

The Highland Council

City of Inverness Area Committee – 23 February 2017

Agenda Item	10
Report No	CIA/ 08/17

Cycling, Walking and Safer Streets Update

Report by Director of Development and Infrastructure

Summary

This report invites Members to approve the projects delivered through the Scottish Government funding for Cycling, Walking and Safer Streets for the City of Inverness Area Committee, as set out in **Appendix 1**.

1. Introduction

- 1.1 The Cycling Walking and Safer Streets (CWSS) Programme is funded directly by the Scottish Government. The programme aims to encourage sustainable and active travel to school by improving safety and removing barriers to walking and cycling. It also aims to encourage more people to think about their travel decisions.
- 1.2 Highland Council Road Safety Unit works with Schools to produce a School Travel Plan (STP) which focusses on the journey to/from school and demonstrates the school's all-round commitment to develop Safer Routes to School (SRTS) and achieve a modal shift towards active travel.
- 1.3 Further information on SRTS can be found at www.highland.gov.uk/srts.
- 1.4 This report supports the Programme for the Highland Council to provide more safe cycle tracks and "walk to school" pathways where appropriate, and will encourage healthier and greener methods of travel. By enabling a modal shift to active travel, this will support the Council's Carbon CLEVER initiative by reducing carbon emissions.

2. Funding

- 2.1 The CWSS programme has a budget of £255,000 for 2016/17 that is provided by the Scottish Government. The terms and conditions of the grant include a request to consider a minimum spend of 36% (and preferably 50%) on cycling related projects.
- 2.2 Through the development of the STP, schools can normally bid for up to £30,000 of CWSS funding that is approved by Members at Area Committee's. A Small Grant Funding element also exists in the scheme which allows projects up to the value of £3,000 to be approved by the Road Safety Unit allowing immediate implementation of these small projects.

3. CWSS Update

- 3.1 **Appendix 1** details the funding applications to be approved by the City of Inverness Area Committee on 23rd February 2017.

4. Resource Implications

- 4.1 The projects listed in **Appendix 1** will be funded from the CWSS budget 2016/17 or will be carried forward to 2017/18.
- 4.2 There are no legal implications arising from this report.
- 4.3 There are no equality implications arising from this report.
- 4.4 Climate Change/Carbon Clever Implications.

The modal shift from cars to cycling and walking will have a positive contribution to reducing carbon emissions. This supports the Council's Carbon CLEVER initiative, which has the target of a carbon neutral Inverness in a low carbon Highlands by 2025.

- 4.5 There is no adverse impact on risk, Gaelic or rural considerations arising from this report.

Recommendations

Members are invited to

- approve the CWSS/SRTS projects detailed in **Appendix 1**; and
- note that the Road Safety Unit will continue to work with schools to develop further SRTS Projects for future years.

Designation: Director of Development and Infrastructure

Date: 20 December 2016

Report Author: Lisa MacKellaich (Road Safety Officer)

Appendix 1

School	Purpose	SRTS Estimated Contribution	Additional Information	Cycling Element
Farr Primary School	Construct a footpath through the village to link the school to the village hall.	£30,000	To improve walking links for the local community to the school. Also open up a safe access to the village hall where the school would like to carry out sports activities. This additional funding for the project will support the completion of the scheme. Additional costs have been incurred associated to unforeseen groundworks and land acquisition. The scheme is being taken forward by the Council's Project Design Unit and supported by CWSS funding.	
Duncan Forbes Primary School	Create a priority give way, build outs, raised crossings and lining works on Culloden Park.	£20,000	To improve the safety of the drop off zone arrangements on Culloden Park, reduce vehicle speeds and school gate parking thus encouraging increased active travel to school.	
Kirkhill Primary School	X 1 Garrick Cycle Shelter with toast rack.	£9,050	To encourage active travel to Kirkhill Primary School.	✓