

report



meeting	ENVIRONMENT STANDING SELECT COMMITTEE	
date	10 JANUARY 2005	agenda item no

REPORT OF THE DIRECTOR OF ENVIRONMENT

SCHOOL TRAVEL PLANS: PROGRESS REPORT – YEAR END 2004

Purpose of Report

1. To inform Members of the latest position with regard to progress on School Travel Plans in Nottinghamshire.

Background

2. At the meeting on the 16 February 2004, Environment Standing Select Committee were informed of the latest Government initiatives to give greater impetus to the development and implementation of School Travel Plans (STPs) across the County. A further progress report to the 29 June 2004 meeting of this Committee set out how the Authority was going to resolve the necessary work and manage the process through a new Joint Officer Member Steering Group. This report contains further information across a range of issues as part of the School Travel Planning work in the County.

Current Status on STPs

3. At its meeting on the 26 November 2004, the Joint Steering Group received a progress report from the Senior School Travel Plan Officer which is **attached** at Appendix A. The key points of interest arising from this report are as follows:-
 - 51 STPs were completed by 31 March 2004 out of which 47 schools successfully applied for DfT/DFES Capital Grant, receiving in total over £250,000.
 - 4 School Travel Plan Officers are now in post and operating within the Road Safety Team and are currently working with a further 42 schools to develop STPs.

- The Regional STP Co-ordinator for the East Midlands is Jenny Maybury who works for Nottingham City Council. She is to be invited to the next meeting of the Joint Steering Group.
 - 54% of all Primary Schools in Nottinghamshire took part in the latest “Walk to School Week” in October 2004.
4. The Joint Steering Group was pleased with the progress being made and was very supportive of the Capital Grant made to participating schools as it ensured there was sufficient money for schools to see real benefits within their environs. On the 1 December 2004, DfT/DFES announced that the Capital Grants would remain available to schools up to and including the 2007/08 financial year. This should act as an excellent incentive for as many schools as possible to develop School Travel Plans.
 5. Overall, whilst there is a list of schools on the waiting list for School Travel Plans over the next 18 months, the Group had concerns over the current lack of take up in Gedling and Broxtowe, which are predominantly urban areas. The Group considered there should be a further push to develop STPs with families of schools wherever possible in order to make the most efficient use of resources.
 6. The Steering Group were very complimentary regarding the “Walk to School” leaflet which had been produced and the associated publicity which had been carried out at local level. However the Group considered that more publicity effort should be made at national level and this is to be raised through the Regional School Travel Plan Co-ordinator. The Group also considered that it was good news that STPs should form part of School Development Plans, thereby giving Schools a commitment to the process.

Performance Targets

7. The Joint Steering Group also considered a paper on revised Completion Targets for STPs in the light of Government’s aspirations for all schools to have School Travel Plans by 2010 to improve road safety and reduce car usage on school journeys. The annual targets from 2004 to 2010 for primary, secondary and special schools shown below were endorsed by the Steering Group:-

<u>Year</u>	<u>Primary</u>	<u>Secondary</u>	<u>Special</u>	<u>Total</u>
2004	49	4	0	53
2005	92	11	1	104
2006	135	18	3	156
2007	178	25	5	208
2008	221	32	7	260
2009	264	39	9	312
2010	307	48	11	366

However it was felt that these targets depended very much on continuing Government financial support for School Travel Plan Officers and also the availability of Capital Grant for schools (now confirmed until 2007/08 – see above).

Performance against these targets will be reported annually to Select Committee. A future work programme is to be mapped out for consideration at the next Joint Steering Group meeting.

School Transport Development

8. The Group also received a report on the latest situation for the provision of two new integrated bus services in West Bridgford. The routes will link several schools, shopping and leisure centres etc across West Bridgford and will provide a travel facility for non-statutory pupils/students in the area. The services will operate up to 6pm in the evening to cater for after school activities. The proposals are currently going through the European Procurement procedures and it is expected that the services will be operational in Spring 2005.

Training Event / Re-launch of STPs

9. Further consideration is to be given to the concept of utilising Head Teachers' Seminars as awareness raising events for School Travel Plans in Spring 2005. The Education and Environment Departments are to investigate the feasibility of this approach.

PETER WEBSTER
Director of Environment

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JOINT OFFICER MEMBER STEERING GROUP MEETING
26 NOVEMBER 2004

SCHOOL TRAVEL PLANS
PROGRESS REPORT

Purpose of Report

1. The purpose of this report is to advise on the progress of School Travel Plans (STPs) since the new School Travel Officers were appointed in April 2004.

