

Spokes Action-Update 21.08.23

spokes.org.uk St Martins Centre, 232 Dalry Road EH11 2JG 0131.313.2114 twitter [@SpokesLothian](https://twitter.com/SpokesLothian)

0. Finding your councillors

In Edinburgh, find your ward & councillors by typing your postcode on [this page](#) [or edinburgh.gov.uk : Council & Committees : Find your Councillor]. Everyone has either 3 or 4 councillors, usually from assorted parties. For any Council, and to find MSPs, you can use writetothem.com.

1. Spokes Summer Comp - Bike Storage at Home - **ends 3 September**

Our annual summer competition ends very soon – get your entries in now!

This year we're interested in **Bike Storage at Home**. Storing your bike, or family bikes, is impossibly hard for some people and a doddle for others (until a thief calls!) depending where and how you live, and what bikes you have. We want to hear your experiences, ideas or handy hints – anything related to **domestic bike storage**.

Whether it's a storage challenge you've overcome, an experience you'd rather forget, or something you'd *not* recommend – if it's about **storing your bike(s) at home**, we want to hear from you!! You may live in a flat, bedsit, terrace or mansion – but you can only own a bike (or more) if you can somehow store it overnight.

And what about owning a cargobike, a heavy e-bike, an adapted bike or a bike trailer – what are the problems, the solutions and your stories?

Or how about a more general entry, say the implications for the city of many people being unable to store, and therefore to own, pedal-powered transport; or good/bad bike-store provision by developers of new homes?

Your entry needn't be on equipment, though it might be. Perhaps an amusing incident, or how your much-loved bike was stolen whilst you slept, or how having children brought new storage dilemmas, or how Bike Hangars changed your life, or how you got *more* storage space by swapping bike for car – or just a simple handy hint.

Full competition details/rules here:

spokes.org.uk/2023/07/spokescomp-2023-bike-storage-at-home

Please help publicity by retweeting [our tweet](#).

Incredible Prizes!!

- ♦ [ScotRail](#) Return ticket for 2 adults & 4 kids between any 2 ScotRail stations
- ♦ [Spokes](#) £1000 voucher* towards purchase of a cargo-bike
- ♦ [Spokes](#) £200 voucher* towards purchase of an e-bike
- ♦ [Spokes](#) Full set of 4 Spokes maps plus 2 buffs**
- ♦ [Hippodrome](#) – 2 tickets at [Scotland's oldest purpose-built cinema](#) (Bo'ness)
- ♦ [Lanterne Rouge](#) (cyclists' favourite cafe, in Gifford) £10 voucher
- ♦ [Dowerhouse Cafe](#) Two £25 vouchers [one per prizewinner]
- ♦ [Edinburgh BikeCoop](#) £50 voucher
- ♦ [Edinburgh Festival of Cycling](#) 1 day hire of EdFoC Urban Arrow cargobike
- ♦ [Laidback Bikes](#) Electric or manual recumbent tour, solo or guided to Cramond OR free day hire cargo bike
- ♦ [Hart's Cyclery](#) One-week hire of an e-bike
- ♦ [Camera Obscura & World of Illusions](#) – Family ticket
- ♦ [Sustrans online shop](#) £20 voucher
- ♦ [Spokes](#) 10 runners-up will each win 1 map or buff**

* ** See full [competition article](#) for meanings of the asterisks.

Cycle blog no. 5: In which my bike gets stolen

In the fifth blog of this series, Communications Coordinator Sarah has some bad luck with her bike.



I'm pretty sad to be writing that thing that every bike owner dreads having to write: my bike was stolen.

Yesterday evening the main door of my stairwell was kicked in and the bike pinched, despite being locked up to metal railings. The police tell me 4 other bikes were stolen from stairwells on my street around the same time.

What can I say? Yes it's insured, yes it's registered and engraved, yes I'm scanning eBay and Gumtree regularly in case it's up for sale... And yes, I know it's unlikely I'll get it back.

The thing I'm struggling to comprehend (and am pretty unsettled by) is that someone took it – without me knowing – when I was less than 5 metres away.

