



# Firrhill News

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## Travel Plan Meetings – *the survey results and action points*

On 26 March four pupils and Environment Group members Stella Thomson and Carolyn Hargest met Mark Symonds, Active Transport and Liaison Officer, for a second travel plan meeting, where there was a discussion about the results of the Firrhill High School pupil and staff travel surveys. Issues encountered by pupils and staff in their daily journeys to and from school were discussed. A further meeting took place on 15 May with a group of S3 pupils, who examined possible solutions to issues raised by the surveys. The school will promote the action points highlighted in the new Travel Plan.



Thanks to Cllr Jason Rust, who has helped to resolve some travel-related and litter problems in the area.

There was a good response to the school travel surveys: 331 pupils responded and 58 staff members completed the staff travel survey. As an incentive to take part in the survey, the Environment Group kindly donated three £10 Amazon vouchers. Congratulation to pupil winners: Cameron Shand and Lucia Rizza, and staff winner, Mr Márquez. Three love2shop vouchers donated by the City of Edinburgh Council were also prizes. Thanks to everyone who took part in the survey – the results form the basis of the Firrhill High School 2018 Travel Plan.



Most pupils walk to school, but the travel plan highlighted that the provision of more lockers may encourage more pupils and staff to cycle to school. We are looking into the cost of providing more lockers for cyclists. Better maintenance of cycle lanes and the provision of more cycle lanes may also help to encourage more people to cycle to school. The Rights Respecting Schools Award Group have discussed the right of any pupil to cycle, and also the right to choose to wear a helmet when cycling.



**Cycle Friendly Secondary School**

The revision of the school Travel Plan will also help the school to achieve the Cycle Friendly Secondary School Award.

Already as a result of the travel survey, the potholed access road to the school from Oxgangs Road north by Caiystane Court, to the mixed-use path through the middle of the school, has been resurfaced by Amey. The toucan crossing has had some immediate repairs done by the Clarence Response Squad. The pupil and staff cycle sheds are due to be repaired in the summer, including a new door with an integral keypad lock for the pupils' cycle shed. New cycle signage will be introduced to help cyclists travel safely to school. We kindly ask all parents and carers to use the Edinburgh City council "report it" site <http://www.edinburgh.gov.uk/report> to alert the council to any road or pavement defects, gritting requirements, dog fouling problems, graffiti and litter. Please contact the Parent Council [firrhillpc@gmail.com](mailto:firrhillpc@gmail.com) if you have any suggestions which could help us to improve travel to school.

