

**REPORT TO:** PLANNING AND TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE  
26 JANUARY 2004

**REPORT ON:** IMPLEMENTATION OF 20MPH SPEED LIMITS AROUND SCHOOLS

**REPORT BY:** DIRECTOR OF PLANNING AND TRANSPORTATION

**REPORT NO:** 75-2004

**1 PURPOSE OF REPORT**

- 1.1 The purpose of the report is to seek Committee approval for the implementation of 20mph speed limits around all primary and secondary schools in Dundee.

**2 RECOMMENDATIONS**

- 2.1 It is recommended that Committee approve the implementation of 20 mph speed limits around all primary and secondary schools in Dundee.

**3 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

- 3.1 Dundee City Council has received a grant of £813,000 from the Scottish Executive through Section 40 of the Road Traffic Act 1988 as amended by Section 76 of the Transport (Scotland) Act 2001.
- 3.2 The phasing of the grant is £152,000 in 2002/2004, £331,000 in 2004/2005 and £330,000 in 2005/2006.
- 3.3 All capital costs associated with works outlined within this report will be met from this grant, with a further revenue commitment required for maintenance which will have to be met from existing budgets.

**4 LOCAL AGENDA 21 IMPLICATIONS**

- 4.1 The introduction of 20mph speed limits around schools is aimed at promoting a safer environment that will encourage children to walk and cycle to school.

**5 EQUAL OPPORTUNITIES IMPLICATIONS**

- 5.1 The introduction of 20mph speed limits around schools is aimed at promoting safety for some of the most vulnerable road users – child pedestrians, thus ensuring that the local road network meets the transport needs of all road users.

**6 BACKGROUND**

Introduction

- 6.1 The Scottish Government outlined a number of high level commitments to transport in the document "A Partnership for a Better Scotland: Partnership Agreement". One of these commitments is as follows:

We will protect the environment and improve road safety by introducing 20mph speed zones around schools and safer routes to school for walking and cycling.

- 6.2 Report No 489-2003 informed the Planning and Transportation Committee of 25 August 2003 of the Scottish Government's commitment to install 20mph speed limits around schools.

- 6.3 The Scottish Executive have now reinforced this commitment with an offer of grant to enable Dundee City Council to pay in whole or in part for the capital costs incurred in work associated with:

- the establishment of 20mph maximum speed limits around schools; and/or
  - the establishment of safer routes to schools schemes; and/or
  - the establishment of Home Zones.
- 6.4 The grant provided is £813,000 in total and is phased over three years, as follows - £152,000 in 2003/2004, £331,000 in 2004/2005 and £330,000 in 2005/2006.
- 6.5 There are currently no Safer Routes to School or Home Zones schemes sufficiently developed in line with Scottish Executive guidance in Dundee to take implementation stage. Therefore, considering this and to comply with the commitment to have 20mph zones around schools it is proposed to target the full grant allocation to establishing 20mph speed limits at all primary and secondary schools in Dundee.

#### Action Order

- 6.6 There are currently 51 schools in Dundee (41 primary and 10 secondary) and discussions have taken place between the Planning and Transportation Department and Tayside Police to determine a priority list giving the order in which schools are to be treated. Schools have been considered in three categories – early action, later action and PPP Schools.
- 6.7 Schools requiring early action have been identified as either having a road accident history to pupils around the school or there is an identified traffic problem or the school is active in promoting road safety/healthy travel to school. 12 schools have been identified for early action.
- 6.8 Later action schools will be treated second. There are 22 such schools.
- 6.9 PPP Schools will be the last schools to be treated for 20mph speed limits since design work on how these schools are to be extended and/or merged is continuing and the access arrangements have yet to be finalised. The finalised access arrangements will have a bearing on the design of the 20mph schemes and it is considered by leaving these schools to be the last treated this will give time for access arrangements to be finalised. Please note that although the heading of PPP Schools has been used this also covers other schools that are to be merged or extended outwith PPP finance. 17 current schools, which will reduce to 11 schools through mergers, have been identified.
- 6.10 Annex A gives details of schools identified for early action, later action or as PPP Schools.

