

Transport and Environment Committee

10.00am, Tuesday, 26 August 2014

Cycling – CHAMP Invitation to Belgium

Item number	7.9
Report number	
Executive/routine	
Wards	

Executive summary

The City of Edinburgh Council has received European Union funding from the Cycling Heroes Advancing Sustainable Mobility (CHAMP) project, between 2011-2014. The final project conference for the CHAMP project is to be held in Ghent, Belgium, on 11-12 September 2014. A politician has been invited to attend from each of the seven cities involved in the project. This report seeks approval for attendance by the Convener of the Transport and Environment Committee.

Links

Coalition pledges	P45 and P50
Council outcomes	CO22 , CO24 and CO26
Single Outcome Agreement	SO2 and SO4

Cycling – CHAMP Invitation to Belgium

Recommendations

- 1.1 To approve attendance at the CHAMP final conference in Ghent, Belgium, by the Convener of the Transport and Environment Committee.

Background

- 2.1 The City of Edinburgh Council has received European Union funding from the Cycling Heroes Advancing Sustainable Mobility (CHAMP) project, between 2011-2014, to develop solutions to address gaps in its cycling strategy.

Main report

- 3.1 The final project conference for the CHAMP project is to be held in Ghent, Belgium, on 11-12 September 2014.
- 3.2 Politicians from each of the seven leading cities involved in the project (Bolzano, Burgos, Edinburgh, Groningen, Kaunas, Ljubljana, Örebro, and Shkodra) have been invited to attend.
- 3.3 A roundtable discussion will take place, involving politicians from the above cities and the host city, Ghent, which will also host a cycling study visit.
- 3.4 Supplementary presentations will be given on other European cycling projects, including:
 - STARS (which Edinburgh is a participant in);
 - Personalised Travel Planning Cycle;
 - VELOCITTÀ; and
 - CYCLELOGISTICS.

Measures of success

- 4.1 Attendees can gain further insight into how leading cities, such as Groningen which has a 47% cycle modal share, became cycling success stories, the key policy choices and methods to gaining consensus.

- 4.2 Political representation will help raise the profile of Edinburgh's leading position in terms of cycling spend and our ambitious targets for increasing cycling rates.
- 4.3 A template will also be agreed for taking forward learning from the CHAMP project in Edinburgh.
- 4.4 Visible co-operation with EU partners will help build relationships and position Edinburgh favourably, for future funding opportunities.

Financial impact

- 5.1 All costs of attendance will be funded using the already obtained travel and subsistence funds, allocated through the EU CHAMP project.

Risk, policy, compliance and governance impact

- 6.1 This report satisfies the Council's Conference Procedure.

Equalities impact

- 7.1 Attendance will enable reflection on how other cities have met citizens' rights to life, health and a good standard of living through safe and effective cycle planning and integrated design.
- 7.2 The visit will build an awareness of how other European cultures have delivered effective cycle strategies and communication/participation to different audiences in their programmes.
- 7.3 Attendance will foster good relations with cities participating in the conference.

Sustainability impact

- 8.1 Arrangements will be made in accordance with the Council's Sustainable Travel Plan.

Consultation and engagement

- 9.1 There is potential for the Council to publicise its findings from the Conference, eg through blog posts or social media. A City of Edinburgh officer will be present at the Conference, who will be able to provide technical assistance, if necessary.

Background reading/external references

Further information on the CHAMP project is available from the CHAMP website (<http://www.champ-cycling.eu/en/>).

John Bury

Acting Director of Services for Communities

Contact: Reggie Tricker, Professional Officer

E-mail: reggie.tricker@edinburgh.gov.uk | Tel: 0131 469 3571

Links

Coalition pledges	P45 - Spend 5% of the transport budget on provision for cyclists P50 - Meet greenhouse gas targets, including the national target of 42% by 2020
Council outcomes	CO22 - Moving efficiently – Edinburgh has a transport system that improves connectivity and is green, healthy and accessible CO24 - The Council communicates effectively internally and externally and has an excellent reputation for customer care CO26 - The Council engages with stakeholders and works in partnership to improve services and deliver on agreed objectives
Single Outcome Agreement	SO2 - Edinburgh's citizens experience improved health and wellbeing, with reduced inequalities in health SO4 - Edinburgh's communities are safer and have improved physical and social fabric
Appendices	None