Think about:

- Number and type of bikes to be stored
- Bike storage security
- Other spaces that might be used
- Neighbours' opinions
- Permissions needed



2. September events for your diary

Events marked * will have a Spokes stall – please volunteer to help! Or come and say hello anyway!
If you can help, say a couple of hours or so, please contact our stalls organiser Kate, via spokes@spokes.org.uk

*Sat 8 Sept CCWEL Dr Bike 10am-2pm

To publicise the ongoing work extending CCWEL cyclistroute, the Council is holding a Dr Bike and info session, similar to the one outside [St Mary's Cathedral](#) earlier this year.

There will be a Spokes stall 11am-2pm. Please volunteer to help! - email spokes@spokes.org.uk

The event will be at Haymarket Terrace in the area in front of the 4 Points by Sheraton Hotel.

*Sat 16 Sept Hippodrome Bike Film Afternoon, 14.30, ending approx 16.00

The [Bo'Ness Hippodrome](#) is Scotland's oldest purpose-built cinema.

We asked them for a couple of tickets for our competition, which they kindly did (p1 above) and they ALSO decided to put on a film afternoon featuring [The Freedom Machine](#), about the role of the bike in the emancipation of women from 100 years ago to the present.

[Kirsty Lewin](#) of [Spokes Porty](#) and [Infrasisters](#) will also give a 5-mins talk, and there will be a post-film QA with the film's director [Jo Reid](#).

There'll also be a Spokes stall, with our West Lothian map at just £4 and others at £5.

Getting there:

- ◆ **Bike:** roughly 20-miles, or longer and slower via canal towpath to Philpstoun, then the coastal path.
- ◆ **Rail/Bike:** via Linlithgow then hilly cycle to Bo'Ness (suggest minor roads east of town as A706 is dodgy)
- ◆ **Rail/Bus:** [F45 Timetable](#). Timing not ideal, but if you get an early bus you can visit the [Steam Railway](#)!
- ◆ **Bus from Edinburgh:** [CityLink 909](#) [remember to select Saturday 16 September]

Tickets: £8.25 (con £6.45) www.hippodromecinema.co.uk or phone 01324 506850

Enquiries: bookings@falkirk.gov.uk

More info about [the film](#)

The bicycle “*has done more to emancipate women than anything else in the world*”! So said Susan B Anthony – the 19th century American social reformer and women's rights activist who played a pivotal role in the women's suffrage movement.

[The Freedom Machine](#) – a new film edited by Scottish film curator Jo Reid – interrogates what freedom looks like for women cyclists over the last 100 years. From opening a shiny new bike on Christmas morning to the grind of a daily commute, bicycles hold a multitude of meanings and opportunities for women across the world. Using archival footage from across the UK's film archives, this entertaining compilation shows the ways women have used the bicycle to find freedom and independence on the road, the race-track and beyond.

Accompanying the archival footage is a soundtrack by Glasgow-based sound designer and composer [Cat Hawthorn](#), who brought a bike into the recording studio to capture the percussive sounds that permeate *The Freedom Machine's* soundscape.



*Sat 16 Sept Portobello BikeFest, 11am-3pm, Bath Street & Mentone Avenue

- ◆ Try-out e-cargo & unusual bikes
- ◆ Dr Bike
- ◆ Slow bike race
- ◆ Stalls, including Spokes maps at special prices. **Please volunteer to help! - phone Ian 07887 500667**
- ◆ Event organised by [Porty Community Energy](#)

3. For info..

3.1 Calmac bike-booking quirk

Spokes member John Robson reports that if the vehicle deck of a Calmac ferry is fully booked, then you can't book a foot passenger or make a cycle reservation, even if space is available (as it often is). You can turn up on the day, and chances are you will get a space, but as you don't have a reservation it's not guaranteed.

John will be emailing Calmac to ask if they will change the online booking system to resolve this.

3.2 Thur Oct 26 [Cycling Scotland annual conference](#) Edinburgh

All-day conference, including keynote speeches by..

