

ANGUS COUNCIL**ROADS COMMITTEE****11 JUNE 1998****SAFE ROUTES TO SCHOOL****REPORT BY THE DIRECTOR OF ROADS****ABSTRACT**

This report updates the Committee with regard to the progress being made on the Safe Routes to School initiative.

1 RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended that the Committee agree that the Director of Roads should continue with the Safe Routes to Schools initiative within the limits of the allocated budget of £75,000 during the 1998 - 1999 financial year.

2 INTRODUCTION

Report number 249/96 by the Director of Roads considered the overall topic of Safe Routes to Schools in Angus and was approved by Committee in April 1996. It was agreed to carry out a comprehensive study of road safety around all the schools in Angus and the Director of Roads was instructed to compile a prioritised list of measures and submit a programme of works to a future Committee.

Report number 855/96 by the Director of Roads was approved in October 1996. It was agreed to spend £40,000 on signing, lining and barriers during 1996-1997 and report to Committee on the prioritised list of desirable projects.

Report number 977/96 was approved by Committee in November 1996. It was agreed that comprehensive studies be carried out at Arbroath High School and Grange Primary School to establish how children can be encouraged to cycle and walk to school, that the Director of Roads should prioritise engineering improvements around the schools and that £75,000 be allocated in the 1997-1998 Capital Estimates.

Since then various measures have been implemented and other measures are planned.

3 **DETAILS**

During 1997-1998 further improvements to the signing, lining and barriers at schools were carried out. In addition flashing amber lights were provided at many locations. Red surfaces have also been laid with white school crossing triangles superimposed. Work on the signing, lining and barriers is almost complete and it is anticipated that the appropriate flashing amber signs will also be completed during the current financial year. Further red surfaces and white school crossing triangles will also be installed, during the current finance year.

A traffic order is being processed to make it an offence to park on "school keep clear" zig-zag markings.

The pilot studies at Grange Primary School and Arbroath High School are progressing. The survey sheets from Arbroath High School have been returned and the sheets for Grange are due to go out shortly.

Future programmes are expected to include new footway/cycleways, new lighting, pedestrian islands and build outs.

4 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

Capital

Provision of £75,000 has been made for the work under the Capital Budget - Safe Routes to Schools. This includes the works plus design and supervision costs.

Revenue Implications:

Loan charges will amount to £19,785 over a five year period.

Revenue implications for maintenance of the improved infrastructure will amount to £7,500 per annum and provision will have to be made within the Roads Structural and Cyclic Maintenance Budget for this ongoing commitment in 1999/2000 and future years.

5 CONSULTATION

The Chief Executive, the Director of Law and Administration, and the Director of Finance have been consulted in the preparation of this Report.

6 CONCLUSION

It is important that school children should be able to travel to and from school as safely as possible. It is also important that children should be encouraged to walk and cycle to school. These measures proposed under the Safe Routes to School initiative will help to promote road safety in the vicinity of schools.

Dr Bob McLellan
DIRECTOR OF ROADS

NOTE

The following background papers, as defined by Section 50D of the Local Government (Scotland) Act 1973 (and not containing confidential or exempt information) were relied on to a material extent in preparing the above Report:-

Report no. 249/96 Safe Routes to School - Angus Council Roads Committee

Report no. 855/96 Road Safety - Safe Routes to School - Angus Council Roads Committee

Report no 977/96 Road Safety - Safe Routes to School - Angus Council Roads Committee

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