



West Lothian
Council

COUNCIL EXECUTIVE

SUSTRANS COMMUNITY LINKS PROJECTS FUNDING 2014 TO 2016

REPORT BY HEAD OF OPERATIONAL SERVICES

A. PURPOSE OF REPORT

The purpose of this report is to inform the Council Executive on the funding offer received from Sustrans to assist in the development and delivery of schemes identified through the Cycling Walking and Safer Streets (CWSS) and Active and Sustainable Travel Infrastructure Improvements (ASTII) programmes. The report also provides an update on the progress of the CWSS and ASTII programmes;

B. RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended that the Council Executive:

- note the progress of the CWSS and ASTII programmes;
- approve the re-phasing of the programmed schemes; and
- note the efforts made to acquire the funding to enable delivery of the schemes.

C. SUMMARY OF IMPLICATIONS

I Council Values	Making best use of our resources Working in partnership
II Policy and Legal (including Strategic Environmental Assessment, Equality Issues, Health or Risk Assessment)	Policy: The schemes contribute to active and sustainable transport. Legal: The council has a statutory responsibility for road safety under the Road Traffic Act 1988.
III Implications for Scheme of Delegations to Officers	None
IV Impact on performance and performance Indicators	None
V Relevance to Single Outcome Agreement	The projects will contribute to outcomes: “We live in resilient, cohesive and safe communities.” and “We live longer, healthier lives and have reduced health inequalities.”
VI Resources - (Financial, Staffing and Property)	Match funding will be provided through the capital Roads & Transportation and Open Space budgets.

VII Consideration at PDSP	A report was submitted to the Environment Policy Development and Scrutiny Panel on 15 May 2014 for consideration.
VIII Other consultations	Consultation with ward members and members of the public will be carried out during the design stage of individual schemes

D. TERMS OF REPORT

D.1 Community Links Funding Bid

In November 2013, Sustrans (Scotland) announced its grant scheme for infrastructure works for financial years 2014/15 and 2015/16 and invited local authorities and other statutory bodies to bid for funding. It offered a proportion of the £24 million available for projects that met the criteria for their Community Link Programme.

The programme is being funded through Transport Scotland for infrastructure works and is key to the vision of the Cycling Action Plan for Scotland (CAPS) of achieving a target of 10% trips by bike by 2020.

The objectives of the programme are to:

- Link the places people live in with the places they want to get to.
- Encourage people to cycle or use another active travel mode on everyday journeys and increase cycling modal share.
- Meet an identified community need and demand.

The Community Plan and Single Outcome Agreements 2013 – 2023 supports the council's commitment to provide active travel and is being taken forward by officer through the development of a Cycle Network Development Plan. As part of the development of this plan, discussions have taken place with communities, cycling groups and Sustrans (Scotland). These discussions have identified projects that target the improvement of links between and from communities into the national cyclepath network and core paths throughout West Lothian.

Close working with colleagues from other departments has also helped link the plan into local and strategic requirements in relation to School Travel Plans, Core Path Plans, Local Transport Strategies, Local Development Plans and Active Travel Action Plans.

This culminated in officers putting forward bids for grant funding for fourteen projects, including Almondvale Park Regeneration and Environmental Improvements with a cost estimate of £1,600,000.

On 4 April 2014, the council received an offer of £1,810,000 match funding for ten of the fourteen applications submitted. These projects are to be delivered over the next two years, with a funding split of £755,000 in 2014/15 and £1,055,000 in 2015/16. This grant offer is a significant proportion of the funding available considering the value of applications received by Sustrans was in the region of £35,600,000.

The success of this bid along with possible further funding to the value of £320,000, currently being sought for the planned project in Almondvale Park, would allow the council to implement a variety of cycle related projects to the value of £3,620,000. It is anticipated that the outcome of the bid for further funding will be known in July.