Background

2. Up until April 2004, the development of all School Travel Plans was undertaken by the Road Safety Team as part of their responsibilities for Road Safety Education, Training and Publicity. Since School Travel Plans were first developed in Nottinghamshire in 1998, 51 School Travel Plans have been completed as at 31st March 2004. The annual target was to produce 10 School Travel Plans per year.

The Government wanted to increase the School Travel Plan Programme for all Authorities and set targets for all Schools to have a School Travel Plan in place by 2010. This target would have been unachievable without Government funding this resource within Local Authorities through their "Travelling to School" initiative.

Appointment of School Travel Plan Officers

3. From April 2004 the DfT/DfES provided funding for the appointment of 4 School Travel Plan Officers across the County. It was decided to retain this resource within the Road Safety Team by recruiting a small School Travel Plan Team incorporating one Senior Officer based at Trent Bridge House and 3 School Travel Plan Officers across the County with bases at Trent Bridge House, Ashfield/Mansfield and Bassetlaw/Newark. Due to a number of reasons the Team has not been operating at full strength, however, from 22nd November the Team will, for the first time, be fully complete.

Regional Co-ordinator

4. DfT/DfES have appointed a Regional Co-ordinator, Jennie Maybury who works at Nottingham City Council, to support the work of School Travel Plan Officers across the Region. Regional meetings will be held on a regular basis to share ideas and good practice. The first meeting took place on 2nd November 2004 in Nottingham.

Part of the Regional Co-ordinator's remit is to gather statistical information from Local Authorities on a termly basis to feed to the School Travel Board. The

information will be used to help justify that the Travelling to School initiative has been effective in encouraging schools to put in place School Travel Plans to reduce the proportion of children travelling to school by car.

Capital Grant

5. DfT/DfES have made available a Capital Grant to all maintained schools with an authorised School Travel Plan in place as at 31st March 2004. Each Plan has to meet laid down criteria to enable an application to be made.

6. Of the 51 Schools in Nottinghamshire with completed Plans, 47 applied for the grant. All were successful in their bid and money was paid into their accounts in July this year. The Grant is intended to help schools support sustainable travel to school by encouraging walking, cycling and use of public transport. The School and Steering Group determine how this money will be spent. A list of permitted and non-permitted expenditure is **attached at APPENDIX 1**. The amounts that each School received are also **attached at APPENDIX 2**.

7. Items that the funding has been, or is in the process of being spent on are:-

- a) On site shelters for pedestrians/parents waiting for children at the end of the day
- b) A covering for exposed cycle racks
- c) Cycle racks and lockers for equipment
- d) New pedestrian path to separate traffic from pedestrians
- e) Fencing, entrances and driveway to be altered and recreated to provide safer access for children to the school grounds.
- f) Provision of guardrails along pedestrian path to provide extra safety for pedestrians
- g) Improved signage

8. All schools that have begun to develop a School Travel Plan since April 2004 will also be eligible to apply for the Capital Grant funding as long as they have a completed and signed off Plan by 31st March, 2005. This is a one off payment and we await further information whether funding will continue after 2005.

Quality Assurance

9. DfES/DfT have commissioned Philippa Davison from Sustrans to carry out quality assurance checks on randomly selected School Travel Plans which were submitted in March 2004 and received the Capital Grant in 2004/5. Nottinghamshire County Council is one of the Authorities selected for scrutiny in the East Midlands and the outcome is currently awaited.

The “Links to School” Programme

10. £10 million of Department for Transport funding will be made available to help develop hundreds of safe walking and cycling routes to school. The Links to School Programme will extend the National Cycle Network, bringing it closer to schools and making it easier and safer for pupils to walk or cycle. More than 230 schools including 27 from across the East Midlands will directly benefit via the funding to 100 local authorities. The grant is to be made to Sustrans, who will oversee the building of new links from the National Cycle Network to schools around England. This will enable Local Education Authorities to introduce new schemes to tackle the congestion caused by the traditional ‘school run’ developing innovative ways for pupils to travel to school tailored to their local circumstances. The Newark High School will benefit from this funding. We will be contacting this school in order to help develop an appropriate School Travel Plan.

International Walk to School Week

11. Walk to School Week is a twice-annual event with the October event having International status. Over the last two years the take up has increased from around 30 Schools taking part in 2002 to 164 in October, 2004, accounting for 54% of all Primary Schools. The Healthy Schools Co-ordinator at one of the local Primary Schools said “that Walk to School Week has had such a positive impact upon the School they are going to hold a Walk to School Week during the first week of every month. The class with the highest number of walkers being rewarded with a double length playtime on Friday afternoons”.

What’s the Team Been Up To?

