

Spokes Lothians circular 20 January 2022

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This is a special circular to Spokes members in the Lothians, as there are several outside-Edinburgh opportunities just now, in addition to our recent all-member [Action-Update](#).

This first page is relevant general info for all 3 councils; the main action items are on page 2.

0. Finding your councillors

Contact your councillors about cycling or other transport issues that concern you. Find them at the links below.

With elections coming up on May 5th they should be particularly receptive at present, if they are standing again! It's also now the time to tell them what you'd like to see in their party's manifesto for the elections.

If you know any councillors or candidates who are Spokes members, please let us know.

EL <https://www.eastlothian.gov.uk/councillors/name>

ML <https://midlothian.cmis.uk.com/live/Councillors.aspx>

WL <https://www.westlothian.gov.uk/councillors>

1. Council cycling & transport info and plans (where known)

EL

Cycling infrastructure criteria

https://www.eastlothian.gov.uk/info/210646/transport_infrastructure_in_new_developments/12631/transport_infrastructure_in_new_developments/9

East Lothian by Bike – overview for using a bike in EL

https://www.eastlothian.gov.uk/info/210566/roads_and_transport/12480/east_lothian_on_the_move/4

Note on the right-hand side of the above page there are links to other sustainable transport opportunities.

Also, at the bottom of the page is info about *EL Cycle Forum* and the contact if you wish to attend its meetings.

Other roads & transport topics https://www.eastlothian.gov.uk/info/210566/roads_and_transport

ML

General cycling info https://www.midlothian.gov.uk/info/200279/roads_and_travel/406/cycling_in_midlothian

More https://www.midlothian.gov.uk/info/200226/walking_and_cycling

Other transport policy & transport links

https://www.midlothian.gov.uk/info/200279/roads_and_travel/243/transport_policy

WL

New cyclistroute (and road) developments <https://www.westlothian.gov.uk/article/32502/New-Road-Footpath-and-Cyclepath-Developments>

Love To Ride promotion <https://www.westlothian.gov.uk/article/64052/Love-to-Ride-promoting-cycling-in-West-Lothian>

General cycling info <https://www.westlothian.gov.uk/cycling>

Other road & transport links <https://www.westlothian.gov.uk/roads-streets-parking>

2. Regional Transport Strategy – ends 11 February [Consultation website](#)

[SEStran](#), the Regional Transport Authority, covering Councils from Fife to the Borders, and west as far as Falkirk, is consulting on a draft Regional Transport Strategy. The Strategy covers all transport modes, including cycling and walking. It identifies 29 “transport challenges”, one of which is “Many people do not find cycling a realistic option” and sets out themes and policies to tackle them, including “safe active travel” and “reducing car kilometres.”

Please respond to the consultation, and send us a copy of your views to help inform the Spokes response.

3. East Lothian

3.1 Free e-cargobike trial

The East Lothian Council Behaviour Change Officer, Chris Milne, says...

I am working with Raleigh to bring some of their [Pro Trike XL](#) electric cargo trikes to East Lothian around April/May 2022. They want the bikes to be rotated around organisations in the area, who will each get to trial it for one week. This will be free, alongside 14 days free insurance (theft, damage and PLI) through [Laka](#). The bikes are available to public, private and third sector organisations.

Please contact cmilne@eastlothian.gov.uk immediately about any organisation possibly interested in a trial.

Also, remember [Spokes offers grants](#) to community groups towards the cost of a cargobike.

3.2 East Lothian, Wallyford – ends 28 Jan [Consultation website](#) [Proposal maps](#)

Traffic Order for extensive new waiting/loading restrictions, especially Mason Way and near the Primary School.

Please also respond if you support the proposals and/or want them extended as there are likely to be objections .. voices of support will help counteract this. Respond by email or post as on the consultation website.

4. Midlothian

4.1 Spokes Dalkeith

Remember there is a [local spokes group](#) based in Dalkeith, but which takes an interest in cycling-related issues across Midlothian. To get involved and join their email list, contact Andrew at SpokesDalkeith@gmail.com

4.2 Midlothian consultation – getting more people travelling actively – ends 28 Feb

[Consultation website](#) Comments/ideas will feed into a new version of the Council's Active Travel Strategy, due to be published in 2022/23. There's a survey form and online mapping of proposed new cyclist routes.

In addition to your own individual response, please send your ideas to Spokes Dalkeith (above) who are coordinating a Spokes response.

5. West Lothian

5.1 Spaces for People consultation – ends 31 January

The Council is consulting on which SFP measures, if any, to retain. They include 20mph extensions, rural 40mph, Spaces for People cyclist routes and wider footways. There will undoubtedly be calls to remove many or most, so please take part in the consultation if you wish to see them retained – and improved.

Consultation website... https://app.surveyhero.com/s/Spaces_for_People_Consultation

Unfortunately the consultation survey only has tick boxes, with no space for comment. Please do complete it, but also email any comments on improvements you would like to see. Email: sfp@westlothian.gov.uk Please copy your email to spokes@spokes.org.uk.

5.2 Linlithgow area consultation – end date unknown

Linlithgow Community Development Trust is consulting on ideas to improve the area as a place to live and work.

The survey is here.. https://forms.office.com/pages/responsepage.aspx?id=XU_E-

[hbAjE6hwFfDRMvTiKoMfxYr01BDiI97YQ-mbH1UM0IJSDRRQkpMRIE3N1MOT0hGTzBZVEsxRS4u](https://forms.office.com/pages/responsepage.aspx?id=XU_E-hbAjE6hwFfDRMvTiKoMfxYr01BDiI97YQ-mbH1UM0IJSDRRQkpMRIE3N1MOT0hGTzBZVEsxRS4u)

6. More & future consultations – *Check council, government, other consultations*

- ◆ Edinburgh consultationhub.edinburgh.gov.uk
- ◆ Edinburgh [Edinburgh traffic orders](#)
- ◆ East Lothian www.eastlothianconsultations.co.uk
- ◆ Midlothian <https://www.midlothian.gov.uk/directory/33/consultations>
- ◆ West Lothian www.westlothian.gov.uk/consultations
- ◆ Scottish Government consult.gov.scot
- ◆ Transport Scotland www.transport.gov.scot/consultations
- ◆ Scottish Parliament consultations yourviews.parliament.scot/consultation_finder
- ◆ Scottish Parliament petitions parliament.scot/get-involved/petitions
- ◆ Just in case... Transform Scotland keeps an updated page of current transport-related consultations... transformscotland.org.uk/whats-new/action-alerts Check it out in case there's anything important that doesn't appear in the website addresses above (there often is!)

7. Keeping in touch

- ★ Remember to check out our **website** every so often www.spokes.org.uk
- ★ We are active on **Twitter** [@SpokesLothian](#). Follow us and ReTweet tweets that you support. Recent tweets also appear on our website in the right-hand column.
- ★ If you use **Facebook**, please like, share, etc the [Spokes Facebook page](#).
- ★ To campaign effectively Spokes needs as many supporters as possible. If you are not already a member and you like what we do, go to www.spokes.org.uk/membership.