

REPORT TO: PLANNING AND TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE, 12 JUNE 2006

REPORT ON: CYCLING, WALKING AND SAFER STREETS (CWSS) PROJECTS COMMENCING 2006-2007

REPORT BY: DIRECTOR OF PLANNING & TRANSPORTATION

REPORT NO: 336-2006

1 PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 1.1 The purpose of the report is to seek Committee approval for a programme of works for the year 2006-2007 funded from additional grant capital ring-fenced by the Scottish Executive for Cycling, Walking and Safer Streets (CWSS) projects.

2 RECOMMENDATION

- 2.1 It is recommended that the Committee approve the proposed programme of works for the year 2006-2007.

3 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

- 3.1 The Scottish Executive has made available to Dundee City Council an additional capital grant offer of £245,000 for the year 2006-2007 for CWSS projects. The programme of works recommended in this report will fully utilise this finance.
- 3.2 The Scottish Executive has also offered an additional grant of £249,000 for year 2007-2008. A programme of works for this expenditure will be reported to Committee at a future date.

4 LOCAL AGENDA 21 IMPLICATIONS

- 4.1 The programme of works recommended within this report will promote cycling, walking and safer streets, thereby reducing car dependence and improving air quality.

5 EQUAL OPPORTUNITIES IMPLICATIONS

- 5.1 The programme of works recommended within this report will promote safety for vulnerable road users such as child pedestrians and cyclists, thus ensuring that the local road network meets the transport needs of all road users.

6 BACKGROUND

6.1 Introduction

During April and May 2001, the Scottish Executive announced additional £14.85 million over a three year period for local authorities across Scotland for Cycling, Walking and Safer Streets (CWSS) initiatives. Subsequently this funding across Scotland has been extended and Section 70 grants have been offered for each financial year up to April 2008.

6.2 Objectives and Criteria

a The Scottish Executive expect the CWSS fund to be used to give greater prominence to cycling, walking and safer streets' projects to help local authorities achieve the aims and objectives they have set out in their Local Transport Strategies.

b Based on relevant components in Dundee's Local Transport Strategy, Committee report 149-2002 described an overall common objective for CWSS schemes as:

"To physically improve access to walking and cycling facilities and reduce danger (actual or perceived) to pedestrians and cyclists."

c To follow the common objective given above, in report 149-2002, Committee adopted the following criteria devised for CWSS as policy.

A CWSS scheme must either:

- i physically improve access of walking and cycling facilities; and/or
- ii reduce danger (actual or perceived) to pedestrians and cyclists.

6.3 Schemes

Utilising these criteria, the following types of schemes have been identified.

a Lowered Kerbs/Footway Improvements

Dundee has a good network of footways and footpaths, but they are not always accessible to vulnerable pedestrians ie the elderly and children. Lowered kerbs and improved footways at suitable points can significantly improve walking opportunities for this sector of Dundee's community. This project will improve accessibility and reduce danger to the most vulnerable in our society.

£50,000

b Improvements to the Pedestrian Environment

Dundee already has many pedestrian facilities on its local road network. This project will look to identify opportunities to further enhance the pedestrian environment and will:

i Evaluate pedestrian provision within the city and prioritise areas for improvements to provide a more accessible environment.

Finance Allocated: £80,000

ii Examine the pedestrian casualty problem on the local road network and prioritise areas for improvements to provide a safer environment.

Finance Allocated: £80,000

Once specific schemes have been identified and prioritised these will be reported to Committee in due course.

c Outdoor Access

The Outdoor Access Strategy Group has identified a number of projects and priorities. The precise locations where this funding will be utilised will be decided jointly by the Directors of Leisure & Communities and Planning & Transportation. This project will therefore improve accessibility for cyclists and pedestrians.

Finance Allocated: £30,000

d Personal Travel Planner

The Council is looking to upgrade the city's travel information website: www.dundeeliftshare.com. In addition to the public transport information presently on the website, cycling and walking pages are being constructed to illustrate routes for community and leisure purposes. By providing access to this information, this project hopes to encourage more sustainable and healthy travel choice among individuals.

Finance Allocated: £6,000

7 CONSULTATIONS

- 7.1 The Chief Executive, Depute Chief Executive (Support Services), Depute Chief Executive (Finance) and Assistant Chief Executive (Community Planning) have been consulted and are in agreement with the contents of this report.

8 BACKGROUND PAPERS

- 8.1 Dundee City Council - Local Transport Strategy - October 2000.
8.2 Dundee City Council - Planning and Transportation Committee Report No 149-2002.

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