

ANGUS COUNCIL

ROADS COMMITTEE

8 MARCH 2001

NORTH SEA CYCLE ROUTE
GRAND OPENING 5 MAY - 23 JUNE 2000

REPORT BY THE DIRECTOR OF ROADS

ABSTRACT

This report discusses the opening of the North Sea Cycle Route and requests authority to make arrangements to mark the opening of the Route.

1 RECOMMENDATIONS

It is recommended that the Committee agree:-

- (i) to note the overall arrangements that are being made for the official opening of the North Sea Cycle Route between 5 May and 23 June 2001;
- (ii) that a ceremony/ceremonies be held within Angus on Thursday 21 June/Friday 22 June to which various dignitaries, guests and riders will be invited to mark the occasion;
- (iii) to note that a poster competition is being held for schoolchildren from primary schools adjacent to the route as part of the arrangements to mark the opening of the route;
- (iv) to note that a further report will be brought to Committee giving details of the arrangements.

2 INTRODUCTION

Members will recall that last year the Sustrans National Cycle Route was launched and a number of receptions were held as the cyclists progressed through Angus. It is the intention to mark the opening of the North Sea Cycle Route by making suitable arrangements on Thursday 21 June 2001/Friday 22 June 2001 as cyclists pass through Angus.

3 DETAILS

Report No 658/98 'North Sea Cycle Route' was approved by the Roads Committee in June 1998. It gave details of the proposed North Sea Cycle Route (NSCR). The route is around the periphery of the North Sea and passes through Norway, Sweden, Denmark, Germany, the Netherlands, England and Scotland as shown on the plan in Appendix 1.

The Sustrans National Cycle Route (Edinburgh to Aberdeen Route 1) and the North Sea Cycle follow the same route through Angus as shown on the plan in Appendix 2. The signing for the Sustrans Route was put in place last year and all that is necessary for the NSCR is the erection of a few additional plaques in Angus.

The purpose of the route is to encourage outdoor activity holidays with the help of trains and ferries. It will promote cycling and tourism, encourage the use of hotels and cafes, have health benefits, and give greater access to cultural, scenic and wild life areas.

Maps and guides will be available and a web site has been set up on www.northsea-cycle.com which gives access to Angus Council's and Dundee & Angus Tourist Board's websites.

The official launch of the North Sea Cycle Route is in Hamburg, Germany on Saturday 5 May 2001. Two Opening Cycle Tours will set out in opposite directions, converging 7 weeks later in Aberdeen on Saturday 23 June 2001. On the way there will be a number of receptions co-ordinated by various local authorities along the Route.

The tour that heads south from Hamburg, travels through Holland, and up the east coasts of England and Scotland. On Thursday 21 June 2001, the cyclists travel between St Andrews and Arbroath, and on Friday 22 June 2001 the cyclists travel between Arbroath and Stonehaven.

The aim of the arrangements will be to formally launch the NSCR and to provide local events specifically for those who have been or will be involved in this project. It will also draw to the public's attention the fact that the NSCR is open and can be explored.

Arrangements are in hand to have school children from various Angus schools adjacent to the NSCR participate in a poster competition to mark the opening.

4 **FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

The estimated cost of this launch and the reception/receptions is £500 and this can be met from the Roads Department Revenue Budget for Traffic related items.

5 **HUMAN RIGHTS IMPLICATIONS**

There are no human rights implications arising from the proposals in this report.

6 CONSULTATION

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

7 CONCLUSION

The North Sea Cycle Route will be officially opened between 5 May 2001 and 23 June 2001 and it is appropriate that Angus Council participate in its launch.

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. 215/96 – The National Cycle Network – The Angus Leg - approved by Angus Council Roads Committee – 25 April 1996.

Report No. 465/96 – Provision for Cyclists in Angus - approved by Angus Council Roads Committee – 6 June 1996.

Report No. 658/98 – North Sea Cycle Route - approved by Angus Council Roads Committee – 11 June 1998.

Report No. 102/99 – Sustrans National Cycle Route/North Sea Cycle Route - approved by Angus Council Roads Committee – 28 January 1999.

Report No. 98/00 – Sustrans National Cycle Route/North Sea Cycle Route - approved by Angus Council Roads Committee – 27 January 2000.

Report No. 658/98 – North Sea Cycle Route – approved by Angus Council Roads Committee – 11 June 1998

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