- ◆ **Patrick Harvie MSP**, Minister for Zero Carbon Buildings, Active Travel and Tenants' Rights
- ◆ **Professor Devi Sridhar**, Chair of Global Public Health, University of Edinburgh

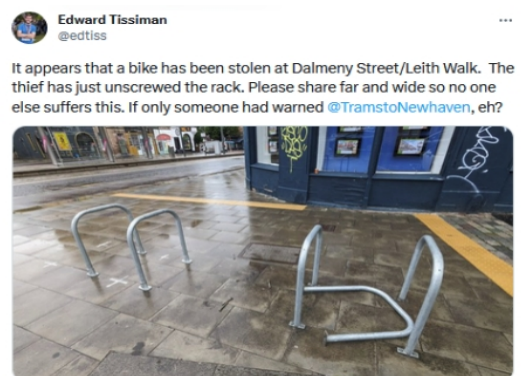
Spokes funds 3 or 4 active members from working groups to attend the conference each year, and we also have a Spokes stall. Individuals can also book, at your own expense (£85 until end August, then £100). If any member does book to attend, please let us know, and if possible help at our stall.

3.3 Trams to Newhaven bike parking – *be aware*

Trams to Newhaven have installed Sheffield racks throughout which, sadly, [do not meet current Council standards](#).

The standards require a second horizontal rail and, most important, require the racks to be concreted in or otherwise securely fixed. Instead, they have just been bolted down, resulting in thieves being able to [unbolt a rack](#) to steal the bike.

TtN's excuse is that the plans were agreed as part of the whole tram project before the parking standards were in place.



3.4 Greenbank-Meadows quiet route (& Braid Road, Comiston Road)

There was a [lengthy report](#) at the 17.8.23 Transport Committee, laying out the tortuous process so far. The report was 'for info' rather than new decisions.

An ETRO (experimental Traffic Order) process is underway, although the Order itself has not yet been advertised, due to errors in the previous version.

Following an earlier Transport Committee, there will now be yet another consultation. This will consider 3 options which we have not seen but we think range from making the area more car-friendly to more bike/walk-friendly. This is a consultation, not a legal process, but the results may be significant in decisions by councillors at the end of the legal ETRO process, along with other factors such as travel data from the existing layouts. It is not a referendum, though some people will doubtless see it as that. We expect the 3-option consultation to begin in late August or September.

There were interesting deputations on this at the Transport Committee, including an excellent one by [Blackford Safe Routes](#). One of the deputies, who used to be very car-dependent, had started cycling to school with her children as a result of the quiet route. She pointed out that had she been consulted in the past, she would have opposed car restrictions, but now thinks it is "brilliant." We [tweeted her comments](#) with a link to the video of the discussion.

In questions, there were were disappointing comments from Morningside Conservative councillor Marie-Clair Munro, who congratulated the new cyclist, but implied that cycling was only for people with time on their hands, not for busy people who had to get to work etc



4. Group member volunteers needed

Most Spokes activity happens through the working groups, which meet roughly monthly online. The two most central groups, [Planning](#) and [Resources](#), have both lost a couple of regular members during the last year or so. This has a clear detrimental effect on Spokes activity, most notably we can't respond to all relevant council and government consultations, but also other ways such as fewer volunteers to help at stalls. It also puts more strain on other members of the group.

Please do get in touch if you'd like to try joining Planning or Resources. Both have well-used email lists so as to keep in touch with ongoing issues between meetings. At meetings, don't be shy to butt in with your thoughts or asking anything that is unclear ... groups are friendly and everyone starts by not really knowing what is going on!

Don't feel you don't know enough – it is by doing that you learn! - and you would normally share with other members of the group. For example, on responding to a consultation in Planning Group, someone might draw up initial ideas, others could then comment (as is happening in 6.2 below) and perhaps add useful references to relevant council or government policies, until a final complete response emerges.

5. Planning decisions and NPF4

The Scottish Government's new(ish) **NPF4**, [National Planning Framework 4](#), adopted by Ministers on 13.2.23, is very useful to quote when responding to planning proposals; or when emailing councillors etc.

