

# Transport and Environment Committee

10.00am, Tuesday, 26 August 2014

## Establishment of Active Travel Forum for Walking and Cycling

Item number	7.8
Report number	
Executive/routine	
Wards	All

### Executive summary

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Proposed arrangements would see the establishment of an Integrated Active Travel Forum, a new walking forum and the reconstitution of the existing Cycling Forum.

It is proposed the Active Travel Forum would be chaired by the Convener of the Transport and Environment Committee, with the Walking Forum and Cycling Forum, chaired by Vice Convener of the Committee.

### Links

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Coalition pledges	<a href="#">P28</a> , <a href="#">P33</a> , <a href="#">P44</a> , <a href="#">P45</a> , <a href="#">P47</a> and <a href="#">P50</a>
Council outcomes	<a href="#">CO9</a> , <a href="#">CO10</a> , <a href="#">CO19</a> , <a href="#">CO22</a> , <a href="#">CO23</a> , <a href="#">CO24</a> , <a href="#">CO25</a> and <a href="#">CO26</a>
Single Outcome Agreement	<a href="#">SO2</a> and <a href="#">SO4</a>

## Establishment of Active Travel Forum for Walking and Cycling

### Recommendations

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- 1.1 It is recommended that the Committee:
  - 1.1.1 agrees to the establishment of the Active Travel Forum, the Walking Forum and the reconstitution of the Cycling Forum;
  - 1.1.2 agrees to the arrangements and membership as outlined, including stakeholders and members of the public; and
  - 1.1.3 agrees to the arrangement of inaugural meetings before the end of this calendar year.

### Background

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- 2.1 The Council requires the setting up of new Working Groups, to be approved by the relevant Committee.
- 2.2 The Cycling Forum was established in 1999, and has been chaired by the Council's nominated political Cycling Champion and attended by local cycling groups and officers. In addition, the Council has an officer-level Active Travel Steering Group to co-ordinate Council activities. This is also attended by stakeholders such as NHS Lothian and Sustrans Scotland.

### Main report

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#### Active Travel Forum

- 3.1 The two-year review of the Active Travel Action Plan (ATAP) identified the scope for greater governance arrangements, to secure its effective implementation.
- 3.2 The Transport Forum has identified the need for enhanced attention to be paid to actions relating to the needs of people travelling in the city on foot and has endorsed the establishment of a Forum in which these issues can be discussed in greater detail.
- 3.3 It is therefore proposed that an Active Travel Forum be established which would have an overview of all elements of the Active Travel Action Plan. Recognising the specific issues associated with both walking and cycling it is proposed that a Walking Forum is established, and that the Cycling Forum is reconstituted in the context of the new active travel arrangements.

## **Membership and relationships**

- 3.4 Following on from Transport Forum meetings, it is proposed that the Active Travel Forum be chaired by the Convener, or in her absence by the Vice Convener of the Transport and Environment Committee. The Cycling and Walking Forums would be chaired by the Vice Convenor.
- 3.5 The membership of the Active Travel Forum is proposed in Appendix 1. Officers will consider applications from the public, with a view to ensuring the balance in terms of representation. Detailed membership will be signed off by the Convener.
- 3.6 The involvement of other stakeholders and Members would be maintained through the Transport Forum and existing channels (such as meetings and consultations).
- 3.7 It is proposed that the Active Travel Forum will meet three times a year. The format would replicate that of the Transport Forum, with a main issue topic per meeting, accompanied by a presentation and workshop discussion. This would be supplemented by other smaller items of business, as time allows, or sub-groups on particular issues.
- 3.8 It is intended that the Active Travel Forum will operate on a consensual basis and that any emerging recommendations will be reported to officers, with regular updates to the Transport Forum, which in turn provides an annual review report to the Transport and Environment Committee.
- 3.9 Officers would be engaged through the ATAP steering group, which would discuss and enact findings from the Forums, as relevant.
- 3.10 The intention is that the Active Travel Forum agrees the remit and membership of the Cycling and Walking Forums.

## **Measures of success**

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- 4.1 The objectives of the Active Travel Action Plan are delivered.
- 4.2 Number and types of policies or projects influenced by the Forum.
- 4.3 Satisfaction of Forum members.

## **Financial impact**

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- 5.1 Resources to support the operation of the Forum will be provided by the Council, including administration resources from Committee Services and facilitation by Transport.

## **Risk, policy, compliance and governance impact**

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- 6.1 These proposals contribute towards the achievement of the Active Travel Action Plan and Local Transport Strategy and related action plans.
- 6.2 Presentation of these proposals to Committee allows their recognition as a Working Group of the Council.

## **Equalities impact**

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- 7.1 Membership of the Active Travel Forum will include a standing representative for equalities and human rights, with further representation from specific groups, on a topic-by-topic basis.
- 7.2 The business of the Forum will be guided by policies and projects that will be subject to their own Equalities and Rights Impact Assessments. The Forums will work to scrutinise the application of such requirements, in the business they consider, enhancing the Council's delivery of its Public Sector Equality Duty.

## **Sustainability impact**

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- 8.1 Membership of the Active Travel Forum will include a standing representative for environmentally-focussed transport charities, with further representation from specific groups, on a topic-by-topic basis.
- 8.2 The business of the Active Travel Forum will be guided by policies and projects that will be subject to their own Sustainability Assessments. The Forum will work to scrutinise the application of such requirements, in the business they consider, enhancing the Council's delivery of its air quality and climate change responsibilities.