12. One of the first jobs of the new Team was to contact Schools on the waiting list. 22 Schools were contacted throughout the County. In addition it was noted that some of the School Travel Plan Steering Groups had lost impetus. Contact has been made with the majority of these Schools and we are working hard to revive and refresh the work of the Steering Groups. In addition to this, we are currently working with 42 new Schools (governors, teachers, parents, local residents and other interested parties) to develop robust School Travel Plans. Details of the Schools we are working with across the County can be seen in the **attached APPENDIX 3**.

Walking Leaflet

13. To build on the success of the Walk to School Week, the School Travel Plan Team produced a Leaflet called “Walk to School – Why on Earth Should I?” The Leaflet has been distributed to all Primary Schools across the County and

has received press and radio coverage. The Leaflet reminds everyone of the benefits of walking and encourages parents/children to keep up the good work!

Newsletter

14. The School Travel Plan Team has produced its first Newsletter, which will be sent out in late November. The intention is that this newsletter will be produced on a termly basis and will be an opportunity for Schools to share ideas and good practice.

Partnership Working

15. Helen Sugden (Exercise and Physical Activity Development Officer) of Bassetlaw District Council contacted us with regard to support in setting up a Walking Bus at Beckingham Primary School in the north of the county. Part of her role is to promote exercise and healthy living in rural areas. The Walking Bus Project was set up to fulfil this aim. Sports Development (a County Council Initiative) will fund the Project. We became involved after Helen contacted us as the project had stagnated. Funding of £400-£500 has been secured from the Sports Development for equipment and training. We have approximately 7 volunteers. Routes are in the process of being identified and risk assessed.

Susan Smith
Senior School Travel Plan Officer
Environment Department

APPENDIX 1

SCHOOL TRAVEL PLAN GRANTS FOR SCHOOLS

PERMITTED EXPENDITURE

1. Lockers.
2. Cycle storage.
3. Scooter storage.
4. New access at school perimeter, only if it is on school land.
5. New path for pedestrians and/or cyclists in school grounds.
6. Wider paths in the school grounds.
7. Drainage.
8. Improved lighting in school grounds.
9. CCTV.
10. On site waiting area for pedestrians.
11. On site shelter for pedestrians (e.g. parents waiting, pupils waiting for school buses in the school).
12. Bus turning circle in school grounds.
13. Guard-rail.
14. Traffic calming on school access roads in school grounds.
15. New signing.
16. Re-siting school fences to improve access.
17. Car drop zones/turning circles/car parks in school grounds.
18. Remote control entry system for a pedestrian gate.
19. Trees to 'eat' /CO2.
20. Providing a laminated cycle 'passport' with a swipe-in chip for the secure store.
21. Wet weather changing facilities, but not items such as hairdryers unless incidental to larger project.

NOT PERMITTED

1. Seed money to start off a breakfast club.
2. Cycle training courses when the instructors have to be paid and/or training of instructors.
3. Cycle repair workshop equipment.
4. Buying in expertise for School Travel Plan related issues.
5. Staff time, e.g. supervision at 'park and stride' drop-off points, attending School Travel Plan Working Groups, input into School Travel Plan activities such as car-share clubs.
6. Extra responsibility points for teachers championing School Travel Plans.
7. Publicity and promotional resources.
8. Tabards for walking bus escorts/passengers.
9. Trolleys for (walking bus) bags.
10. Software – for mapping and surveys etc.

11. Subsidised bike lights/helmets/hi viz/locks for people cycling to school.
12. Markings to rationalise parking or improve safety of pupils in the vicinity of cars; unless part of larger project.
13. Active play equipment.

