

14. SPACES FOR PEOPLE CONSULTATION FEEDBACK

Council considered a report (copies of which had been circulated) by the Head of Operational Services which provided an update on the consultation exercise undertaken in accordance with the motion approved by Council on 15 March 2022.

It was recommended that Council notes :-

1. The statutory and public consultations that have been carried out;
2. The contents of the consultation responses (Appendix 3);
3. The reviews of the active travel plan, the accident investigation and prevention programme, speed limits, decriminalised parking, school crossing patrol guides, suitable routes to school and parking information.
4. The associated costs and timescales for progressing the elements set out in the report.

Motion

“Council notes the recommendations set out in the officer’s report.

Council also notes that the Scottish Government’s Active Travel (AT) budget has been growing year on year since its inception, doubling to £80m pa in 2018/19 and currently £150m pa in 2022/23. The Bute House Agreement committed to increase the AT budget to at least £320m pa, or 10% of the total transport budget by 2024/25

With this background and recognising that as a Council we need to improve the environment which increases walking, wheeling and cycling activities within our built environment. Indeed, Transport Scotland defines and sets out its commitment to active travel as *“a vision of enabling walking, wheeling and cycling to be the most popular mode of travel, everyday journeys. We want to make Scotland’s towns and cities friendlier, safer, and more accessible for people of all ages and abilities.”*

In further consideration of how improvements can be taken forward Council agrees that :-

in Linlithgow the east Loaning parking existing permanent TRO should be revoked to remove the permitted footway parking to improve pedestrian movement on this footway for both residents and visitors, (cost estimate £6000); make permanent the B9080 temporary cycleway to make this stretch of road safer for both cyclists and drivers; remove the cycle lane on the west side of St. Ninian’s Road (cost estimate £7,500) but retain the cycle lane on the east side and remove the existing temporary measure and review the design and drainage of the extended footway in the High Street with a view to making it permanent to improve pedestrian movement for both residents and visitors.

In Station Road, Kirknewton that the footway “build outs” are made permanent (cost estimate £25,000).

In Main Street, East Calder that the footway “build outs” are made permanent (cost estimate £15,000).

All of the above to be developed as projects within the Active Travel programme as funding becomes available through Transport Scotland.

All other temporary footway build outs are removed.

The advisory cycle lanes in Blackridge and Broxburn are retained, however any temporary kerbing and bollards are removed.

- Moved by Councillor Conn and seconded by Councillor Sullivan

The Governance Manager then sought clarity with respect to the funding for the removal of all temporary footway build outs and the advisory cycle lanes in Blackridge and Broxburn being retained but the kerbing and bollard being removed.

The Head of Finance and Property Services confirmed that these too would have to be funded from the Scottish Government’s Active Travel budget and not from existing resources.

Amendment

“Whilst we agree with some of the measures indicated, we further agree it should be presented to a relevant PDSP for proper discussion and proper scrutiny. This Council agrees that in consulting with the people of West Lothian with regard to the S4P programme we have not gone far enough, as evidenced by the poor returns shown in Appendix 1. We therefore move that this report is not agreed today but goes back to all of the LACS, to all community councils in West Lothian, and to all elected members, with a view to a further report being brought back to the next Environment PDSP that is scheduled.”

- Moved by Councillor Campbell and seconded by Councillor Calder

An electronic vote was conducted. The result was as follows :-

Motion

Harry Cartmill
Tom Conn
Lawrence Fitzpatrick
Danny Logue
Andrew McGuire
Anne McMillan
Craig Meek
Cathy Muldoon
George Paul
Tony Pearson

Amendment

Alison Adamson
Willie Boyle
Diane Calder
Janet Campbell
Pauline Clark.
Robert De Bold
Angela Doran-Timson
Damian Doran-Timson
Jim Dickson
Mary Dickson

Abstain

Stuart Borrowman
Sally Pattle

Kirsteen Sullivan

Peter Heggie
Carl John
Lynda Kenna
Maria MacAulay
Moira McKee Shemilt
Andrew Miller
Pauline Orr
Veronica Smith
Pauline Stafford

Decision

Following a vote the amendment was successful 19 votes to 11 with 2 abstentions and it was agreed accordingly.