

# Item 6.1 - Business bulletin

## Transport and Environment Committee

**10.00am, Thursday, 4 October 2018**

Dean of Guild Room, City Chambers, High Street, Edinburgh

# Transport and Environment Committee

Convener:	Members:	Contact:
<p data-bbox="188 338 435 416">Councillor Lesley Macinnes</p>  <p data-bbox="188 824 523 920">Councillor Karen Doran (Vice-Convenor)</p> 	<p data-bbox="587 327 946 801">Councillor Scott Arthur Councillor Eleanor Bird Councillor Chas Booth Councillor Graeme Bruce Councillor Steve Burgess Councillor Nick Cook Councillor Scott Douglas Councillor Gillian Gloyer Councillor David Key</p>	<p data-bbox="1091 327 1329 465"><a href="#">Alison Coburn</a> Senior Executive Assistant 0131 529 3149</p> <p data-bbox="1091 528 1377 633"><a href="#">Veronica MacMillan</a> Committee Services 0131 529 4283</p> <p data-bbox="1091 707 1377 813"><a href="#">Rachel Gentleman</a> Committee Services 0131 529 4085</p>

## Recent news

### Decriminalised Traffic and Parking Enforcement

Following consideration of a report on Decriminalised Traffic and Parking Enforcement on [17 May 2018](#) and approved the following motion:

- 1) To note the report.
- 2) To note that specific measures to improve parking in Edinburgh were included in the Parking Action Plan (PAP), which was also being presented to the Committee for consideration on 17 May 2018.
- 3) To note the very significant public anger at what was perceived to be a lack of enforcement in key areas of the city, including, but not limited to, Leith Walk, the High Street and the Grassmarket.
- 4) To note nonetheless the hard work and dedication of the parking attendants employed on the council's behalf, that they did an excellent job under difficult circumstances and to thank them for their service.
- 5) To note that the KPIs for the Council's parking enforcement contractor were agreed in September each year and to agree that a meeting would be held each year sufficiently in advance of those KPIs being signed off for the following year, at which the transport spokesperson for each political group would be invited to attend, to brief councillors on the progress made to improve parking enforcement in the preceding year and to discuss any possible changes to the KPIs for the parking enforcement contractor in the following year.
- 6) To note that a Transport Bill would be introduced to the Scottish Parliament soon which would contain measures aimed to address the problem of pavement parking, but notes nonetheless that the price of a Penalty Charge Notice (PCN) has remained static since 2001.
- 7) To note the Council did not currently have the powers to vary the price of a PCN and to agree that the Convener would make representations to the Scottish Government on devolving the power to set the rate of PCNs to Scottish Local Authorities.
- 7) To agree nonetheless that there were significant existing powers that could be used to tackle the problem of pavement parking, not least the installation of physical barriers such as Sheffield racks at the edge of footways which also provided cycle parking, as undertaken by Wandsworth Council and others, and to agree that similar measures should be introduced in Edinburgh.

## Background

### For further information contact:

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Acting Parking Traffic  
Regulation Manager

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- 8) To agree to receive a further report within two cycles examining the issue of parking enforcement in more detail, and specifically outlining options to address the following issues:
- a) that members of the public would like a quick, real-time method to report parking violations that could swiftly be passed to parking attendants for possible enforcement action, should they be in the area;
  - b) that while Council policy was currently to give those parking in contravention of the rules a 'grace period' of 5 minutes for cars and 10 minutes for commercial vehicles, nonetheless to examine whether this grace period was appropriate in all circumstances and specifically to examine whether the grace period could be shortened in areas of persistent parking violations;
  - c) that, where there were no valid lines and signs, the parking enforcement contractor could not operate, and therefore reviewing the timetable for installing new lines and signs when they were required; and
  - d) that while some drivers regarded the cost of a parking ticket as a reasonable price to pay for the ability to park in the city centre, the majority did not want their vehicle to be towed, and therefore to agree to consider increasing the capacity to tow vehicles to the pound, and tightening the rules which allowed this to be done.
- 9) To discharge the motion by Councillor Key.

