

WLC REF: MIB00069

From: [REDACTED]

Sent: 12 October 2014 21:20

To: wlldp

Subject: Main Issues Report – Linlithgow Cycle Action Group (LCAG)

Dear Sir/Madam

Comments. I will try and get comments in on the questionnaire but wish to make a submission now. These to apply to Well-being, Transport and Sustainability

The Linlithgow Cycle Action Group would like to see cycling in the county given a higher profile and consideration. Currently there are factors acting against the growth, safety and pleasure of cycling in the town and surrounding environment.

The three high level requirements we would make are :

1. Linlithgow High Street- safer and decrease in pollution levels
2. Linlithgow Town – safe cycle routes around the town
3. Nearby Communities – safe routes to adjacent towns and villages

As part of achieving this we make the following comments:

1. High Street: We would want to see attention to the safe passage of cycles along the High Street. It is very busy and we want to see a decrease in traffic. The junction on the M9 should at last be finished as a priority. This should significantly decrease traffic passing through the town. Car drivers should be encouraged to use the M9 as a town bypass, signing could help. We do not want to see any major developments in the town as this would add substantially to the traffic, harming safety and increasing pollution. There are numerous communities in West Lothian that need development and facilities that have been harmed by the loss of industry and main purpose. Consequently we would prefer that there is a policy of restraint on development in the town. Social housing on Mill Road, and the development of the existing commercial space at the Sun site, and unused office space in the town would be exceptions.
2. Town: Cycling should be further encouraged by creating recommended safe routes both for adults and children around the town.
3. Adjacent Communities: Cycling to many other communities in the county is very difficult and highly non-conducive to cycling. Examples - Cycling to Bo'ness is difficult (e.g. A706) not just because of the high gradients but also the narrowness of the roads, blind bends, and lack of cycling paths. There is the lack of a safe road cycling route south of the town such as over the Bathgate Hills. The narrow country lane leading from Manse Road to Dechmont and Livingston is a very dangerous 'rat run'. We would want to see a major reduction in volume and speed of traffic on this route. There have been suggestions of housing developments by the Manse Road and even a southern relief road. These would bring more traffic on to the lane and increase the dangers even more. A southern relief road seems to be a highly expensive option and problematic bringing traffic onto unsuitable roads in and around the town (e.g. Preston Road and schools, the West Port junction and roundabout).

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