

EAST AYRSHIRE COUNCIL

CORPORATE SUB-COMMITTEE - 19th NOVEMBER 2002

ESTABLISHMENT OF CHILD PEDESTRIAN TRAINING CO-ORDINATOR POST

Report By Director of Development Services

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 1.1** The purpose of this report is to seek the committee's approval for the creation of a Child Pedestrian Training Co-ordinator post graded AP3, as part of the National Pilot Network of Child Pedestrian Training Scheme. This is remitted from the special Development Services Committee of 24th September 2002 where the objective of the scheme, including the establishment of the AP3 post, was approved.

2. PILOT CHILD PEDESTRIAN TRAINING - BACKGROUND INFORMATION

- 2.1** In 2001 the Scottish Executive announced that funding for the Child Pedestrian Training Scheme was available and invited local authorities to apply for this. The Council has been successful in its bid to participate in the pilot scheme.
- 2.2** Funding is for three authorities each year over a period of three years i.e. nine authorities in all. Successful applicants will receive up to £30,000 each year for a total of three years to employ a Co-ordinator who will initiate and support child pedestrian training in selected schools.
- 2.3** The purpose of the Pilot Scheme is to determine the feasibility of operating child pedestrian training for Primary 1 and 2 pupils in schools. Past research has shown such training to be very effective in equipping children of this age with basic road crossing skills but the feasibility of implementing such training in the day to day environment of schools has still to be demonstrated.
- 2.4** The system of training which is to be evaluated in the Pilot Scheme is called Kerbcraft. Parent volunteers are recruited in each school and after training take children in small groups to selected locations near schools where the children are taught basic skills. The overall organisation and co-ordination of the training is carried out by the Co-ordinator in association with schools. Evaluation of the Kerbcraft model will be carried out by consultants appointed by the Scottish Executive.

3. SELECTION OF SCHOOLS

- 3.1** The criteria used by the Scottish Executive to select local authorities to pilot this scheme are indices of social deprivation, in particular footwear and clothing allowance and free school meals, and road traffic accidents involving child pedestrians.

3.2 Using these criteria, the following schools were selected:

Onthank	Cairnhill
Mount Carmel	Logan
Hillhead	Patna
Shortlees	Castle

3.3 It is proposed that the Child Pedestrian Training Co-ordinator would work in the first four of the above schools which collectively have pedestrian safety concerns. The combined effect of engineering measures and additional road safety education is likely to achieve significant improvement in child pedestrian safety.

3.3 If the National Pilot Network of Child Pedestrian Training Schemes is successful, the approach could be extended to other schools, if future funding is made available.

4. PROPOSAL

4.1 It is proposed to appoint a Child Pedestrian Training Co-ordinator by 1st February 2003 on grade AP3 (£16,673 - £18,296) for an initial period of three years.

4.2 The Director of Educational & Social Services and Head of Personnel have been consulted for their interests and agree with the proposal.

5. LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

5.1 As Volunteers are required for the Child Pedestrian Training Schemes, checks will be required by Disclosure Scotland.

6. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

6.1 The grant for the post is for the period 1st February 2003 for a period of 3 years after the Co-ordinator's appointment. While funding will terminate in January 2006, consideration may be given at that time to provide funding to continue the scheme.

7. TRADE UNIONS

7.1 The proposal to appoint a Child Pedestrian Training Co-ordinator is subject to consultation with Trade Unions.

8. RECOMMENDATIONS

8.1 The Committee are asked to approve the appointment of the Child Pedestrian Training Co-ordinator post graded AP3 for an initial three year period subject to consultation with Trade Unions.

Stephen Chorley
Director of Development Services
14 November 2002

LIST OF BACKGROUND PAPERS

1. Report to special Development Services Committee on 24th September 2002 -
"National Pilot Network of Child Pedestrian Training Schemes"

Anyone wishing further information should contact Jim Kane, Head of Roads & Transportation on (01563) 576310

AGENDA