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TEC 10.09.26 - Written deputation from Spokes

7.8 Traffic Orders - TROs Sub-Committee Update: Improvements to the TRO Process¹

Traffic Regulation Order Improvements

Spokes wish to thank officers for their work on this report to streamline the Traffic Regulation Order process. We welcome efforts to reduce the onerous typical time required to progress a TRO of 12-18 months, which we have observed to delay implementation of the Active Travel Action Plan and City Mobility Plan.

Spokes encourage the use of delegation to officers to avoid delays at committee whilst ensuring objections to proposed restrictions are given adequate consideration. We believe that it is necessary to go further to enabling modal shift to address congestion, improve travel sustainability and support the almost 40% of households in Edinburgh which do not own a car.

[Appendix 4 part E](#)² sets out examples of reasons that a proposed restriction may be considered 'Non-Referrable', meaning that it will be considered by officers instead of committee, regardless of the number of objections (unless called in by the convenor of the Transport & Environment Committee).

This is particularly effective for orders containing multiple restrictions across the city bundled together, such as disabled persons parking places or tweaks to controlled parking zones. Objections to these orders may be spread out over the city and should not be automatically referred to committee based on their total number.

We believe this should be extended to bike hangar secure parking, cycle hire parking and car club rental parking. These restrictions are often limited to a single parking space, making more efficient use of the space for an overall increase in amenity. However, they are also vulnerable to spurious objections from motor vehicle users. There is also a large shortage of secure bike parking hangars, with waiting lists currently estimated at 4400.

Further & background information

- [Edi.bike article on shortage of secure bike parking hangars by Ed Tissman](#)
- [An example of a current bicycle parking traffic order](#)

Footnotes: hyperlinks to references in the above text

1 <https://democracy.edinburgh.gov.uk/documents/s102798/Item%207.8%20-%20Traffic%20Orders%20-%20TROs%20Sub-Committee%20Update%20-%20Improvements%20to%20the%20TRO%20Process.pdf>

2 <https://democracy.edinburgh.gov.uk/documents/s102807/Item%207.8%20-%20Traffic%20Orders%20-%20TROs%20Sub-Committee%20Update%20-%20Improvements%20to%20the%20TRO%20Process%20-%20Appendix%204.pdf>