

11. APPLICATION FOR MOTORWAY TOURIST SIGNPOSTING – LIVINGSTON DESIGNER OUTLET AND DOBBIES GARDEN WORLD

The Council Executive considered a report (copies of which had been circulated) by the Head of Operational Services seeking approval of an application for tourist signs to two destinations from the M8.

The report advised that two tourist destinations had made an application to the council for additional tourist signs on the M8. The destinations were Livingston Designer Outlet in the centre of Livingston and Dobbies Garden World on the A89 at Dechmont roundabout.

The national policy required that applications for signs on the motorway must comply with the local authority's tourist signposting policy before being considered. West Lothian Council's criteria stated that signs would normally be permitted from the nearest main road (A Class Road). In this case the applications did not comply because there was already existing signing from the nearest main road.

Officers reviewed the applications and were of the view that there were sufficient traffic management grounds to recommend exceptions to the normal requirements in these cases. Details of the sign locations and legends were still to be finalised but Appendix 3 to the report included an example of how the motorway sign would look.

The Head of Operational Services advised that it should be noted that there were existing signs for Almond Valley Heritage Centre and the applicants would be required to include this destination on new signs. All costs of providing the signs would be met by the applicants.

In conclusion the report advised that it was considered that an exception to the normal criteria for tourist signs was warranted in this case and the applications for signs from the M8 should be supported.

The report recommended that the Council Executive approve the application for submission to BEAR Scotland.

Decision

To approve the terms of the report.