd like to keep in touch with developments, please join Spokes. For details of membership benefits and to download a membership form go to www.spokes.org.uk/membership.