

**REPORT TO: PLANNING AND TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE
21 FEBRUARY 2005**

**REPORT ON: CYCLING, WALKING AND SAFER STREETS (CWSS) PROJECTS
COMMENCING 2005-2006**

REPORT BY: DIRECTOR OF PLANNING & TRANSPORTATION

REPORT NO: 42-2005

1 PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 1.1 The purpose of the report is to seek Committee approval for a programme of works for the year 2005-2006 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 2005-2006.

3 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

- 3.1 The Scottish Executive has made available to Dundee City Council an additional capital grant offer of £248,000 for the year 2005-2006 for CWSS projects. The programme of works recommended in this report will fully utilise this finance. In addition, the proposal for installing CCTV in Bus Shelters should reduce vandalism
- 3.2 The Scottish Executive has also offered additional grants of £245,000 for year 2006-2007 and £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

- a 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 Cycling

A number of "missing links" have been identified in the cycling network where there is a demand for use. This project will therefore improve accessibility for cyclists.

Finance Allocated: £18,000

c Anti-skid Surfacing at Pedestrian Crossings

Experience over the last 30 years in the UK has shown high friction surfaces to be highly effective in reducing accidents at pedestrian crossings. This project will therefore reduce danger to pedestrians.

Finance Allocated: £15,000

d Outdoor Access

The Outdoor Access Strategy Group have identified a number of projects and priorities. In addition the Leisure and Arts Department has committed £19,000 from 2005-2006 CWSS funding for bringing sections of the Green Circular route

to an acceptable standard. The precise locations where this funding will be utilised will be decided jointly by the Directors of Leisure and Arts and Planning and Transportation. This project will therefore improve accessibility for cyclists and pedestrians.

Finance Allocated: £30,000

e CCTV in Bus Shelters

Through the Smartbus project all bus shelters and stops in Dundee will be upgraded. This includes bespoke high quality passenger focussed shelters at 339 locations throughout the city. Bus travel encourages people to walk as part of the overall journey from doorstep to doorstep. However, research has shown that personal safety is a deterrent to this and the bus shelters will be well lit and highly visible to provide a safer environment.

It is also proposed to install CCTV housing equipment in all shelters with portable cameras and recording equipment installed at 34 of these shelters, to provide greater security and comfort. The CCTV will be moved around different shelters so that at any one time 10% of the shelters will have CCTV recording. In addition to providing safety and comfort, the CCTV will act as a deterrent to vandalism and will therefore reduce the maintenance burden on the Council's revenue budget. This project will therefore reduce danger to pedestrians and improve walking accessibility.

The recording equipment associated with the CCTV cameras will record images for a period of 28 days before overwriting. In addition, viewing of the images will be incident led ie images will only be viewed if an incident occurs. Dundee City Council is currently reviewing the code of practice for all CCTV usage in Dundee and the CCTV system in the bus shelters will comply with the common practice that is developed.

Finance Allocated: £135,000

7 CONSULTATIONS

- 7.1 The Chief Executive, Depute Chief Executive (Support Services), Depute Chief Executive (Finance), Assistant Chief Executive (Community Planning) and the Chief Constable 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.

Mike Galloway
Director of Planning & Transportation

Iain Sherriff
Head of Transportation

IFS/NG/KM

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Dundee City Council
Tayside House, Dundee