

## **QUEENSFERRY AND DISTRICT COMMUNITY COUNCIL**

### **Transport Report for February 2020**

- 1. City Mobility Plan and Various Consultation Surveys** – Edinburgh Council continue to seek feedback on their City Mobility Plan, which accompanies the City Plan 2030 (the latest local development plan proposals) with a vision of Edinburgh reaching carbon neutral status by 2030 despite rapid planned growth. I attended an engagement event on the mobility plan earlier this month. In order to achieve the target some significant changes to the way that people and goods are moved will be necessary over the next 10 years. Road transport accounts for 30% of Edinburgh's carbon dioxide output and some seemingly drastic measures have been put forward for the city centre. Development of alternative 'last mile' delivery and waste collection methods are proposed, too, with distribution points perhaps being mandatory in new developments. However the report recognises that some areas of population growth such as Queensferry are relatively poorly served by public transport.
- 2. Bike Hire Docking Stations** – We provided feedback to TfE and Serco with our opinions about suitability of each location proposed for Queensferry in the next stage of the bike hire rollout. The stances are likely to be installed over the coming weeks, as the electric bike scheme goes 'live'.
- 3. Road Closure Updates** – The bridge on Hopetoun Road near Morison Gardens closed for repairs at the beginning of January. These are expected to take up to 13 weeks and involve diverting traffic (including buses) along Stewart Terrace for this time. We asked CEC and ward councillors about support for any persons with reduced mobility who were disadvantaged by loss of public transport links and received confirmation that a taxi contract had been set up via CEC's Travel Hub. Details of reference numbers to quote are available on request or through Anne. The Queensferry Crossing completely closed for a couple of days earlier this month due to ice falling from the cables. Although some regular users were inconvenienced, transport links to Fife were maintained on the Forth Road Bridge and Forth Bridge. Traffic count figures released recently for the Queensferry Crossing attracted some publicity as they suggest it carries around 4% more traffic than the bridge it replaced. However Stagecoach now carry around 30% more passengers since the new bridge opened.
- 4. Public Transport** – Some of CEC's subsidised bus contracts are due to be discussed by their Transport & Environment Committee on Thursday. We've been expecting the 63 tender to be re-let for quite a long time and it will probably be reviewed in this cycle. However the paper is not visible to the public, presumably to retain commercial confidentiality of the bidding companies' submissions. A network review for Lothian Buses services takes place on 29 March. The only change affecting Queensferry is an enhancement of the N43 bus, which will be extended to Kirkliston and operate back into Edinburgh at weekends to support two additional journeys departing from the Omni Centre at 01:40 and 03:10. We have arranged a meeting with the network performance manager from Lothian Buses on 16 March, so if anyone has particular questions to bring up or wishes to attend please just let me know.

Grant Sangster  
Transport Sub-Committee Convenor  
22 February 2020