

WEST DUNBARTONSHIRE COUNCIL

Report by Acting Director of Housing, Regeneration & Environmental Services (Land and Environmental Services)

Community Safety and Environmental Services Committee: 7 February 2007

**Subject: Sustrans Grant 2006/2007
Tackling the School Run; Cycle Links and Cycle Parking**

1. Purpose

1.1 The purpose of this report is to advise the Committee of the recent award of grant funding totalling £125,000 from Sustrans and to note the projects to be undertaken.

2. Background

2.1 It is recognised that a key element of the National, Regional and Local Transport Strategies is to encourage and achieve modal shift relating to the "School Run".

2.2 In November the Scottish Executive, via Sustrans, invited bids for projects which will help achieve this modal shift, improve cycling and walking routes, accessibility to public transport, reduce congestion and encourage a more active healthier lifestyle.

2.3 A submission was made for a number of potential projects within West Dunbartonshire and the Council was successful in being awarded a total of £125,000 for various initiatives which meet the established criteria.

3. Main Issues

3.1 The acceptance and implementation of these grant monies will help West Dunbartonshire in achieving the national and local objectives to reduce "School run" traffic.

3.2 Of the list submitted for West Dunbartonshire the projects selected by Sustrans for implementation are:

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|---|---------|
| • Renton to Dumbarton - upgrade of National Cycle Route 7 | £50,000 |
| • Renton Bridge – improved cycle facilities | £25,000 |
| • Braehead to St. Ronans – improve cycle route access | £20,000 |
| • Provision of cycle parking racks (racks / lockers etc)
at schools / educational establishments | £30,000 |

3.3 The funding provided includes professional fees and construction costs.

3.4 There has been liaison with the Heads of the relevant schools and facilities agreed at a local level. Any schools involved in the forthcoming PPP project have not been considered at this time, as works of this nature would almost certainly be abortive in due course.

3.5 Sustrans require works to be substantially underway / complete by 31 March 2007.

4. Personnel Issues

4.1 There are no personnel issues.

5. Financial Implications

5.1 All funding is being provided by Sustrans.

6. Risk Analysis

6.1 It was not considered necessary to carry out a risk assessment for this work.

7. Conclusion

7.1 Grants of this nature are essential in assisting the Council achieve its objectives on sustainable travel. The projects selected represent actions which can be delivered in the short timescales given by Sustrans. Officers continue to identify potential funding sources and submit bids for transportation projects which meet the criteria of the funding source.

8. Recommendation

8.1 It is recommended that the Committee note the award of grant and the projects listed as being deliverable in the short timescales available.

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Date: January 2007

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Appendices: None

Background Papers: None

Wards Affected: 17, 21, 22