

WEST DUNBARTONSHIRE COUNCIL

Report by the Executive Director of Housing, Environmental and Economic Development

Council: 23 February 2011

Subject: Provision of Cycle Lockers at Railway Stations

1. Purpose

- 1.1** The purpose of this report is to update Members on the response from SPT to our request for a moratorium on the removal of covered cycle lockers at Railway Stations.

2. Background

- 2.1** An emergency motion by Councillor George Black was put before the Council on 26 January 2011 asking that Strathclyde Passenger Transport Executive reconsider its decision to remove lock fast cycle facilities at Dalmuir, Dumbarton and Balloch Stations.
- 2.2** The Executive Director of Housing, Environmental and Economic Development wrote to SPT the following day with this request.
- 2.3** SPT responded in a letter dated 31 January 2011 to this request highlighting a report that was placed before the SPT Audit and Standards Committee on the 19 September 2008 which detailed the background of the provision of cycle lockers in 1997 and 2002. Within Appendix A of this report there is an analysis of locker usage.
- 2.4** The report confirmed that the security agency Transec advised that the lockers within the SPT area do not meet current security requirements and will require them to be removed or replaced with a suitable alternative open storage facility.
- 2.5** SPT agreed to review opportunities to work with ScotRail, Transport Scotland and our Council to improve cycle facilities at railway stations.
- 2.6** Through this review and as an alternative, First ScotRail are currently providing cycle stands within our stations which also benefit from C.C.T.V monitoring as part of the First ScotRail franchise arrangements.

3. Main Issues

- 3.1** The letter of response from SPT dated 31 January 2011 confirms the position that SPT will continue to liaise with First ScotRail to identify possible funding opportunities for the provision of covered cycle racks which comply with the Transec security requirements.

3.2 Following SPT's response that the provision of cycle facilities at rail stations rests with First ScotRail, the Director of Housing, Environmental and Economic Development proposes to write to First ScotRail direct seeking a meeting to discuss the provision of cycle lockers within stations in the West Dunbartonshire area and seeking their assurance that provision of covered cycle facilities are a priority in First ScotRail's re-provisioning programme.

4. People Implications

4.1 There are no people implications for the Council however user impact in terms of numbers are minimal as seen in Appendix A.

5. Financial Implications

5.1 Co-operation will be sought from First ScotRail for the provision of covered cycle racks in stations.

6. Risk Analysis

6.1 The existing low levels of usage may reduce as a result of the loss of the cycle lockers. This may impact on our aims to promote green travel. However the potential risks associated with security issues take precedence.

7. Equalities Impact

7.1 There is no adverse equalities impact issue as alternative provision is being considered.

8. Conclusion and Recommendation

8.1 Council note the contents of the response from SPT and attached report.

8.2 Council request that SPT continue to seek assurances from First ScotRail to provide covered cycle racks which comply with Transec requirements.

8.3 The Council requests the Director of Housing, Environmental and Economic Development to liaise directly with First ScotRail to seek assurances that provision of covered cycle racks within West Dunbartonshire's stations are placed high in their priority list.

Elaine Melrose

Executive Director of Housing, Environmental and Economic Development

Date: 7 February 2011

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Appendix: A - Letter from SPT dated 31/1/2011 and SPT report dated
6/8/2008

Background Papers: None

Wards Affected: All