S.Smith
Senior School Travel Plan Officer

APPENDIX 2**CAPITAL GRANT 2004**

LEA Number	EST Number	School Name	School Postcode	PAYMENT	Total per LEA
Notts	891	2120 Mapplewells Primary & Nursery School	NG17 1HU	£5,085.00	
		2174 Hetts Lane Infant & Nursery School	NG20 OAS	£4,830.00	
		2225 Haddon Primary & Nursery School	NG4 2GT	£5,155.00	
		2271 Bramcote Hills Primary School	NG9 3GF	£5,505.00	
		2346 Hallcroft Infant and Nursery School	DN22 7QH	£4,710.00	
		2460 Annie Holgate Junior School	NG15 6EZ	£5,210.00	
		2461 Annie Holgate Infant & Nursery School	NG15 6EZ	£5,095.00	
		2466 Whyburn Primary School	NG15 6LW	£4,795.00	
		2490 Leen Mills Primary School	NG15 8BZ	£4,995.00	
		2565 Jesse Gray Primary School	NG2 7DD	£5,855.00	
		2568 West Bridgford Infant School	NG2 7PX	£4,895.00	
		2571 Abbey Road Primary School	NG2 5ND	£5,655.00	
		2574 West Bridgford Junior School	NG2 6DB	£5,380.00	
		2585 Edwalton Primary School	NG12 4AS	£5,035.00	
		2590 Heymann Primary School	NG2 7GX	£5,350.00	
		2611 Redlands Primary & Nursery School	S80 1TH	£5,760.00	
		Sir Edmund Hillary Primary & Nursery School			
		2616 School	S81 OAN	£5,735.00	
		2634 Norbridge Primary School	S81 7HX	£5,220.00	
		2674 Chuter Ede Primary School	NG24 3PQ	£5,375.00	
		2693 Carnarvon Primary School	NG13 8EH	£5,610.00	
		2718 John Blow Primary School	NG23 7PT	£4,560.00	
		2731 Lantern Lane Primary & Nursery School	LE12 6QN	£5,510.00	
		2796 Muskham Primary School	NG23 6HD	£4,855.00	
		2900 Kimberley Primary & Nursery School	NG16 2PG	£4,645.00	
		2923 Holly Primary School	NG19 ONT	£5,135.00	

	Worksop Prospect Hill Infant & Nursery			
2925	School	S81 OLR	£4,735.00	
2926	Prospect Hill Junior School	S81 OLR	£4,850.00	
2928	Carr Hill Primary & Nursery School	DN22 6SW	£5,925.00	
2931	Greythorn Primary School	NG2 7GH	£5,135.00	
2948	Crescent Primary School	NG19 7LF	£5,300.00	
3004	St. Edmund's CofE Primary School	NG19 9JU	£5,525.00	
3008	St Andrew's CofE Primary & Nursery School	NG17 3DW	£5,530.00	
3081	Coddington CofE Primary & Nursery School	NG24 2QA	£5,410.00	
3143	Trowell CofE Primary School	NG9 3QD	£4,540.00	
3299	Ladybrook Primary School	NG19 6EW	£4,620.00	
3776	High Oakham Primary School	NG18 4SH	£5,310.00	
3779	King Edward Primary School	NG18 2RG	£5,665.00	
3785	Kingston Park Primary School	S81 9AW	£5,470.00	
4075	The Meden School & Technology College	NG20 OQN	£11,520.00	
4413	Harry Carlton Comprehensive School	LE12 6QN	£10,605.00	
4429	The Holgate Comprehensive School	NG15 6PX	£12,355.00	£232,450.00
<u>VOLUNTARY AIDED SCHOOLS</u>				
2946	Pierrepont Gamston Primary School	NG2 6TH	£3,946.50	
3431	Hucknall National CofE Junior School	NG15 7DU	£4,761.00	
3566	Lowdham CofE Primary School	NG14 7BE	£4,198.50	
3730	Holy Cross Catholic Primary School	NG15 8BZ	£3,964.50	
3765	St Edmund Campion Catholic Primary School	NG2 5ND	£4,927.50	
3768	The Holy Family Catholic Primary School	S80 2SF	£4,441.50	£26,239.50

Greater Nottingham	Schools with completed plans	Date completed	Schools currently developing plans	Date started	Schools due to start plans	Date due to start	Schools on waiting list	Schools whose plans folded	School who could not form a steering group	Schools who felt it was not necessary
BROXTOWE	Trowell C of E Primary Bramcote Hills Primary Kimberley Primary	Jun-01 May-03 Sep-03	Brinsley Primary	Jul-04	Gilthill Primary	Oct-04	Bramcote Hills Comprehensive Fairfield Junior Fredrick Harrison, Stapleford Lynncroft Primary, Eastwood Dagfa House Eastwood Infants Eastwood Junior Stevenson Junior, Stapleford William Lilley Infants, Stapleford		Albany Infants, Stapleford** Albany Junior, Stapleford**	
GEDLING	Haddon Primary, Carlton Standhill Infants, Carlton Mapperley Plains Primary	Mar-02 Jan-02 May-03	Arnold View Primary Linby cum Papplewick Primary	Jun-04 Oct-04			Carlton le Willows Church Drive Primary Woodborough Woods Foundation Ernhale Infants Ernhale Junior Richard Bonnington Willow Farm Primary			
RUSHCLIFFE	Becket Comprehensive, Wilford Greythorne Drive Primary, West Bridgford Harry Carlton Comprehensive, East Leake Camarvon Primary, Bingham West Bridgford Junior Edwalton Primary Jesse Gray Primary, West Bridgford Lantern Lane Primary, East Leake Abbey Road Primary, West Bridgford Heyman Primary, West Bridgford St Edmund Campion Primary, West Bridgford Pierrepont/Gamston Primary West Bridgford Infants (Emmanuel Comprehensive, Wilford - City School)	Oct-03 May-02 May-02 Apr-03 May-03 Jun-03 Dec-03 May-02 Jan-03 Sep-03 Jan-03 Feb-03 Mar-04 CITY	Radcliffe on Trent Infants Radcliffe on Trent Juniors Langar C of E Primary Bunny C of E Primary	Jun-04 Jun-04 Jun-04 Oct-04	West Bridgford Comprehensive	Nov-04	Brookside Primary, East Leake St Peter's Primary, East Bridgford Sutton Bonington Primary Flintham Primary Gotham Primary	Rushcliffe Comprehensive, West Bridgford James Peacock Infants, Ruddington St Peter's Junior, Ruddington Lady Bay Primary, West Bridgford**		Orston Primary**
ASHFIELD	Whyburn, Hucknall Annie Holgate Infants, Hucknall Annie Holgate Junior, Hucknall Leen Mills, Hucknall Holy Cross, Hucknall National Junior, Hucknall Holgate Comprehensive, Hucknall	Jun-99 May-01 May-01 Jun-02 Jun-02 Sep-02 Nov-02	Underwood Primary	Jun-04				National Infants, Hucknall		Butlers Hill Infant/ Broomhill Jnr, Hucknall

