

**The Highland Council**

**Caithness Committee**

**22 November 2016**

Agenda Item	<b>8.</b>
Report No	<b>CC/24/16</b>

**Cycling, Walking and Safer Streets Update**

**Report by Director of Development and Infrastructure**

**Summary**

This report invites Members to approve the projects delivered through the Scottish Government funding for Cycling, Walking and Safer Streets for the Caithness Committee, 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 towards active travel.
- 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. By enabling a modal shift to active travel, this will support the Council's Carbon CLEVER initiative by reducing carbon emissions.

**2. Funding**

- 2.1 The CWSS programme has a budget of £255,000 for 2016/17 that 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 that is approved by Members at Area Committees. A Small Grant Funding element also 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. CWSS Update

**Appendix 1** details the funding application recommended to be approved by the Caithness Committee on 22 November 2016.

### 4. Resource Implications

#### 4.1 Resource:

The projects listed in **Appendix 1** will be funded from the CWSS budget 2016/17 or will be carried forward to 2017/18.

#### 4.2 Legal and Equality, Risk, Gaelic and rural:

There are no legal, equality, risk, Gaelic or rural implications arising from this report.

#### 4.3 Climate Change/Carbon Clever

The modal shift from cars to cycling and walking will have a positive contribution to reducing carbon emissions. This supports the Council's Carbon CLEVER initiative, which has the target of a carbon neutral Inverness in a low carbon Highlands by 2025.

### Recommendations

The Committee is invited to:

- approve the CWSS/SRTS project detailed in **Appendix 1**; and
- note that the Road Safety Unit will continue to work with schools to develop further SRTS Projects for future years.

Designation: Director of Development and Infrastructure

Date: 25 October 2016

Report Author: Lisa MacKellaich (Road Safety Officer)

## Appendix 1

School	Purpose	SRTS Estimated Contribution	Additional Information	Cycling Element
Pennyland Primary School	Install cycle storage.	£9,800	Install 2 Garrick cycle shelters, racking and concrete base for 20 bikes.	✓