To allow for further, detailed consideration of the issues and of potential enforcement implications that might arise from any changes to current enforcement procedures, a full report will now be submitted to Transport and Environment Committee on Thursday 6 December 2018. This revised timescale will also allow for a meeting with key elected members to be rescheduled following the recess and officer annual leave.

### **Bus Lanes in Edinburgh**

At its meeting of 9 August 2018 Committee considered a report entitled Public Transport Priority Plan. The Committee requested that a list be provided indicating the proposed locations for additional bus lane cameras.

A review of all bus lanes in Edinburgh along with previous reports, customer complaints and discussions with public transport operators identified a number of locations where

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bus lane infringements occurred and camera enforcement may help to improve journey times.

A long list of sites was created (avoiding locations with priority junctions, private entrances and high-volumes of left-turning traffic) from this 20 locations were selected for more detailed traffic surveys. Further batches of surveys are intended in the coming months to review all locations of concern.

The traffic surveys identified five locations where there was a significant level of non-compliance with bus lane regulations and where proposals are being brought forward to introduce additional camera enforcement sites.

These locations include:

- Liberton Road
- Commercial Street
- Slateford Road
- Calder Road
- Milton Road

It is intended for these sites to become live later in 2018 when a communications campaign and warning notices will be issued to drivers to make them aware of the forthcoming enforcement activities.

### **Improving Parking in the Leith Central Area**

Following consideration of a petition on the above topic at its meeting on [17 May 2018](#) Committee:

- 1) Agreed that officers would discuss the issues raised with the petitioners and investigate short-term solutions.
- 2) Noted that a report addressing the issues on a city-wide basis that would also address local parking issues would be presented to the committee in August 2018.

At its [9 August 2018](#) meeting, Committee considered a report on a citywide parking review, deciding:

- 1) To note the detail of the proposed strategic approach to reviewing parking across the city.
- 2) To note that the highest priority had been given to areas where parking issues had already been highlighted to the Council, and where investigations were either ongoing or had been approved.

The proposed review, as a result of representations and discussions in a number of areas of the city (including with Leith Central Community Council), committed to a strategic

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review of parking across the city, with a view to taking the necessary legal steps to introduce measures designed to address parking issues.

The review will help the Council to understand the extent and severity of parking issues and will allow decisions to be made as to the potential extent of proposed parking measures.

Committee has approved a phased approach to this review, with the city divided into five distinct areas for the purposes of undertaking surveys and gathering data. However, whilst initial priority for this data gathering is being given to areas where commitments have already been made via previous Committee decisions, one of the aims of the review is to recommend a prioritisation based entirely on parking pressures and the potential benefits of parking controls.

The results of the review will be reported to future meetings of this Committee as the findings for each area become available, with a final report that will draw all of the results together and propose an overall citywide strategy.

In recognition of the pressing need for solutions to ongoing parking problems in areas like Leith Walk, priority has been given to delivering the above review. Initial contact with LCCC has been made, however, with the aim of arranging a detailed discussion that will involve officers from both Parking and North East Locality.

Following ongoing discussions with local resident groups, the North East Locality roads team have been considering any short-term measures they can progress and have now introduced bus stop clearway markings at bus stops in the Pilrig area. These markings will help to improve both traffic flows and accessibility to bus stops and associated services.

An increased enforcement presence has also been put in place for the Leith Walk and Easter Road areas as a means of improving compliance with existing parking restrictions.

A further Business Bulletin will be submitted to Committee following discussions with Leith Central Community Council.

### **Low Cost Ways to Boost Cycle Use**

The Spokes document describing competition entries has been considered by the Locality Roads and Transport teams. The feasibility of each has been assessed and, where appropriate, action has been taken or is planned.

### **For further information contact:**

Steven Cuthill, South East  
Andy Edwards, South West

An update will be prepared for each Locality Committee with a summary to be included in a future Transport and Environment Committee Business Bulletin.

Darren Ryan, North East  
Dave Sinclair, North West

### **Kirkliston Traffic Study**

The next stage of the study is to carry out the first Stakeholder Engagement meeting to consider the context of the data following the ANPR survey. This meeting will include Local Councillors, Kirkliston Community Council and QDCC.

Following this initial meeting the next phase of the project is for the Consultant to consider the detail of current traffic issues in the study area and develop options for further consideration. Once options are available the second Stakeholder Engagement meeting will be arranged (expected in October 2018).

