

Report

Report to:	Roads Safety Forum
Date of Meeting:	21 November 2023
Report by:	Executive Director (Community and Enterprise Resources)

Subject:	Education, Training and Publicity Initiatives
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1. Purpose of Report

1.1. The purpose of the report is to:-

- ♦ advise the Forum of ongoing education, training and publicity initiatives in South Lanarkshire

2. Recommendation(s)

2.1. The Forum is asked to approve the following recommendation(s):-

- (1) that the contents of the report be noted and future road safety education, training and publicity activity in South Lanarkshire be supported.

3. Background

3.1. Junior Road Safety Officer Scheme (JRSO)

3.1.1. All primary, private and Additional Support Needs (ASN) schools are invited on an annual basis to appoint one or two pupils in either primary 6 or primary 7 to be a Junior Road Safety Officers within their school.

3.1.2. An invite to register was issued to schools at the end of academic term 2022/2023 for the new academic year. Initial resources in the form of a JRSO A5 personal organiser, lanyard and a selection of prizes are provided to schools as they register. Throughout the year, seasonal road safety information, activities and campaign information are sent to assist the JRSOs with their duties. Additional support and resources can be accessed at any time to address any local topics or issues identified by each school.

3.1.3. The important role of the Junior Road Safety Officer involves partnership working, promotion of road safety, peer learning and engaging with the school community through their notice board, running competitions and talking at assemblies.

3.1.4. The JRSO is one of the many road safety initiatives promoted within the Road Safety publication 'Road Safety within Curriculum for Excellence'. This booklet provides information on road safety resources and provided the relevant links to support Curriculum for Excellence in all schools for all levels.

3.1.5 116 schools have registered to take part in the scheme during academic year 2023/2024 with approximately 281 JRSO's in place supported by adult JRSO Coordinators within their school. A few schools have included more pupils and formed JRSO committees or have larger groups undertaking the role as part of wider school activities.

3.1.6. A JRSO Open Day was held at Chatelherault Country Park on 12 September 2023. From the 116 schools, 81 were able to join our Open Day and resulted in 189 Junior Road Safety Officers and 88 JRSO Co-ordinators in attendance. The day was supported and attended by various partners including Police Scotland, Strathclyde Fire and Rescue Service (SFRS), Safety Camera Unit West, Sustrans, Living Streets, 'Healthy n Happy' Bike Town, DHL Logistics and South Lanarkshire Council's Environmental Health Section. Traffic and Transportation Section staff were involved in the delivery of activities and to assist throughout the day.

3.1.7. The Open day was a 'drop in' event between 9.30am and 2.30pm. On arrival to the registration desk, the JRSO's received a JRSO organiser, with badge and pen as well as a JRSO Lanyard and name badge. The JRSO Open Day was a great success and found beneficial to those that attended to start them off well with their new duties.

3.1.8. Various stations were set up within Chatelherault Park rooms including:-

- ◆ a selfie station, road crossing quiz, Bikeability, brake reaction timers, a pedal powered cinema, school travel plan information and a 'Go Safe with Ziggy' mascot appearance. A range of other campaign information, initiative posters, leaflets and resources were available for collection

The following was available in the outdoor space:-

- ◆ Police Scotland with a policing vehicle/ quad bikes, Safety Camera Unit with their safety camera enforcement van, SFRS with a unit, logistics company DHL with an HGV cab and trailer, road safety games and a 'traffic trail' worksheet.

3.1.9. Support is available to JRSO's throughout the year to aid them in raising road safety awareness within their school community as well as resources and advice to address any local concerns or themes identified.

3.2. Calendar Competition

3.2.1. All schools are invited on an annual basis to participate within the road safety calendar competition. Competition guidelines featuring topics for each of the 5 age group categories and competition details were sent to all schools with teachers asked to send in the best five entries within each year group category from their school.

3.2.2. The competition topics were: - Primary 1 and 2 'Holding hands', Primary 3 and 4 'Crossing the road safely' and play, Primary 5 and 6 'Cycling. Walking and scooting to school', Primary 7 'Safe car journeys/parking and S1 to 6 'Being a safe pedestrian or passenger'.

3.2.3. The closing date for submissions was Friday 22 September 2023 with 3,230 entries from 96 schools received by South Lanarkshire Council's Traffic and Transportation Section.

