

EAST AYRSHIRE COUNCIL

DEVELOPMENT SERVICES COMMITTEE – 11 APRIL 2000

FREIGHT TRANSPORT ASSOCIATION PARTNERSHIP

Report By Director of Development Services

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

1.1 The purpose of the report is to:

- (a) advise the Committee that the Freight Transport Associations partnership initiative to encourage best practice in the delivery of goods within Kilmarnock has now been completed and a draft report submitted for consideration.
- (b) ask the Committee to note that the issues highlighted in the draft report will be considered within the Kilmarnock Town Centre Action Plan currently being formulated.

2. BACKGROUND

2.1 The government White Paper on the Future of Transport entitled “A New Deal for Transport : Better for Everyone” published in July 1998 recommended the promotion of industry/local government partnerships for freight.

2.2 The aim of such partnerships was to develop understanding of distribution issues and problems at a local level and to promote constructive solutions which reconciled the need for access for goods and services with local environmental and social concerns.

2.3 At its meeting of 1 September 1998, the Committee approved participation in such a partnership initiative for Kilmarnock.

2.4 The partnership involved representatives of the freight industry, retail distribution, major hauliers, major receivers, local government, amenity and environmental groups.

2.5 The partnership met on a regular basis and information on freight deliveries was obtained from a range of companies involved by means of questionnaires sent out by the Freight Transport Association. Traffic information on the roads entering the town was also obtained. The draft report was then compiled.

3. SUMMARY OF REPORT

3.1 From the questionnaires completed it was noted that more than 90% of delivery vehicles were fully laden with goods destined for Kilmarnock. The remainder also carried goods for delivery in other towns in Ayrshire.

3.2 The following issues were identified:

- (a) Congestion – at a number of locations but mainly John Finnie Street.
- (b) Obstruction – Kerbside deliveries were being hindered by illegally parked vehicles.
- (c) Loading bays – unauthorised parking in service areas.
- (d) Pedestrian priority – access restrictions from 10.30 – 16.30 hours presented difficulties.
- (e) One-way traffic scheme – difficulties when merging.
- (f) Junction – difficulty negotiating junction at certain locations.
- (g) Signing – only small number of problems highlighted.

3.3 In general, delivering goods in Kilmarnock appeared to present less severe difficulties than experienced elsewhere. The request for consideration of No-Car lanes in the report was noted and will be investigated as part of any bus priority measures required as part of the Town Centre Action Plan.

3.4 All the above issues will be considered in the traffic management proposals for Kilmarnock Town Centre.

4. LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

4.1 Any Traffic Regulation Orders arising from the consultation will be made as part of the future Kilmarnock Town Centre Action Plan.

5. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

5.1 Any traffic management proposals arising from the consultation will be included in the proposals for Kilmarnock Town Centre which will be included in a future Capital Programme.

6. RECOMMENDATIONS

6.1 It is recommended that the Committee:

- (a) Note the summary of the draft report produced by the Freight Transport Partnership.
- (b) Note that the issues raised will be considered as part of a future Kilmarnock Town Centre Action Plan which is aimed at improving road safety, reducing accidents and improving access within Kilmarnock.

Stephen Chorley
Director of Development Services

JTK/NP
20 March 2000

LIST OF BACKGROUND PAPERS

1. Kilmarnock : Delivering the Goods – a Freight Quality Partnership
2. Freight Transport Association Partnership – Development Services Committee
– 1 September 1998

For further information please contact Jim Kane on 01563 555734.

AGENDA