Council decisions on planning applications now have to be in line with NPF4. A Council [Planning Committee report](#) on 18.1.23 described what this means in Edinburgh. The [Local Development Plan](#) (dating from 2016). is also a consideration, but NPF4 takes precedence where there is a conflict between the two.

The policies which now have to be followed are in Appendix 1 of the above Planning Committee report. The Appendix is rather complex [note that the key to the appendix is at the end, not the beginning]. In summary..

- Anything crossed out is a Local Development Plan policy which is no longer valid
- Anything else on a white background is a policy from NPF4, and must be followed
- Anything else on a coloured background is a Local Development Plan policy which is still valid

We have extracted from Appendix 1 some relevant policies, below, which may be particularly useful to quote, but there are many others if you have the time and patience to look!

Policy no.1

When considering all development proposals significant weight will be given to the global climate & nature crises

Policy no. 13(b)

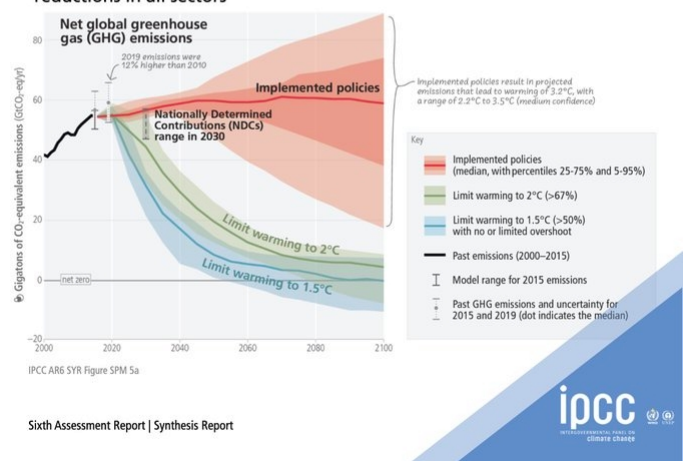
Development proposals will be supported where it can be demonstrated that the transport requirements generated have been considered in line with the sustainable travel and investment hierarchies and where appropriate they:

- Provide direct, easy, segregated and safe links to local facilities via walking, wheeling and cycling networks before occupation
- Will be accessible by public transport, ideally supporting the use of existing services;
- Integrate transport modes
- Provide low or zero-emission vehicle and cycle charging points in safe and convenient locations, in alignment with building standards
- Supply safe, secure and convenient cycle parking to meet the needs of users and which is more conveniently located than car parking
- Are designed to incorporate safety measures including safe crossings for walking and wheeling and reducing the number and speed of vehicles
- Have taken into account, at the earliest stage of design, the transport needs of diverse groups including users with protected characteristics to ensure the safety, ease and needs of all users; and
- Adequately mitigate any impact on local public access routes.

Incidentally, there's a useful overview of the **Scottish Planning System** as it is likely to affect cycling campaigning in a Cycling UK Scotland blog, [here](#).

Limiting warming to 1.5°C and 2°C involves rapid, deep and in most cases immediate greenhouse gas emission reductions

Net zero CO₂ and net zero GHG emissions can be achieved through strong reductions in all sectors



[IPCC Synthesis Report, August 2023](#) – note the difficulty achieving even 2 deg, let alone the 1.5deg ambition

6. West Edinburgh consultations

Edinburgh Council currently is devoting a great deal of thought to the future of West Edinburgh - some very local and immediate, some long-term strategic planning from the existing city right out to Kirkliston.

Please respond to all consultations that concern you. Spokes Planning Group would also greatly appreciate assistance from people who know the area, so that we can draw up useful responses from Spokes. Planning Group members tend to be more familiar with the south, east, centre and north of the city.

Summaries of the consultations are below – there are also full links on our [consultations page](#).

There is also a council [master page](#) for the 3 wider of the 4 consultations.

6.1 Information opportunities: drop-ins, webinars, etc

As well as responding online, the Council is putting on a series of info events, including webinars and drop-ins.

