



Spokes Cargobike Support Grant Report - SW20 Carla Cargo Trailer

South West Edinburgh 20 Minute Neighbourhoods (SW20) is very grateful to Spokes for its £1,000 grant towards the purchase of a Carla cargo trailer. The grant enabled us to add the trailer to our community e-bike loan scheme in south-west Edinburgh.

We applied for the trailer to make our scheme more flexible and accessible. Our Urban Arrow can carry substantial loads, but its size and riding style do not suit every potential user. The Carla can be attached to a suitable e-bike, giving volunteers and borrowers another way to move bulky or heavy items without using a car or van.

Since acquiring it, we (or hire users) have used the trailer to move a range of bulky equipment and materials, including lawnmowers and long-handled tools, a cement mixer, large shelving/racking, and other bulky loads. It has therefore enabled practical journeys for loads which would otherwise be difficult to carry by bicycle.

The trailer's carrying capacity has been particularly useful for awkward items such as the cement mixer and large shelving units. Its low, open load platform allows large or irregular objects to be strapped down without being constrained by the sides of the Urban Arrow's cargo box. The photographs also show the flexibility of the system: the Carla has been towed both by the Urban Arrow and by a conventional bicycle.

This complements the Urban Arrow rather than simply duplicating it. The Urban Arrow remains useful for contained loads and passenger carrying, while the Carla is particularly well suited to large, heavy or unusually shaped equipment.

We expect it to remain a useful part of both our free community bike-loan programme and the local tool-library operation, helping more people use cycles for practical journeys and reducing reliance on motor vehicles.

Thank you again to Spokes for making this purchase possible.

South West Edinburgh 20 Minute Neighbourhoods (SW20)

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