

**The Highland Council**  
**Skye, Ross & Cromarty Area Committee**  
**5 February 2014**

Agenda Item	7
Report No	SRC 4/14

**Cycling, Walking and Safer Streets Programme**

**Report by Director of Transport, Environmental and Community Services**

**Summary**

This report invites Members to approve the projects delivered through the Scottish Government funding for Cycling, Walking and Safer Streets for the Skye, Ross & Cromarty area, as set out in **Appendix 1**.

**1. Introduction**

1.1 The Cycling Walking and Safer Streets (CWSS) Programme is funded directly by the Scottish Government. The programme aims to encourage sustainable and active travel to school by improving safety and removing barriers to walking and cycling. It also aims to encourage more people to think about their travel decisions.

1.2 Highland Council Road Safety Unit work with Schools to produce a School Travel Plan (STP) which focusses on the journey to/from school and demonstrates the school's all-round commitment to develop Safer Routes to School (SRTS) and achieve a modal shift on the school run, which supports "Carbon Clever". A STP seeks to:

- Encourage pupils, parents and staff to think about travel choices and choose alternatives to the car when coming to school
- Encourage 'active' travel like walking and cycling
- Measure change and shifts in travel behaviour
- Make the routes to school safer for pupils

1.3 Further information on SRTS can be found at [www.highland.gov.uk/srts](http://www.highland.gov.uk/srts).

1.4 This report supports the Programme for the Highland Council to provide more safe cycle tracks and "walk to school" pathways where appropriate, and will encourage healthier and greener methods of travel.

**2. Funding**

2.1 The CWSS programme has a budget of **£237,000** for 2013/14 which is provided by the Scottish Government. The terms and conditions of the grant include a request to consider a minimum spend of 36% (and preferably 50%) on cycling related projects.

- 2.2 Through the development of the STP, schools can normally bid for up to £30,000 of CWSS funding in any one year to implement measures that will improve safety on routes to school and encourage active travel. If their funding bid is successful these schemes are project managed by the Road Safety Unit. In certain circumstances, for example extended lengths of footpath or difficult ground conditions, bids in excess of £30,000 can be considered, and in these situations the reasons for the additional costs are highlighted to Members.
- 2.3 A Small Grant Funding element exists in the scheme which allows projects up to the value of £3,000 to be approved by the Road Safety Unit allowing immediate implementation of these small projects.

### **3. Projects for Approval**

- 3.1 **Appendix 1** details the funding application to be approved.
- 3.2 The costs detailed are estimated at present and if the proposals are approved the schemes will be put out to tender and implemented on a priority basis to allocate the funding available.
- 3.3 Small Grant Funding already allocated from the 2013/14 budget to Schools for small projects amounts to £29,928.03. In Skye, Ross & Cromarty the following applications have been received and approved:
- Kiltearn Primary, Park Smart Banner, £104
  - Avoch Primary, Cycle Training Markings, £926
  - Fortrose Academy, Cycle storage racks, £2,492
  - Culbokie, Hi Viz Vests, £194
  - Dingwall Primary, Park Smart Banner, 104
  - Carbost Primary, Hi Viz Vests, £27
  - Marybank Primary, Hi Viz Vests, £15
  - Ben Wyvis Primary, Cycle Training Markings, £700
  - Plockton Primary, Hi Viz Vests, £73
  - Hilton of Cadbol Primary, SID + Installation £2650

### **4. Resource Implications**

- 4.1 The projects listed in **Appendix 1** will be funded from the CWSS Programme 2013/14 that is to be used on SRTS projects. If funding in 2013/14 is insufficient any schemes not delivered will be carried forward to next financial year
- 4.2 There are no legal implications arising from this report.
- 4.3 There are no equality implications arising from this report.
- 4.4 The modal shift from cars to cycling and walking will have a positive contribution to reducing carbon emissions, and support “Carbon Clever”.
- 4.5 There are no risk implications arising from this report.

## **5. Recommendations**

5.1 Members are invited to approve the SRTS Project listed in **Appendix 1**.

Designation: Director of Transport, Environmental and Community Services

Date: 24 January 2014

Report Author: Allan Bryce (Road Safety Officer)

## Appendix 1

School	Purpose	SRTS Estimated Contribution	Additional information	Cycling Element
Avoch Primary School	Cycle storage, Stop/Look/Listen and Boot Print markings..	£12,000		£11,000