



Renfrewshire Council
Spaces for People fund

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Ref: TF/JD

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Dear Sir/Madam,

**Renfrewshire Council
Spaces for People Fund - consultation on cycleways for active travel**

GoBike is pleased to respond to this consultation setting out your proposals to increase the space for cycling on many busy roads within the council area. GoBike is a group of people who all cycle and we campaign for good cycle infrastructure; it is the existence of good infrastructure that will persuade many of the people who have taken to cycling during lockdown to continue cycling now that the roads are becoming busier.

A significant number of our members live and/or work in Renfrewshire and many more of us from other areas along the Clyde visit Renfrewshire on a regular basis.

We are delighted that you propose segregated cycleways on so many of the busy roads within Renfrewshire and that, in the main, space is to be taken from sections of the roadway normally occupied by moving or parked vehicles to do this. Also, we are very pleased that you are introducing a short section of contraflow cycling in the centre of Paisley to improve the efficiency of people's journeys. Relatively simple measures such as this can make all the difference to journeys, cutting down the time taken and minimising the time spent on busy roads.

While we recognise that the measures you are taking are temporary and being done speedily, we do have some concerns that we hope you will acknowledge and perhaps be able to mitigate.

Junctions are potentially hazardous for most road users but particularly so for people cycling and it is difficult to see what design features are proposed, for example, at the Paisley end of the Howwood to Paisley (Beith Road) route or at the roundabouts on the A761 at Millarston and Ferguslie.

In the centre of Paisley we note that you propose cycleways denoted by white lines, but no wands. It is our experience that a painted line on a road will not deter motorists from driving into the cycle lane if the road is busy or the driver is in a rush, or from parking there should they so choose. Could you not, for these very busy streets, Causeyside Street and Glasgow Road, introduce at least a limited amount of segregation, with a few more wands added to the not insignificant total that you already propose?

Our third, and final, point of concern is your proposal to redetermine some footways for shared use by foot and cycle, albeit we are aware that on Beith Road you propose to take some space from the roadway to effect this. Shared footways don't really suit either user: bikes go too fast for some pedestrians and some pedestrians wander about on the footway, jumping into and not out of the path of a bike if the rider uses a bell to warn of their approach. No doubt this is the

best solution you have found in the short term, but we would generally caution against the use of shared footways.

Overall, however, we applaud your efforts to improve space for distancing and cycling safety.

Could we take this opportunity to ask whether GoBike could be added to Renfrewshire Council's list of consultees for Traffic Regulation Orders and other consultations that have a bearing on the use of road space in which cycling might be affected? We would be very pleased to be able to contribute towards improving the number of journeys made by bike within the area.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Tricia Fort', written in a cursive style.

Tricia Fort
for Consultations, GoBike