- **Thur 24 August**, 2-3pm & 6-7pm - **Broxburn-Maybury Public Transport & Active Travel Improvements ...** Webinars via Microsoft Teams Project overview and Q&A. Focus on key areas on the A8/A89 corridor. To book a place e-mail: invest@edinburgh.gov.uk
- **Tues 29 August**, 4pm-7pm **Towards West Edinburgh ...** Drop-in at Kirkliston Parish Church, The Square, EH29 9AS. Cover the spatial strategy only. Queries: invest@edinburgh.gov.uk
- **Weds 30 August**, 3:30-7:30pm. **Drop-in for all three consultations** at Marriott Hotel (Findhorn Room) 111 Glasgow Road, Edinburgh EH12 8NF. Queries: cityplan2030@edinburgh.gov.uk or 0131 469 6163
- **Thur 7 Sept**, 6-7.30pm & **Fri 15 Sept**, 10-11.30a.m. **West Edinburgh Placemaking Framework and Strategic Masterplan ...** Webinars via Microsoft Teams ... Includes overview of the Framework, then QA. To book a place, e-mail cityplan2030@edinburgh.gov.uk or call 0131 469 6163

6.2 [Broxburn-Maybury A8/A89 Bus & Active Travel](#) ends 5 September

A joint Edinburgh & West Lothian Council project. Main aim is to improve bus journey times & patronage on this car-intensive corridor. Some bike/walk improvements, but we need better.

Some points that members have made so far, and which may or may not go into the Spokes response...

- despite the Council's target to reduce car-km 30% by 2030, the scheme does not reduce traffic capacity. It's a 'carrots-only' plan - improvements (major) for bus and (minor) for bike, but for car it just as convenient as now - indeed part has an extra car lane - so no real prompt to drivers to consider switching
- it is important that traffic reduction measures are taken at the same time as the significant bus enhancements, i.e. part of the same project. Drivers will then see the quid pro quo, even if they don't like it. However without car capacity reduction (or a concurrent congestion charge) most drivers will not think about changing mode. Then, at a later date, if/when the Council institutes reduction measures, the bus improvements will already have been discounted in drivers' minds and they will see the traffic reduction purely as an attack on them rather than part of a 'carrots and sticks' package
- no bus gates included in Corstorphine, so unlikely to bring any reduction of St Johns Road traffic
- no upgrade to Newbridge cycle/footbridge
- no real changes to the blind crossings nearer the Airport or Highland Show Centre
- the A8 would be 30mph from Newbridge towards Maybury but then increases to 40mph after the 2nd toucan. So it is unclear if the 2 further toucans towards Maybury are also 40mph. It looks like Gogarstone Rd toucan crossing is 40mph and three lanes wide, as a new bus lane is being added eastbound
- the section of A8 west of the airport is becoming more urbanised; if more crossings (at-grade) were put in, with lights control, that would slow the traffic. The overbridge at Ratho Station should likewise be replaced by at-grade crossing(s)

Please submit your own comments [here](#), and also send Spokes a copy or a separate email with your points.

6.3 [West Ed Placemaking Framework & Strategic Masterplan](#) ends 4 October

"We are planning to create a new neighbourhood along the A8 corridor, next to Edinburgh Airport. This will have around 11,000 new homes alongside shops, schools, healthcare, leisure facilities and other things people will need.

We will also make sure it is well connected, providing active travel links and public transport to the surrounding areas and the rest of the city."

... effectively a plan for new town between Ed Gateway and the Airport

Please submit your own comments [here](#), and also send Spokes a copy or a separate email with your points.

6.4 Towards West Edinburgh 2050 ends 10 October

"Towards West Edinburgh 2050 is our proposal on how the area to the west of the city should change over time. It is a 'spatial strategy' which covers the area of land stretching from the western edge of the city to the boundary with West Lothian, and from the Pentlands in the south to the Firth of Forth in the north.

We want to make sure that this important area grows in ways that are cleaner, greener and fairer for all."

Please submit your own comments [here](#), and also send Spokes a copy or a separate email with your points.

6.5 Corstorphine Connections LTN (Low Traffic Neighbourhood) – ends 23 November

"Measures to promote quiet local neighbourhoods, encourage sustainable travel (walking and cycling), improve exercise local to home, and to deter motor vehicle through traffic in the areas of Corstorphine and Carrick Knowe, particularly around the Primary Schools."