3.2.4. The top 5 entries in each category have been finalised and judging to determine the overall winner and group winners underway via an electronic survey. It is expected that the overall winner will be announced at today's Forum meeting.

3.2.5. Calendars will be distributed during December 2023 and guidelines for the 2024 competition will be issued to all schools during May 2024.

3.3. Bikeability Scotland Cycle Training

- 3.3.1. Bikeability Scotland is the name for multi-level Cycle Training in Scotland, designed to give children the skills and confidence they need to cycle safely on the roads, and to encourage them to carry on cycling into adulthood. Bikeability Scotland supports the next generation of confident and responsible road users.
- 3.3.2. The following Bikeability Scotland levels are coordinated and supported by the Council's Traffic and Transportation Section within the Roads, Transportation and Fleet Service:-
- ◆ Bikeability Scotland Level 1 - This covers basic cycling skills and is taught in the playground or on other traffic free environments. This is typically delivered in primary 5.
 - ◆ Bikeability Scotland Level 2 - The core training of the programme which takes place on quieter risk assessed single lane roads with simple junctions after a rider has demonstrated level 1 skills. This is typically delivered in primary 6 to 7 and focuses on using roads in accordance with the Highway Code and riding safely and responsibly in traffic.
- 3.3.3. All primary schools were invited to participate within Bikeability Scotland cycle training at the start of the 2023/2024 academic session. Instructor training courses were made available to school staff, volunteers and any other interested parties in tandem with these invites.
- 3.3.4. Three instructor training courses were delivered by Traffic and Transportation Officers. These practical courses involve candidates instructing, demonstrating and participating within a range of activities to UK National Standard for Cycle Training levels 1 and 2. Candidates are provided with the resources, knowledge and experience to deliver these programmes within the school setting.
- 3.3.5. 25 candidates were successfully certified as Bikeability Scotland instructors on conclusion of these courses. This included classroom teachers, school support staff and parent volunteers.
- 3.3.6. Bike Town, part of the Healthy n Happy Community Development Trust, are undertaking pupil Bikeability training within a selected number of schools as funded through Bikeability Scotland's Bikeability Support Plus Fund. This will be supported by at least one adult within the school community. This aims to increase training uptake by schools and to facilitate self-led delivery in future years.
- 3.3.7. The majority of pupil training occurs during the months of March to June and reporting on the 2023/2024 academic year will take place after the final school term ends.
- 3.3.8. A small fleet of bikes and helmets, previously funded by Cycling Scotland, remains available to schools. This allows the provision of a small quantity of bikes on a loan basis to address individual cases issue of pupil inclusion. It is not the aim of this 'Bikebank' to provide a fleet of bikes but rather to give opportunities to individual pupils where they may have been excluded due to issues such as not owning a bike, the bike has not been properly maintained or cannot be transported to school.

3.3.9. Bikes are currently available from Duke Street, Hamilton or Happy n Healthy Community Development Trust (Bike Town Project) in Rutherglen and require to be booked in advance to ensure availability and to arrange collection/delivery. During academic year 2022/2023 an accumulative total of 49 bikes were accessed by 17 schools to allow the inclusion of pupils. Additionally, the fleet of bikes were also utilised by Bike Town instructors, when required, during their delivery of Bikeability Scotland pupil cycle training on behalf of South Lanarkshire Council and these figures are not included in the above.

3.3.10. Details of programme delivery for the previous five years is provided below.

	NO. OF SCHOOLS 2018/2019	NO. OF SCHOOLS 2019/2020	NO. OF SCHOOLS 2020/2021	NO. OF SCHOOLS 2021/2022	NO. OF SCHOOLS 2022/2023
Level 1	42	18	12	58	63
Level 2 (Playground)	6	0	1	8	4
Level 2 (On- Road)	47	12	12	49	50
No. of schools delivering at least one programme	64	22	16	72	70

3.4. WOW (Walk Once a Week) Travel Tracker - Living Streets

3.4.1. Living Streets Travel Tracker is a comprehensive system to acquire insights into school travel habits through recording modes of travel through the on-line platform.

3.4.2. It can be set up and used on classroom interactive whiteboards, computers/iPads meaning it is easily accessible for the daily input of data. Pupils can select and submit their travel mode to school and at the end of each month, pupils who have walked, wheeled, cycled, scoot or park and stride a minimum of once a week for that month, are rewarded with a WOW badge.