## **Consultation and engagement**

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- 9.1 These proposals were developed and discussed at the Transport Forums in January and April 2014 and a sub-group meeting of Transport Forum members in early April 2014.
- 9.2 Meeting papers would be advertised through the Council's main Committee pages, administered by Committee Services.

## Background reading/external references

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Active Travel Action Plan

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## Links

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<b>Coalition pledges</b>	<p><b>P28</b> - Further strengthen our links with the business community by developing and implementing strategies to promote and protect the economic well being of the city</p> <p><b>P33</b> - Strengthen Neighbourhood Partnerships and further involve local people in decisions on how Council resources are used</p> <p><b>P44</b> - Prioritise keeping our streets clean and attractive</p> <p><b>P45</b> - Spend 5% of the transport budget on provision for cyclists</p> <p><b>P47</b> - Set up a city-wide Transport Forum of experts and citizens to consider our modern transport needs</p> <p><b>P50</b> - Meet greenhouse gas targets, including the national target of 42% by 2020</p>
<b>Council outcomes</b>	<p><b>CO9</b> - Edinburgh residents are able to access job opportunities</p> <p><b>CO10</b> - Improved health and reduced inequalities</p> <p><b>CO19</b> - Attractive Places and Well Maintained – Edinburgh remains an attractive city through the development of high quality buildings and places and the delivery of high standards and maintenance of infrastructure and public realm</p> <p><b>CO22</b> - Moving efficiently – Edinburgh has a transport system that improves connectivity and is green, healthy and accessible</p> <p><b>CO23</b> - Well engaged and well informed – Communities and individuals are empowered and supported to improve local outcomes and foster a sense of community</p> <p><b>CO24</b> - The Council communicates effectively internally and externally and has an excellent reputation for customer care</p> <p><b>CO25</b> - The Council has efficient and effective services that deliver on objectives</p> <p><b>CO26</b> - The Council engages with stakeholders and works in partnership to improve services and deliver on agreed objectives</p>
<b>Single Outcome Agreement</b>	<p><b>SO2</b> - Edinburgh's citizens experience improved health and wellbeing, with reduced inequalities in health</p> <p><b>SO4</b> - Edinburgh's communities are safer and have improved physical and social fabric</p>
<b>Appendices</b>	<p>Appendix 1 - Remit and membership of the Active Travel, Walking and Cycling Forums</p>

## **Appendix 1 - Remit and membership of the Active Travel Forum**

### Aim, objectives and remit

The proposed aim of the Forum replicates that of the Transport Forum (below), with a specific focus on active travel,

“To provide a city wide Forum of experts and citizens to consider our future transport needs ... with the aim of providing an effective mechanism to influence the development of the city’s transport strategy and service. It will be a consultative body to review current policy and strategic direction and to contribute to medium to long term planning.”

The Active Travel Forum is proposed to be an advisory body. The remit will be to create dialogue between the Council, stakeholders, interest groups, community groups and members of the public to inform the decision making process for the improved development and maintenance of the walking and cycling environment throughout the city.

Specific objectives of the Active Travel Forum include to:

- Contribute to the development of actions to improve the quality and accessibility of the walking and cycling environment, in particular relating to:
  - the Active Travel Action Plan;
  - the design of new projects (including public realm improvements), in line with the Council’s emerging Street Design Guidance; and
  - maintenance, with reference to the emerging Road Maintenance and Renewals Action Plan.
- Champion the promotion of walking and cycling as transport modes of choice.
- Facilitate the development of existing expertise and good practice in policy development and implementation.
- Help integrate actions and proposals relating to walking, cycling and other modes.
- Facilitate networking to deliver a mutual understanding of the needs of those travelling on foot and by bike, and the relationships to other modes, in the city.

The business of the Active Travel Forum is depicted below.

Meeting	Duration	Subject matter	Linkages
<b>Active Travel Forum - Walking</b>	1 hr	Active Travel Action Plan ('Network Management', 'Network Development', Promotions and Marketing, Monitoring)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Transport Forum</li> <li>• Transport and Environment Committee</li> <li>• Active Travel Steering Group</li> <li>• Transport for Edinburgh Board</li> </ul>
<b>Active Travel Forum - Joint</b>	1 hr		
<b>Active Travel Forum - Cycling</b>	1 hr		

### Membership

The proposed membership of the Forum covers both stakeholders and users.

Scope of membership	Active Travel Forum - Walking	Active Travel Forum - Cycling
<b>Specific members relating to walking or cycling</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Living Streets Scotland</li> <li>• Paths for All</li> <li>• Ramblers</li> <li>• Health Walking Groups</li> <li>• Public walking representatives x 4</li> <li>• Lobby representative x 1</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Spokes</li> <li>• Festival of Cycling</li> <li>• Cycling Scotland</li> <li>• ScotRail and/or Network Rail</li> <li>• Public cycling representatives x 4</li> <li>• Lobby representative x 1</li> </ul>
<b>Joint walking and cycling members</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Convenor of Transport and Environment Committee <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Sustrans Scotland <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• This is Edinburgh (city-wide marketing) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• University</li> <li>• Employer</li> <li>• Scottish Canals</li> <li>• NHS Lothian</li> <li>• Edinburgh Leisure</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Transport for Edinburgh</li> <li>• Edinburgh Equalities Network</li> </ul> </li> </ul> </li> <li>• Short-term members x 2 (eg specific events/projects/ local community groups)</li> </ul>	