North Edinburgh Network – Unsatisfactory path closures for maintenance

To: Edinburgh Council sustainable transport manager

Wed, 17 Jun, 19:30

We are very disappointed that the plans for the lengthy closure of some parts of Edinburgh's important cycle routes have not included

- advanced notification to the cycling community;
- an alternative route to cross the gap where the paths are closed which is especially important for the newer less experienced cyclists whom the Council is aiming to attract to cycling, never more so than at this time.

The Routes are the Roseburn Path closed at Coltbridge, the link from Victoria Park to Coalie Park closed and coming soon, the Roseburn Path closed under Telford Road.

Especially in respect of the Coltbridge closure which affects so many users , we cannot understand how it was not thought essential to provide a signed route providing a safe diversion across the closed section including the busy A8. This would benefit the less confident and those not familiar with the local area.

Surely this is no way for a Council which is serious about encouraging more people to cycle to behave! And as you will be aware, it is the latest in a long line of road and path works badly managed from a cycle promotion perspective. We are actively seeking a quick intervention with officials to provide such a link.

In August last year we raised similar issues at one of the periodic meetings you have with Spokes and other officials, from which a factsheet was promised (see <u>Spokes Bulletin</u>, foot of page 7 and our <u>email</u> to Officers).

Please can you advise on

- what pre-warning the cycling community should receive in advance of such path closures
- when signed diversion routes should apply during path closures
- progress with the factsheet and
- any other measures that you will take to prevent recurrence of badly managed road and path works

Yours sincerely Euan Renton For Spokes Planning Group