

# Report

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Report to:	<b>Roads Safety Forum</b>
Date of Meeting:	<b>20 May 2015</b>
Report by:	<b>Executive Director (Community and Enterprise Resources)</b>

Subject:	<b>Tackling Road Safety Issues at Schools</b>
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## 1. Purpose of Report

1.1. The purpose of the report is to:-

- ◆ advise the Forum of the initiatives being progressed to tackle road safety issues at schools

## 2. Recommendation(s)

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

- (1) that the Forum notes the content of the report and continues to support these initiatives.

## 3. Background

### 3.1. School Travel Plans

3.1.1 The School Travel Plan Co-ordinators have now contacted all primary, secondary and additional support needs schools to raise awareness of school travel plans, the advantages to children and the support and help that the Co-ordinators can offer. From a total of 149 schools contacted to date, 64 school travel plans have been completed and a further 58 schools are actively working on a school travel plan.

### 3.2. Walk to School Week 18 – 22 May 2015

3.2.1 All schools in South Lanarkshire are encouraged to participate in Walk to School Week which takes place in May. Information and resources are made available on the Living Streets website [www.livingstreets.org.uk](http://www.livingstreets.org.uk). The website contains information and free classroom based exercises for teachers, parents and pupils. It encourages participation by promoting themes for each day of the week: - health and happiness; healthy body; healthy habits; healthy family and friends; healthy environment.

### 3.3. Walk on Wednesday or Walk Once a Week (WOW)

3.3.1 The WOW scheme is offered to all primary 5 children, a stage when children are beginning to become independent travellers. A record sheet was designed for pupils to record their mode of travel for the school journey. 41 primary schools are participating with 1,407 pupils Walking Once a Week or on a Wednesday.

3.3.2 Schools contact the School Travel Plan Co-ordinator twice a year to inform them of how many children have been frequently walking to school, for rewards to be issued. Participating pupils receive a badge or road safety promotional item to reward them for walking to school.

3.3.3 A pupil from Chatelherault Primary School was one of the winners of the annual badge design competition. The theme for the competition was "When I Grow Up" and her winning design was a science badge which was used as the illustration for September 2014.

### **3.4. International Walk to School Month**

3.4.1 To promote international Walk to School Month 2014 in October, posters were distributed to all nurseries, primaries, secondaries, Additional Support Needs Schools, private schools, leisure centres and libraries. Many schools arranged and borrowed road safety resources for their own events to highlight Walk to School Month.

3.4.2 Primary schools and nurseries received a "Walking in all weathers" poster encouraging active travel all year round. Secondary schools received posters entitled "Leave Green Footprints not Carbon Footprints" promoting a sustainable journey to and from school.

### **3.5. Safe Start Leaflets**

3.5.1 A road safety advice leaflet is distributed to all primary schools each January, for parents of the new primary 1 intake, during the enrolment period. This leaflet outlines the parents' responsibility of ensuring their children get to school safely. Parents are prompted to teach and promote road safety on the school run, enabling children to cross roads safely and correctly utilise controlled crossings such as pelican crossings and school crossing patrollers.

3.5.2 The leaflet, which was initiated by Road Safety West of Scotland, encourages walking to school but also provides key safety messages for those travelling by car such as the importance of seatbelts, keeping zig zag lines clear and ensuring children exit vehicles on the pavement side.

### **3.6. Be Safe Bus Safe Booklets**

3.6.1 There are many school locations in South Lanarkshire with very different travel situations. Most children at rural schools arrive and leave in the school bus or are driven. Some schools are decanted to a temporary school whilst their own school is being modernised. We have an excellent activity booklet called "Be Safe Bus Safe" for children who take the school bus as part of their journey.

3.6.2 It covers all safety aspects involved in the bus journey including waiting for the bus, not walking behind or in front of the bus, not distracting the driver and behaving well throughout the journey. It puts across the safety messages in a fun and informative way with word searches, colouring-in pages and word activities.

### **3.7. Park Smart Campaign**

3.7.1 The Park Smart campaign was introduced by Road Safety West of Scotland to address the problems created by irresponsible parking outside schools.

3.7.2 The campaign was initially launched in South Lanarkshire in 2001 by the Traffic and Transportation Section working in partnership with Education Resources, the Police, Fire and Rescue Services and the Scottish Ambulance Association.

3.7.3 The Park Smart campaign consists of posters, leaflets, keyrings and weather proof banners for display at the entrance to school premises. These resources highlight that stopping on the road inappropriately outside schools is selfish, irresponsible and dangerous for children. The campaign encourages drivers to think about where they are parking and consider pedestrians and other road users. The leaflets also encourage parents/carers to walk to school with their children, showing them how to cross the road carefully.

3.7.4 Schools which have received additional or replacement Park Smart resources this school calendar year include:-

St. Charles', Cambuslang  
Biggar  
Calderwood, Rutherglen  
Loch, Rutherglen  
West Coats, Cambuslang  
St. John the Baptist, Uddingston  
Maxwellton, East Kilbride  
Park View, Cambuslang  
Murray, East Kilbride  
Quarter  
Blackwood  
Coalburn  
Chatelherault, Hamilton  
St. Blane's, Blantyre  
Rigside  
Kirkfieldbank  
Cathkin High, Cambuslang  
Rutherglen High, Cambuslang  
St. John's, Blackwood  
St. Patrick's Primary School, Strathaven

#### **4. Employee Implications**

4.1. There are no employee implications associated with this report.

#### **5. Financial Implications**

5.1. The following costs were met from the Road Safety Revenue Budget:-

Ref 3.3	300 "Walking in all Weathers" posters cost £190
Ref 3.4	WOW resources cost £331
Ref 3.7	"Be Safe Bus Safe" booklets cost £426 for 500 booklets
Ref 3.8	18 Park Smart Banners cost £582.30. This was met from the "Cycling, Walking and Safer Streets Budget."

#### **6. Other Implications**

6.1. There are no significant risks associated with this report, nor any environmental implications.

6.2. There are no implications for sustainability in terms of the information contained within this report.

## **7. Equality Impact Arrangements 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 with schools to ascertain pupils' modes of travel is conducted as part of the School Travel Plan process.

**Colin McDowall**  
**Executive Director (Community and Enterprise Resources)**

21 April 2015

### **Link(s) to Council Objectives**

- Improve community safety
- Improve and maintain health and increase physical activity
- Protect vulnerable children, young people and adults
- Develop a sustainable Council and communities
- People focused

### **Previous References**

Roads Safety Forum 27 November 2013

### **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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