The measures are now in place under an Experimental Traffic Order, [ETRO/21/21](#). Comments and/or objections received may result in changes, either during the course of the experimental period, or at the end if the Council decides to make the scheme permanent at that stage. There is some vociferous opposition, and some of the LTN measures were [vandalised](#), so comments in support, from people who live in or use the area are very important.

[The Order ETRO/21/21 \(includes plans\)](#) [Where to send your comments](#) [Background info](#)

7. Other Edinburgh Consultations

Please respond as an individual to all that concern you. Also copy to Spokes for possible use in our responses.

7.1 Spaces For People bike lanes, ETROs – consultation postponed – now expected mid/late October!

The 6-month [formal consultation](#) [\[#6\]](#) for the Experimental Traffic Regulation Orders for the Spaces-for-People/ Travelling-Safely main road semi-segregated bike lanes was due to end on May 20th. However, errors have been found in the technicalities of the Orders, so they will have to be re-issued - which means another 6-month consultation period. Spokes has been assured that comments already submitted will still be taken into account.

7.2 Bus Lane ETRO/23/13 – ends 11 December

Bus lanes and/or restrictions on waiting/loading, at **Captain's Road, Drum St, Newtoft St, Duddingston Park South, Howden Hall Road, Gogar Underpass, Newbridge Edinburgh Rd (A89)**. This is an ETRO, so we presume the measures are all now in place, but on an experimental basis. Whether the schemes are kept, modified or scrapped will depend on the feedback to this consultation, as well as monitoring of the schemes. *If you would like to influence what happens, please respond.*

[The Order ETRO/23/13, including plans](#) [Where to send your comments](#) [Background info](#)

8. Lothians Councils Consultations

8.1 Midlothian – Resurfacing cyclistoute NCR196, Rosewell to Auchendinny – ends 5 September

Should it be all tarmac (3m wide) or part tarmac (2m) and part soft surface (1m) ?? [Consultation page](#)



[from Spokes Midlothian Map](#)

8.2 West Lothian Council - enquiries re new road & path developments – no closing date

The Council has a new webpage for [enquiries & comments](#) about new roads, footpaths, and cycle routes; and also a page of [current projects and completed consultations](#).

LOTHIANS LOCAL DEVELOPMENT PLAN (LDP) CONSULTATIONS

LDPs are major Council policy documents on development and use of land, including transport and climate issues.

LDPs are now required to take account of the new NPF4 [see 5 above]. *If* we have understood properly, Edinburgh is doing this by in effect combining NPF4 policies with compatible sections of the existing LDP from year 2016 [see 5 above]. However **the Lothians Councils are gathering early ideas and comments** to develop new LDPs, as below. *Please submit your comments on the consultation pages below.*

8.3 East Lothian, Local Development Plan (LDP) – **ends 17 September**

[Consultation Page and email/postal addresses for comments](#)

8.4 Midlothian, Local Development Plan (LDP) – **ends 31 August**

Midlothian is [gathering initial ideas](#) for its next LDP through a set of online surveys, as follows...

- [Place Standard](#) i.e. what it feels like to live in your town or neighbourhood, and how to improve that
- [Open Space Strategy](#)
- [Playing Outside survey](#)
- [Organisations and Businesses](#) – How Midlothian can be good for them

8.3 West Lothian Council, Local Development Plan – **ends 31 October**

West Lothian is to develop Local *Place Plans* (LPPs) for different localities, which will be taken into account in preparing the LDP. For background info on the processes, see [this page](#). If you have queries, or to get on the email list about LDP developments, email wlldp@westlothian.gov.uk.

There is now a *How Good is Your Place* survey, with 4 versions, as below [also available from the above page by clicking *LDP2 consultations*, then *Consultations – How Good is Your Place*]

- [Adults](#)
- [Young people \(age 13-18\)](#)
- [Children \(up to 12\)](#)
- [Disabled persons \(any age\)](#)



'How Good is Your Place?'

The adult survey covers a big range of topics, but you can omit questions. Below is a response by a Linlithgow member, showing the sort of points you could make about your local area, though you could be a lot shorter!

