

Report

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Report to:	Roads Safety Forum
Date of Meeting:	29 June 2011
Report by:	Executive Director (Enterprise Resources)

Subject:	Revised School Crossing Patroller Assessment Criteria
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1. Purpose of Report

1.1. The purpose of the report is to:-

- ◆ consider revisions to the criteria used to assess requests for school crossing patrollers.

2. Recommendation(s)

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

- (1) School crossing patrollers will no longer be introduced at traffic signals with a pedestrian phase or at light controlled pedestrian crossings.

3. Background

- 3.1 Since 1996, requests for new school crossing patrollers have been assessed against criteria broadly based on national best practice. There is, however, one major difference between the Council's criteria and national standards. Whilst the Council's criteria allows patrollers to be appointed at controlled pedestrian crossings the national best practice advice only permits this in very exceptional circumstances.
- 3.2 At its meeting of 31 January 2011, the Executive Committee, as part of the efficiencies budget settings exercise, approved the removal of school crossing patrollers from sites at traffic signals and pedestrian crossings. Locations affected by this decision are currently being prioritised and considered for removal later in the year. It is expected that about half the patrollers located at controlled crossings will be identified for removal this financial year.
- 3.3 There is an anomaly in that patrollers could be approved at locations where there are traffic signals or pedestrian crossings whilst at the same time existing patrollers are being removed from similar locations. It is, therefore, proposed that the assessment criteria be revised so that patrollers will no longer be approved at such locations, even if they achieve the required 100% threshold.
- 3.4 In order to protect the safety of children, any requests for a patroller at traffic signals or pedestrian crossings will be investigated by an experienced road safety practitioner to ensure that children can cross the road safely, accompanied by an adult, if required. This may require additional safety measures to ensure that the crossings are safe for the pupils.

4. Employee Implications

- 4.1 The change to the assessment procedure will not have an impact on existing staff as it only affects requests for new patrollers.

5. Financial Implications

- 5.1 It is unlikely that the changes to the assessment criteria will have a significant financial implication as very few patrollers have been introduced at traffic signals or pedestrian crossings in recent years.

6. Other Implications

- 6.1 Relevant risk and sustainable development issues pertaining to the change to the assessment criteria have been considered and assessed.
- 6.2 There are no significant risks associated with this change in policy as the revised assessment method is based on national criteria. Any requests will be investigated by an experienced road safety practitioner to ensure that children can cross the road safely.
- 6.3 It is unlikely that there will be any implications for sustainability as very few patrollers have been introduced at traffic signals or pedestrian crossings in recent years.

7. Equality Impact Assessment and Consultation Arrangements

- 7.1 An equality impact assessment has been carried out on the recommendations contained in this report. The proposals will have differential impact as the recommendations are intended to target specific sector(s) of the community. However this impact is justifiable and the results of the assessment have been published on the council website.
- 7.2 There was no requirement to undertake consultation in terms of the information contained in this report.

Colin McDowall

Executive Director (Enterprise Resources)

8 June 2011

Link(s) to Council Objectives/Improvement Themes/Values

- Improve community safety
- People focused

Previous References

- Report to the Executive Committee 31 January 2011.

List of Background Papers

None

Contact for Further Information

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

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