### **For Further Information:**

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<b>Study activity</b>	<b>Update at 23 August 2018</b>
Tender (see Appendix 2) and award	Completed May 18
Traffic counts and ANPR survey	Completed June 18
Stakeholder engagement – Survey stage	First stakeholder carried out on 4 September 2018
Survey analysis and option development	September/October 18
Stakeholder engagement – Options stage	October 18
Final report issued	October/November 18
Report on outcomes of traffic study to North West Locality Committee for information, and Transport and Environment Committee for decision.	A report will be prepared for Committee early 2019.

### **Dalmeny Station and Associated Traffic Issues**

At Transport and Environment Committee on 9th August 2018 it was agreed that consultation with ward members

### **For further information:**

Stuart Lowrie, Public  
Transport Manager:

and the community would be undertaken in order to develop detailed action plans to alleviate traffic issues associated with Dalmeny Station.

A meeting has been arranged with all relevant stakeholders on 27 September 2018. The agenda focused on development of two action plans: one for local issues and one on regional issues.

At the meeting the following issues were discussed:

- Dalmeny Station car park capacity, maintenance and management
- Parking Issues in adjacent streets
- Inappropriate traffic speed and driver behaviour
- Kirkliston and Queensferry Traffic Study
- Public transport provision
- Local Development Plan
- Development of active travel routes and facilities
- Regional transport study and opportunity to implement transport improvements with Transport Scotland assistance via Strategic Transport Projects Review 2.

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### **Deposit Return Scheme**

The Scottish Government have recently been consulting on the introduction of a deposit return scheme for selected drinks containers as a potential way to encourage recycling and reduce litter. In consultation with the Convener, a Council response has been submitted broadly supporting the scheme but suggesting it should be kept quite simple to begin with (covering drinks bottles and cans) to make sure it works as intended. It is important that the proposed collection stream particularly targets litter, and does not divert valuable materials from existing recycling services.

### **For Further Information:**

Angus Murdoch

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### **Transport (Scotland) Bill – City of Edinburgh Council response to call for views**

The Transport (Scotland) Bill was introduced in the Scottish Parliament on 8 June 2018. The Bill contains proposals for amendments to transport legislation covering six key areas:

- Low Emission Zones
- Bus Services
- Ticketing Arrangements and Schemes
- Pavement Parking and Double Parking

### **For further information:**

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- Road Works
- Miscellaneous and General

At the invitation of Scottish Parliament's Rural Economy and Connectivity Committee the Executive Director of Place presented to the Committee on 19 September. In addition, following consultation with the Convener of Transport and Environment a submission on behalf of the Council was made on 28 September in response to the Parliament's call for views.

#### Low Emission Zones

The Council is broadly supportive of this section of the Bill, recognising that it sets the overall legislative framework for a low emission zone and that detail on specific aspects of operation will follow in regulations.

#### Bus services

This section of the Bill is more relevant to other local authorities as it seeks to enable local franchising and bus service improvement partnerships, however the Council's response commented on the content and made reference to bus services in Edinburgh.

#### Ticketing arrangements and schemes

The Council is supportive of innovative ticketing that utilises technology and recognises changes in payment methods, however more detail will be needed around resourcing and other implications of this.

#### Pavement parking and double parking

The aim of the Bill in removing pavement parking is supported by the Council but there is concern over some of the detail in the Bill – for example it is considered that the range of exemptions proposed is too wide and will enable and encourage rather than reduce pavement parking.

#### Road works

The Council is broadly supportive of this section of the Bill, particularly provision for placing of apparatus in the roadway, reinstatement of roadways and staff training, but is of the opinion that it is high level and that more detail is required.

### Miscellaneous and general

The Council has no particular concerns with the two elements of this part of the Bill, Scottish Canals governance and financing arrangements of regional transport partnerships.

### Issues not included in the Bill

The Council's response included information on transport issues which have not been included in the Bill. This includes making the case for including legislation to enable local authorities to introduce workplace parking levies and suggests changes to the Traffic Regulation Order process which would make it easier for authorities to introduce infrastructure for active and sustainable travel.

### **Forthcoming activities:**

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