If you could change anything to make walking, wheeling and cycling better experiences, what would it be?

Many things!

1. High Street (this is *by far* the best thing you could do) - segregated bike route (all the way out to Falkirk Road) and remove cars from the footways (many are all-day parkers) and from much of the kerbside, with enforced short-term shopper parking and loading only, in sections where there is adequate width without detriment to walking and cycling.
2. Continue the Capstan Walk path through the Tesco car park to the Regent Centre (and ideally through there to the High Street). At present many people cycle on the narrow footway, because otherwise you have to dismount at a kerb and negotiate a short stretch of car park road with (often) illegally parked vehicles and unpredictable vehicle manoeuvres.
3. Rebuild the red bike lanes on Falkirk Road. It's great to have them but they were really badly laid and have to be continually patched. The potholes sometimes force you into the main carriageway. Once there is a decent long-lasting surface, make them segregated too.
4. One very local danger point. As you cycle (slowly uphill) up the High Street westbound approaching Boness Road junction, you reach a central island pedestrian crossing. This is a really scary pinch point with fear of cars squeezing you into the kerb. Remove the central island and put a light-controlled pedestrian crossing there or at the junction.
5. Extend 20mph on Edinburgh Road out as far as the canal bridge.
6. Resurface the small section of Edinburgh Road (just west of the warehouse) which was inexplicably forgotten when the rest was resurfaced some years ago. It is absolutely boneshaking now if you are cycling.
7. Create a safe cyclist route from Low Port up along Blackness Road, for links to Springfield and other destinations at least as far as the minor road to Park Farm. The first section would need roadspace reallocation, and indeed continuing onroad would narrow the road and slow the traffic - but alternatively an upgraded, widened path on the south verge
8. Create a decent walk/cycle towpath link at the east end of town - Maidlands being the best opportunity. AND change the Edinburgh Road junction to ensure safe walking/cycling between the new path and the road to the railway underpass
9. Remove setts on the High Street at the Cross. They were doubtless installed with the best of intentions but are continually failing, presumably costly to repair, and are noisy. When cycling eastbound the flat strip is good (when not damaged) but westbound is scary as vehicles pass you, forcing you in towards the kerb.
10. Cycling east along the towpath, going under the Friar's Brae bridge is very dodgy because the path suddenly narrows at the east end of the bridge, and there is a large stone at the edge with a big space immediately after it, which your bike wheel could go into, especially if you have to manoeuvre suddenly, e.g. meeting a dog or a person.
11. I could go on...

What do you think could be done to improve travel by public transport in the future?

1. Find out why Scottish Govt has prioritised Winchburgh motorway junction over the promised rail station; and force the developers to get on with it.
2. Remove High Street footway and kerbside parking, to give buses a clearer route through town.
3. Reinststate the West Lothian rail concession
4. (in my dreams) get a direct rail connection to central West Lothian towns

What do you think could be done to improve traffic and traffic management in your place?

1. Remove all footway and most kerbside parking in the High Street - much of this I suspect is all-day parkers rather than shoppers. Institute an enforced regime for loading and for short-term (1 hour?) shopper car-parking.
2. Edinburgh Road 20mph speed limit as far as the canal bridge.
3. Do NOT build motorway 4-way junction UNLESS High Street gets an electronically enforced bus gate *at the same time* (and permitted local vehicles), to stop it being used for through-traffic. Without this, any benefit to the High Street of the 4-way junction would soon be lost.



Linlithgow High Street - note the *legal* parking on south footway!

What do you think could be done to improve the streets, buildings and public spaces in your place?

High street is far too car dominated. This really reduces the pleasure of being there; even crossing the road to the shops on the other side is often difficult and removes any thought of the environment. In a shopping street like the High Street, we should be able to walk across anywhere, without need for special crossing points.

9. More & future consultations – *Check council, government, and other sites*

- ◆ 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 petitions.parliament.scot
- ◆ 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!)
- ◆ Spokes website We have a page of particularly relevant consultations www.spokes.org.uk/consultns

10. 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.