

## Cargo bike report for Spokes

Food Sharing Edinburgh has been using the Urban Arrow XL Cargo Bike since it was purchased second hand from Laid Back Bikes in August 2018. Since acquiring the bike, it has been used by one staff member and six volunteers, who have all undergone one hour of professional training. It has been used for regular weekly collections from two partner supermarkets (Coop on Shandwick Place and Tesco on Haymarket Terrace) and numerous ad hoc collections, including the Christmas Market.

The bike was featured in a BBC report about the Food Sharing Hub:

[https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/av/uk-scotland-](https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/av/uk-scotland-46950782/edinburgh-shop-rescues-and-sells-food-to-prevent-waste?fbclid=IwAR0RzT93gf8yZHrm_twoC_xrIVgPsY6AuEJDLR1Ph27_f1BfNCCrP1BDO1A)

[46950782/edinburgh-shop-rescues-and-sells-food-to-prevent-waste?](https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/av/uk-scotland-46950782/edinburgh-shop-rescues-and-sells-food-to-prevent-waste?fbclid=IwAR0RzT93gf8yZHrm_twoC_xrIVgPsY6AuEJDLR1Ph27_f1BfNCCrP1BDO1A)

[fbclid=IwAR0RzT93gf8yZHrm\\_twoC\\_xrIVgPsY6AuEJDLR1Ph27\\_f1BfNCCrP1BDO1A](https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/av/uk-scotland-46950782/edinburgh-shop-rescues-and-sells-food-to-prevent-waste?fbclid=IwAR0RzT93gf8yZHrm_twoC_xrIVgPsY6AuEJDLR1Ph27_f1BfNCCrP1BDO1A)



### Positive aspects:

- The bike comfortably carries 50kg of produce, travelling an average of 20km per hour while easily ascending hills
- It attracts a lot of public attention, helping to promote both Food Sharing Edinburgh and Spokes!
- It charges quickly

### Negative aspects:

- It is difficult to find volunteers who feel confident using the bike. Its size and speed may be intimidating!
- It excludes those who aren't experienced cyclists in Edinburgh. Even for experienced cyclists, it takes several trips on the bike to feel fully comfortable using it
- When carrying more than 50kg, the bike feels very heavy, increasing its risk of tipping over when being pushed
- It needs a lot of space for indoor storage