The schemes included in the Community Link Programme 2014 – 2016 offer are:

Project	Sustrans Offer (£000's)	WLC Match Funding (£000's)	Possible Further Funding (£000's)	Total (£000's)
Almondvale Park Regeneration and Environmental Improvements	800	480	320	1,600
Linlithgow Academy & Sports Centre Links to Union Canal Towpath	150	150	-	300
Starlaw West Roundabout to Boghall Roundabout - Cyclepath Provision	150	150	-	300
B8084 Whitburn to Armadale - Cyclepath Provision	310	310	-	620
Blackridge NCN75 Realignment and Access to Station	150	150	-	300
Livingston Network - Wheeling Ramps to Steps	15	15	-	30
Bathgate Hills - Cycling/Walking Friendly Roads	10	10	-	20
Polbeth to West Calder - Upgrade Cyclepath	100	100	-	200
Golf Course Road & Braehead Park Links to Union Canal Linlithgow	30	30	-	60
Broxburn Links to Union Canal Towpath	95	95	-	190
Total	1,810	1,490	320	3,620

The council's contribution of £1.49m will be funded within existing Roads and Open Space budgets. This is detailed in the table below.

Available Budget	2014/15 (£000's)	2015/16 to 2017/18 (£000's)	Total (£000's)
Roads & Transportation <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CWSS • ASTII 	345	1,059	1,404
Planning Contribution	10	0	10
Open Space	240	240	480
Total	595	1,299	1,894

D.2 CWSS 2012/13 to 2014/15 and ASTII 2013/14 to 14/15 Programmes

The progress of the CWSS and ASTII programmes, approved by the Council Executive on 4 June 2013 and 1 October 2013 respectively are detailed in Appendix 1 and 2.

D.3 Environment Policy Development and Scrutiny Panel

A report was submitted to the Environment PDSP at its meeting of 15 May 2014 at which the panel noted the terms of the report and referred to Council Executive for approval with the added suggestion that the following recommendation be included - "To note the efforts made to acquire the funding to enable delivery of the schemes".

E. CONCLUSION

The approval of this report will allow the delivery of key projects from the CWSS and ASTII programmes. It also enables the council to provide these much needed links valued at £3,620,000 for an investment of £1,490,000.

F. BACKGROUND REFERENCES

Cycling, Walking Safer Streets Grant Proposed Programme 2012/13 – 2014/15 Report - Council Executive on 3 April 2012

Cycling, Walking Safer Streets Grant 2012/13 – 2014/15 Update Report - Council Executive on 4 June 2013

Active & Sustainable Travel Infrastructure Improvements Proposed Programme 2013/14 - 2014/15 Report - Council Executive on 1 October 2013

Appendices/Attachments:

Appendix 1 – CWSS Programme 2012/13 – 14/15 Update

Appendix 2 – ASTII Programme 2013/14 - 14/15 Update

Email from Sustrans (Scotland) - Notification of the grant funding offer for Community Links Projects 2014/15 – 15/16.

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Jim Jack, Head of Operational Services,

27 May 2014

Schemes	Ward	Officer Recommendation (CE report 3 April 2012)	Progress	Outcome met
Cycle Schemes				
A89 Phase 1 - Cyclepath from Bangour Village Hospital to Nellburn Path	2, 3, 8	Implementation dependant on securing partnership funding.	Works complete	Delivered through partnership funding from Sustrans and SESTran.
A89 Phase 2 - Cyclepath from Nellburn Path to Deans Roundabout	2, 3, 8	Implementation dependant on securing partnership funding.	Works complete	Delivered through partnership funding from Sustrans and SESTran.
Contribution to the extension of hard surfacing of the Union Canal towpath in Linlithgow	1	Implement year 1 or 2 (subject to partners delivery programme).	Works complete	Delivered by Scottish Canals through partnership funding from Sustrans.
Upgrade of the pedestrian/cycle ramp south of Armadale	9	Implement year 1.	Works complete	Delivered through partnership funding from Sustrans.
Realignment of NCR75 at Blackridge to provide a link to the new station	9	Enter discussions with Sustrans to see if project can be part of its programme.	Grant offer received from Sustrans to provide 50% funding.	Deliver in 2015/16.
Upgrade path to cyclepath between Lower Bathville, Armadale and NCR75	9	Enter discussions with Sustrans to see if project can be part of its programme.	Works complete	Delivered through partnership funding from Sustrans.

