



EDUCATION POLICY DEVELOPMENT AND SCRUTINY PANEL

TRAFFIC SAFETY IN AND AROUND SCHOOLS

REPORT BY HEAD OF SCHOOLS AND EDUCATION SUPPORT

A. PURPOSE OF REPORT

To inform the Policy Development and Scrutiny Panel of proposed changes to the Traffic Safety in Schools policy.

B. RECOMMENDATION

To recommend to the Education Executive approval of the revised Traffic Safety in Schools policy.

C. SUMMARY OF IMPLICATIONS

I Council Values	Focusing on our customers' needs; being honest, open and accountable; providing equality of opportunities; making best use of our resources; working in partnership
II Policy and Legal (including Strategic Environmental Assessment, Equality Issues, Health or Risk Assessment)	None
III Implications for Scheme of Delegations to Officers	None
IV Impact on performance and performance Indicators	None
V Relevance to Single Outcome Agreement	None
VI Resources - (Financial, Staffing and Property)	Within existing budget for transport to and from mainstream schools.
VII Consideration at PDSP	Underway
VIII Other consultations	Public Transport Unit Legal Services Corporate Health and Safety

D. TERMS OF REPORT

Following an incident involving a primary school pupil and a school bus in May 2014, and an investigation report undertaken by the Operational Services Health and Safety officer, it was agreed with the Corporate Health and Safety Manager that the existing policy on supervision of the arrival and departure of transport to and from mainstream schools be reviewed.

The council's policy on school transport supervision is currently contained, in part, in the Traffic Safety in School Policy. This matter is now addressed in the Transport To and From Schools Policy. The consolidation of all policy on this matter in one document is designed to increase clarity for Council staff, parents/carers and other stakeholders.

The opportunity was taken during the review to increase clarity in the wording of the rest of the policy on traffic safety in and around schools.

The draft policy sets out arrangements for school crossing patrols, in line with existing policy and procedure, and Headteachers' responsibility for managing vehicle access to school grounds in order to minimise the risk of accidents and to maximise safety for pupils.

Headteachers must conduct a risk assessment annually of arrangements for vehicle access to school grounds and take appropriate action. It is recognised that Headteachers will have to exercise discretion in relation to the particular layout of their school site and any particular local circumstances.

The policy also advises Headteachers on how to raise concerns regarding road conditions around schools and on road safety education.

E. CONCLUSION

The attached draft policy is intended to provide Council staff and parents/carers with a more clear, and comprehensive, statement of the Council's existing policy and practice.

F. BACKGROUND REFERENCES

None

Appendices/Attachments: Draft Traffic Safety In and Around Schools Policy.

Contact Person: Andrew Sneddon, Customer and Performance Manager
andrew.sneddon@westlothian.gov.uk

James Cameron, Head of Schools with Education Support

Date of meeting: 17 March 2015