3.4.3. Pupils with additional support needs and disabilities are included by travel by wheelchair or mobility scooter. On the Travel Tracker, users select the 'Walk/Wheel' icon which includes pupils walking with the use of mobility aids, including wheelchairs or wheeled walkers.

3.4.4. Living Streets WOW Travel Tracker is currently running in 20 schools with continued support from Living Streets School's Co-ordinator being available. More information about the Travel Tracker can be found on Living Streets website at:

www.livingstreets.org.uk/products-and-services/projects/wow-travel-tracker

3.4.5. Continued partnership working is an important factor in taking steps to sharing, educating and conveying the message of safe and sustainable journeys. Funding for this project during academic term 2023/2024 was granted through the Scottish Government's Air Quality Fund and Smarter Choices Places grant funding.

3.4.6. Ongoing liaison will continue with Living Streets regarding their walking campaigns.

3.5. Go Safe; Ziggy's Road Safety Mission

3.5.1. Ziggy is the lead character in the Scottish Government approach to early level road safety education. This multi-media approach aims to encourage and inspire partnership working between home and educational settings and features stories, activities, ideas and games that are all fun, easy and engaging. It recognises the importance of early intervention in developing not just road user skills and knowledge but also positive attitudes and behaviour. Further information can be found [here](#).

3.5.2. All 6 stories are in big book format for use in educational settings and have been printed in smaller format for home use which can be ordered by establishments. These little storybooks for home are available in both English and Gaelic and can be ordered by Early Learning and Childcare centres and primary 1 classes. Order forms were posted out to all centres and schools late August/early September 2023 with any additional books needed throughout the year being available to order when required. Books can also be read online and are freely accessible [here](#).

4. Employee Implications

4.1 There are no employee implications associated with this report.

5. Financial Implications

5.1. Item 3.3. 'Bikeability Scotland Cycle Training' is funded by Cycling Scotland. £36,126 was granted for academic year 2022/203 and £37,255 granted for 2023/2024. This funding allows the continuation of the Bikeability Coordinator post, meets the cost of volunteer instructor training courses, the appointment of paid instructors at a select number of schools and other relevant services and sundry items.

5.2. Item 3.4 'WOW (Walk Once a Week Travel Tracker)' is jointly funded through Scottish Government's Air Quality Fund (£10,000) and Smarter Choices Smarter Places Local Authority Fund (£15,000).

5.3. Other items associated with this report were funded by external partners or from the Council's Revenue Budget.

6. Climate Change, Sustainability and Environmental Implications

6.1. There are no significant implications in terms of climate change, sustainability and environmental implications associated with this report. It should be noted however that the active and sustainable travel schemes may have a positive impact on the environment by reducing reliance on private vehicles, supporting South Lanarkshire's Sustainable Development and Climate Change Strategy. Reduced motorised vehicle journeys will improve health and wellbeing whilst reducing reliance on fossil fuels and supports improvements in air quality through reduced vehicle emissions.

7. Other Implications

7.1. There are no significant risks associated with this report.

8. Equality Impact Assessment and Consultation Arrangements

8.1. This report does not introduce a new policy, function or strategy or recommend a change to an existing policy, function or strategy and, therefore, no impact assessment is required.

David Booth

Executive Director (Community and Enterprise Resources)

2 November 2023

Link(s) to Council Values/ Priorities/ Outcomes

Values

- ◆ Focused on people and their needs
- ◆ Working with and respecting others
- ◆ Accountable, effective, efficient and transparent
- ◆ Ambitious, self-aware and improving
- ◆ Fair, open and sustainable

Priorities

- ◆ We will work to put people first and reduce inequality
- ◆ We will work towards a sustainable future in sustainable places
- ◆ We will work to recover, progress and improve

Outcomes

- ◆ Our children and young people thrive
- ◆ Good quality, suitable and sustainable places to live
- ◆ Caring, connected, sustainable communities
- ◆ People live the healthiest lives possible

Previous References

- ◆ Roads Safety Forum 31 January 2023

List of Background Papers

- ◆ None

Contact for Further Information

If you would like to inspect any of the background papers or want any further information, please contact:-

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