

## **EAST AYRSHIRE COUNCIL**

**DEVELOPMENT SERVICES COMMITTEE – 17 December 2002**

### **NATIONAL PILOT NETWORK OF CHILD PEDESTRIAN TRAINING SCHEMES**

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

#### **1. PURPOSE OF REPORT**

- 1.1** The purpose of the report is to advise the Committee of the outcome of the Councils application to the Scottish Executive for funding to recruit a Child Pedestrian Training Co-ordinator for three years.

#### **2. BACKGROUND**

- 2.1** Earlier in the year, the Scottish Executive announced that a second tranche of funding would be made available for the National Pilot Network of Child Pedestrian Training Schemes. Funding up to £30,000 per year is to be made available for the three authorities over a period of three years.
- 2.2** The purpose of the National Pilot Network of Child Pedestrian Training Schemes is to determine the feasibility of operating child pedestrian training for primary 1 and primary 2 pupils in schools.
- 2.3** The criteria used by the Scottish Executive to select local authorities to pilot the scheme are indices of social deprivation and road traffic accidents involving child pedestrians. The guidance provided by the Scottish Executive at the time of the bid indicated that the Training Co-ordinator should run the scheme for Primary 1 and 2 pupils in approximately ten schools.
- 2.4** At it's meeting on 24 September 2002, the Development Services Committee:-
- (a) noted that a bid had been submitted to the Scottish Executive for additional funding to appoint a Child Pedestrian Training Co-ordinator; and
  - (b) agreed that if the bid was successful the Co-ordinator would work in the following primary schools; Onthank, Mount Carmel, Hillhead, Shortlees, Bellsbank, Cairnhill, Castle, Patna, Logan and Drongan.

#### **3. OUTCOME OF THE BID**

- 3.1** On 5<sup>th</sup> November 2002, the Deputy Minister for Enterprise, Transport and Lifelong Learning announced that East Ayrshire had been selected to receive funding from the second round of bids to set up and maintain child pedestrian training schemes. The Scottish Executive will fund the schemes, up to £30,000 per year, for three years.

**3.2** All local authorities in Scotland were invited to bid for the funding. The City of Edinburgh and Inverclyde Council were also selected for funding at the same time as East Ayrshire. In January 2002, Glasgow, North Lanarkshire and West Dumbartonshire were approved for funding in the first tranche.

#### **4. THE WAY FORWARD**

**4.1** It is intended that a Co-ordinator will be appointed in January or February 2003 for a period of three years. The person appointed will work in the selected schools to assist with the recruitment of the parent volunteers required for the Child Pedestrian Training Schemes, train the volunteers and coordinate the implementation of the Scheme.

**4.2** The Co-ordinators work will complement other Council initiatives which are being carried out to create a safer environment for school children i.e.

- (a) Speed reduction measures near to schools.
- (b) Pedestrian and cycling measures on the routes to schools.
- (c) Road safety education and cycle training in schools.
- (d) Additional road safety education and publicity in the Better Neighborhood Services Fund Pathfinder Areas.

**4.3** These related measures form part of the Councils strategy to reduce child pedestrian casualties by 50% by the year 2010, in accordance with the Government's Road Casualty Reduction Target.

#### **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** Funding from the Scottish Executive will terminate in January 2006. The Co-ordinator will therefore be appointed on a fixed term contract.

#### **7. RECOMMENDATIONS**

**7.1** It is recommended that the Committee:

- (a) welcome the additional funding from the Scottish Executive to appoint a Child Pedestrian Training Co-ordinator for three years;
- and
- (b) note that further reports on the outcome of the pilot will be submitted to relevant Local Committees and this Committee in due course.

**Stephen Chorley**  
**Director of Development Services**  
**9 December 2002**  
**SC/JDV**

## **BACKGROUND PAPERS**

Nil

For further information on the contents of this report please contact Keith Orton on 01563 576310.

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