#### 20mph Treatment Options

- 6.11 There are three main options for 20mph speed limits around schools – part-time speed limits, mandatory 20mph speed limits and mandatory 20mph zones.
- 6.12 Part-time speed limit– in conjunction with the grant announcement, the Scottish Executive has also authorised the use of a specialist sign (incorporating flashing amber lights) that will allow part time 20mph limits to be introduced around schools.
- 6.13 Mandatory 20mph speed limits – signing only with no self-enforcing traffic calming measures. Can be introduced where vehicle speeds are currently low.
- 6.14 Mandatory 20mph zones – signing complemented by self-enforcing engineered traffic calming measures. Can be used to ensure low speeds.

- 6.15 Twenty's plenty signing is not appropriate for 20mph speed limits around schools as it is not a mandatory speed 20mph limit, but advisory only and is incompatible with the other 20mph treatments outlined above.
- 6.16 Given that there are currently 51 schools, reducing to 45 schools as a result of proposed mergers and the total grant finance available is £813,000, there is approximately between £16,000 and £18,000 available for each school to implement 20mph speed limits. Therefore, this will require relatively low cost options and it is likely that the introduction of 20mph part-time speed limit signing will be the main option used supported where appropriate with mandatory speed limits and zones.

#### 2003/2004 Financial Spend

- 6.17 As outlined above £152,000 of the grant expenditure is available this financial year. Given that the grant offer was not made until 12 December 2003 it leaves little time to implement properly consulted and cost effective schemes this financial year and no time to progress the associated 20mph Traffic Regulation Orders.
- 6.18 Therefore, as stated in paragraph 6.16 above, the main option is likely to be 20mph part-time signs and this years grant allocation has been targeted at purchasing the 20mph part time signs to be used next financial year.

### **7 CONSULTATIONS**

- 7.1 The Chief Executive, Depute Chief Executive (Support Services), Depute Chief Executive (Finance), and Assistant Chief Executive (Community Planning) and the Chief Constable have been consulted and are in agreement with the contents of this report.

### **8 BACKGROUND PAPERS**

- 8.1 Report No 489-2003, 20mph Speed Limits Around Schools, Planning and Transportation Committee, 25 August 2003.
- 8.2 A partnership for a Better Scotland: Partnership Agreement, Scottish Executive, May 2003.

Mike Galloway  
Director of Planning & Transportation

Iain Sherriff  
Transportation Manager

IFS/NG/KM

15 January 2004

Dundee City Council  
Tayside House  
Dundee

**APPENDIX A****20MPH SPEED LIMIT – SCHOOL PRIORITY LIST****Early Action**

Ancrum Road PS  
 Blackness PS  
 Clepington PS  
 Craigiebarns PS  
 Glebelands PS  
 Gowriehill PS  
 Hillside PS  
 Sidlaw View PS  
 SS Peter & Pauls PS  
 St Mary's PS  
 Braeview Academy  
 Harris Academy

**Later Action**

Ardler PS  
 Charleston PS  
 Dens Road PS  
 Eastern PS  
 Lochee PS  
 Longhaugh PS  
 Mill of Mains PS  
 Newfields PS  
 Our Lady's PS  
 Park Place PS  
 Rosebank PS  
 St Clements PS  
 St Fergus PS  
 St Joseph's PS  
 St Luke's & St Matthew's PS  
 St Ninian's PS  
 St Pius PS  
 Whitfield PS  
 Baldragon Academy  
 Craigie High School  
 Menzieshill High School  
 Morgan Academy

**PPP Schools**

Barnhill PS  
 Brackens PS  
 Douglas PS  
 Downfield PS  
 Fintry PS  
 Forthill PS  
 Macalpine PS  
 Mid Craigie PS  
 Mossgiel PS  
 Powrie PS  
 St Columba PS  
 St Margaret's PS  
 St Vincent PS  
 Grove Academy  
 Lawside Academy  
 St Johns High  
 St Saviours High School