Schemes	Ward	Officer Recommendation (CE report 3 April 2012)	Progress	Outcome met
Footpath Schemes				
Robertson Way to The Loan Path, Livingston – Provision of Footpath	3	Implement year 1	Works complete	Scheme delivered.
Mill Road, Armadale – Provision of Footway link to Millburn Area	9	Implement year 1	Works complete	Scheme delivered.
Murieston Road, Livingston – Provision of Footway link to Murieston East Road	4	Implement year 3	Works programmed for implementation this year.	Deliver in 2014/15.
Macintosh Road, Livingston - Provision of Footpath	4	Reserve Scheme	Progression of scheme will depend on funding available.	Retain on list of reserve schemes for implementation when further funding is secured.
Newpark Road, Livingston – Footway Widening	4	Reserve Scheme	Progression of scheme will depend on funding available.	Retain on list of reserve schemes for implementation when further funding is secured.
Pedestrian Crossings				
A706 Mains Road, Linlithgow A899 West Main Street, Broxburn Howden South Road, Livingston Kirkgate at its junction with Main Street, West Calder Whitburn Road, Bathgate	1, 2, 4, 6, 8	Further Investigation	Works complete	Schemes delivered.
Glasgow Road, Bathgate	8	Further Investigation	Scheme withdrawn as per decision of Council Executive 21 January 2014.	No further action.
Simpson Parkway, Livingston Carmondean Centre Road Blyth Road, Broxburn	2, 3, 4	Further Investigation	Works programmed for implementation this year	Deliver in 2014/15.
A71 Near West Calder High School	6	Further Investigation	Scheme linked to proposals for access to West Calder High School and development site.	Deliver in 2014/15.

Schemes	Ward	Officer Recommendation (CE report 3 April 2012)	Progress	Outcome met
Armadale Railway Station – Bus Stop Provision	8	Deliver improvement in 2013/14.	Detailed investigation found that no suitable location bus stop.	No further action.
B8084, Tippethill - Bus Stop Provision.	7	Design to be progressed to resolve land ownership issues. Thereafter, external funding can be sought.	Scheme linked to proposed cyclepath scheme along the B8084 Whitburn to Armadale.	Deliver in 2015/16.
Bus stop information survey and accessibility assessment.	All	Proceed with collation of information	Works complete	Scheme delivered.
Fauldhouse to Longridge - Provision of Cyclepath	6	Design to be progressed to resolve land ownership issues. Thereafter, external funding can be sought.	Levensat Trust has offered 50% funding for the implementation of scheme.	Deliver in 2014/15.
Improved Access to Bus Travel – West Lothian wide	All	Implement improvements over first year of programme.	Works complete	Scheme delivered.
Links to canal towpath, Broxburn at Greendykes Road, School Road, Lychgate Lane, Parkwood, Badger Brook and Queens Road.	2	Design to be progressed so that external funding can be sought.	Grant offer received from Sustrans to provide 50% funding.	Deliver in 2015/16.
Link to canal towpath at Golf Course Road and Braehead Park	1	Design to be progressed to resolve land ownership issues. Thereafter, external funding can be sought.	Grant offer received from Sustrans to provide 50% funding.	Deliver in 2015/16.
Meadowhead Grove, Addiewell – Link to Railway Station	6	Design to be progressed so external funding can be sought.	Bid submitted for grant funding, but unsuccessful at this time.	Retain on list of reserve schemes for implementation when further funding is secured.
Polbeth and West Calder – Upgrade Path	6	Design to be progressed so external funding can be sought.	Grant offer received from Sustrans to provide 50% funding.	Deliver in 2015/16.

Schemes	Ward	Officer Recommendation (CE report 3 April 2012)	Progress	Outcome met
Provision of bus stops and footpath link to Oakbank Industrial Estate	5	Design to be progressed so external funding can be sought.	Bid submitted for grant funding, but unsuccessful at this time.	Retain on list of reserve schemes for implementation when further funding is secured.
Riddochhill Blackburn to Wester Inch Bathgate - Upgrade path	7/8	Design to be progressed to resolve issues for cyclists crossing the bridge over the M8 and land issues. Thereafter, external funding can be sought.	Bid submitted for grant funding, but unsuccessful at this time.	Retain on list of reserve schemes for implementation when further funding is secured.
Starlaw West roundabout and Boghall roundabout - Provision of Cyclepath	8	Design to be progressed to resolve issues for cyclists crossing the bridges over the M8. Thereafter, external funding can be sought.	Grant offer received from Sustrans to provide 50% funding.	Deliver in 2014/15.