

Report

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Report to:	Road Safety Forum
Date of Meeting:	16 June 2010
Report by:	Executive Director (Enterprise Resources)

Subject:	Pass Plus
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1. Purpose of Report

1.1. The purpose of the report is to:-

- Advise the Forum of the subsidised Pass Plus Scheme within South Lanarkshire.

2. Recommendation(s)

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

- (1) that the contents of the report are noted and continued promotion of the Pass Plus Scheme is supported.

3. Background

- 3.1. Within South Lanarkshire in 2009, there were 159 injury accidents resulting in 189 casualties where the causation vehicle was a car or van driven by someone in the 17 to 25 year old age group. The Royal Society for the Prevention of Accidents (ROSPA) has reported that one in five new drivers is involved in an accident within their first year of driving.
- 3.2. The Pass Plus road safety initiative aims to assist newly qualified drivers to gain valuable driving experience, which builds on the existing skills and knowledge gained during training for their Learner Driver Test. The topics covered in this project are:- driving in town, all weather driving, driving out of town, night driving, driving on dual carriageways and driving on motorways.
- 3.3. The subsidy of £75 towards the total cost of approximately £120 for the PassPlus training aims to encourage more newly qualified drivers to partake in this initiative. It is a pro-active approach to road safety and provides newly qualified drivers with the necessary skills and knowledge to cope with varying road conditions.
- 3.4. The subsidised scheme was launched at the Driving Test Centre in Hamilton on 26 July 2007. In the eight months of 2007/08, during which the scheme was in operation, 175 newly qualified drivers received a subsidy. In the full financial year 2008/09, 271 newly qualified drivers were reimbursed. In 2009/10, this figure was 182.
- 3.5. The South Lanarkshire Council subsidised scheme features on numerous websites including that of Road Safety Scotland, South Lanarkshire Council, West of Scotland Road Safety Forum and the Pass Plus website.

3.6. Annual evaluations of the project have been completed by participants and detailed reports are available from the Road Safety Section. Participants were allowed to choose more than one option. The main findings for 2009/2010 were similar to previous years and are:-

- ◆ 81% of participants reported that the main reason they took part in the Pass Plus scheme was to improve their driving.
- ◆ 56% stated that they participated in order to gain cheaper insurance.
- ◆ 26% expressed the view that their participation was mainly due to parental influence.
- ◆ 69% of Pass Plus participants reported that the scheme had an impact on their technical ability to drive.
- ◆ 73% reported that it had significantly improved the safety of their driving.
- ◆ 75% stated that Pass Plus had resulted in major improvements in their attitude and behaviour in a positive way.
- ◆ The main benefit to most participants was the opportunity to experience of motorway driving.

3.7. It is proposed to make contact with some of the drivers who undertook their assessment in 2007 to confirm whether they have been involved in any road accidents. This should assist in defining the outcomes being achieved.

3.8. The subsidised Pass Plus scheme in South Lanarkshire is dependent on funding from partners. Due to the success of the project and positive feedback from the evaluation, it is hoped that future funding will be made available.

4. Employee Implications

4.1. None

5. Financial Implications

5.1. 2009/10 Position

Funding

£5675 carried forward from 2008/09

£3000 funding from Strathclyde Fire and Rescue

£10000 funding from Community Safety Partnership

£698.53 SLC Road Safety Revenue Budget – printing and stationery

Cost

£13,650 Reimbursed to participants

£698.53 for printing and stationary

Balance

£5,025 (Carried Forward)

5.2. 2010/2011 Position.

Funding

£5,025 Carried forward from 2009/10

£10,000 Funding sought from Community Safety Partnership

£5,000 Funding sought from Strathclyde Fire and Rescue

Cost

£15,600 Estimated payouts (based on previous years)

Balance

£4,425 estimated – carried forward

6. Other Implications

6.1 None.

7. Equality Impact Assessment and Consultation Arrangements

7.1 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.

7.2. Consultation on the effectiveness of the initiative was completed by participants and is available from the Road Safety Section.

Colin McDowall

Executive Director (Enterprise Resources)

25 May 2010

Link(s) to Council Objectives and Values

- Improve Community safety
- Improve lives of vulnerable children, young people and adults
- Increase involvement in lifelong learning
- People focused

Previous References

- Road Safety Forum 2 September 2009

List of Background Papers

None.

Contact for Further Information

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