

## **EAST AYRSHIRE COUNCIL**

### **DEVELOPMENT SERVICES COMMITTEE – 5 JUNE 2001**

#### **VILLAGE GATEWAYS**

##### **Report by Director of Development Services**

## **1 PURPOSE OF REPORT**

- 1.1** The purpose of this report is to advise the Committee of proposals for gateway features for villages in East Ayrshire.

## **2 BACKGROUND**

- 2.1** Early in 1997 a study was carried out on road safety on the main routes through communities in East Ayrshire. This through route study considered information on traffic volumes, road accidents and pedestrian activity. Road safety schemes were identified to assist in addressing issues of reducing accidents, severance of communities, and improving the environment for pedestrians. The work to introduce traffic calming measures has now been completed at those locations which have the worst accident record.
- 2.2** In addition it was proposed to introduce gateways in other communities.
- 2.3** Gateway features are particularly appropriate in villages where there is not a high volume of traffic or a serious accident problem and the expense of physical traffic calming measures could not be justified. Signing and road markings encourages drivers passing through villages to reduce their speed.

## **3 GATEWAY FEATURES**

- 3.1** Basic gateway features include engineering measures such as the use of red textured surfacing, countdown signs prior to the speed limits, transverse bar markings, hatched areas, 'SLOW' road markings and centre warning lines.
- 3.2** Gateway features can also provide environmental features such as fencing or plants and planters which narrow down the forward aspect and helps to emphasise the change from rural to urban character of the area. Such features are substantially more expensive than basic gateways.

- 3.3** In order to provide gateway treatments on through routes at the earliest possible time it is intended that works will be staged so that the communities will initially receive engineering measures as described above. This will maximise the spread of provision throughout East Ayrshire.
- 3.4** Subsequently funding for second stage environmental works will be sought from outside agencies and organisations.
- 3.5** The criteria for assessing priorities for gateway provision proposed are as follows:
- Communities where there are no speed restrictions
  - Communities on through routes
  - Other locations where traffic speeds, volumes and accidents justify action

#### **4 PROPOSED PROGRAMME**

- 4.1** The present situation is that gateway features have been provided within the following communities on the main through routes:

Hurlford - A71  
Newmilns - A71  
Darvel - A71  
Priestland - A71  
Galston - A719  
Kilmaurs - A735  
Stewarton - A735 (south) and B769 (north)  
Ochiltree - A70  
Crosshouse - B7081 (west)  
Gatehead - A759  
Patna - A713  
Moscow - A719

In addition a gateway feature has been provided at Skares B7046 (west) where there is no speed restrictions.

- 4.2** It is proposed that gateway features are provided on routes into the following villages during the 2001/2002 financial year:

Crosshouse – B7081 (east)  
Knockentiber – B751 (north)  
Dalmellington A713  
Skares (east) B7046

**4.3** As part of conditions applied to approval of a planning application for the extension to Burnfoot Moor opencast site, the developer must provide or fund countdown signs at Cumnock, Lugar and Muirkirk. Muirkirk is also to receive, at its west end, an extension to streetlighting and red textured surfacing. Once this work is complete the locations can be examined to consider enhancements to the measures.

**4.4** This will leave gateways to be provided on main routes at the following locations:

Waterside – A719  
Waterside – A713  
Dunlop – A735/B706  
Lugtown – A735, A736  
Polnessan – A713  
Hollybush – A713

These and locations at other communities will be considered against the criteria set out at para 3.5 for future years' programmes.

## **5 LEGAL IMPLICATIONS**

**5.1** Nil

## **6 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

**6.1** The funding for the proposed gateway features will be from existing budgets.

## **7 POLICY IMPLICATIONS**

**7.1** Nil

## **8 RECOMMENDATIONS**

**8.1** The Committee is recommended to:

- (a) agree the criteria for assessing priority for gateway features set out at para 3.5;
- (b) agree the programme for the implementation of village gateway treatments in 2001/2002 as set out in paragraphs 4.2 above;
- (c) agree that the Director of Development Services should seek external funding sources for environmental measures to enhance the gateway treatments; and

- (d) note that further reports will be submitted to the Committee on progress and future proposals.

**Stephen Chorley**  
**Director of Development Services**  
**29 May 2001**  
**SC/JR**

### **BACKGROUND PAPERS**

**Nil**

For further information on the contents of this report please contact Keith Orton, Roads Division, on 01563 576310

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**AGENDA**