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TEC 12.11.26 - Written deputation from Spokes

9.1 By Councillor Cuthbert - Closure of Kinauld Tan Works Footbridge[1]

Closure of Kinauld Tan Works Footbridge

Spokes wish to thank councillors and officers for the attention paid to this section of the active travel path along The Water of Leith between Balerno and Currie.

Spokes are concerned that this diversion of National Cycle Route 75 is unsuitable for the roughly 100 daily cycle trips on this off-road path. We understand a report is expected to be submitted to TEC in January. We believe that the extension of this closure should prompt a review of the diversion, including consideration of installing temporary light segregation or traffic calming measures.

The Walk Wheel Cycle Trust (formerly Sustrans) guidance on Temporary Diversions of National Cycle Routes[2] states:

> *1.1.3*
>
> *The standard of provision for the diversion route should match the existing provision in terms of the National Cycle Network (the Network) design principles.*
>
> *For example, the diversion for a traffic-free route would also be traffic-free.*
>
> *1.1.4*
> *Where it is necessary for a temporary diversion of a traffic-free route to be on-road protected space should be provided for Network users.*
>
> *This could be achieved with the provision of cones, barriers or wands to delineate space protected from motor traffic.*

The section of the A70 on Lanark Road West presents a danger to cyclists due to a 30mph speed limit and the need to manoeuvre around parked vehicles in a narrow carriageway. In the past 5 years there have been 2 cyclists seriously injured on Lanark Road West. The demographic of cyclists expecting to use an off-road path, such as families or younger or older people, are likely to be especially vulnerable to these hazards.

Statutory guidance Safety at Streetworks[3] is clear that a risk assessment must be carried out on the diversion route to ensure it is suitable and safe for the diverted traffic.

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://www.walkwheelcycletrust.org.uk/our-services/infrastructure-design-guidance/temporary-diversions-of-national-cycle-network-routes/

3 https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/media/5a7d8038e5274a676d532707/safety-at-streetworks.pdf