Greater Nottingham	Schools with completed plans	Date completed	Schools currently developing plans	Date started	Schools due to start plans	Date due to start	Schools on waiting list	Schools whose plans folded	School who could not form a steering group	Schools who felt it was not necessary
North Notts					Kirkby Nursery	Nov-04				Carsic Jnr/Sutton Nursery*
ASHFIELD	St Andrews, Skegby Mapplewells, Sutton in Ashfield	Jun-01			Coxmoor Primary	Nov-04			Dalestorth Primary	Bagthorpe Primary*
		Feb-04			Dalestorth Primary	Nov-04				Quarrydale Comprehensive*
					John Davies Primary	Nov-04				All Saints Primary, Huthwaite*
BASSETLAW	Gateford Park Primary	May-02	Ordsall Primary	Jan-04						Ryton Park Primary
	Hallcroft Infants	Jan-02	Gateford Park	May-02						Primary
	Norbridge Primary	Apr-02	St. Annes Primary	Oct-02						Ramsden Primary *
	St Anne's Primary	Nov-02	Beckingham Primary	Oct-04						North Border Infants*
	Carr Hill Primary	Nov-02								
	Kingston Park Primary	Jan-03								
	Holy family Primary	Oct-01								
	Prospect Infants	Feb-04								
	Prospect Juniors	Feb-04								
	Redlands Primary	Oct-03								
	Sir Edmund Hillary	Feb-04								
MANSFIELD	Crescent Primary	Mar-02	Nettleworth Infants	Jan-04	Berry Hill Primary	Nov-04		Abbey Primary	St Peter's Primary**	Asquith Primary *
	High Oakham Primary	Sep-02	Leas Park Juniors	Jan-04	Intake Farm	Oct-04		Brunts Comprehensive	Garibaldi Comp **	Ethel wainwright Primary *
	Holly Primary	Jan-04	Church Vale Primary	Nov-04				Heathlands Primary	Newlands Junior **	Oak Tree Lane Primary *
	King Edward Primary	Oct-02	Forest Town Primary	Oct-04				Newgate Lane Primary	John T. Rice Infant**	Wynndale Primary *
	Ladybrook Primary	Apr-03	Asquith Primary	Oct-04						
	Meden Comprehensive/Hetts Lane Inf	Feb-03	Farmilo Primary *	Dec-04				Sherwood Hall Comprehensive		
	St Edmunds Primary	May-03						Queen Elizabeth Comprehensive		
	New Rose Primary	Apr-03								

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NEWARK	Bleasby Primary	Apr-02	North Clifton Primary	Apr-04	Dukeries College	Nov-04			**Bowbridge Primary, Newark	
	Chuter Ede Primary, Balderton	Nov-02	Bleasby Primary	Apr-02	Gunthorpe Primary	Nov-04				
	North Muskham Primary	Sep-02	King Edwin Primary	Sep-04	Lowes Wong Infant	Nov-04				
	Coddington Primary	Jan-02	Barnby Road Primary	Jun-04	Lowes Wong Juniors	Nov-04				
	John Blow Primary, Collingham	Mar-03	Ravenshead Primary	Sep-04	Python Hill Primary	Nov-04				
	Lowdham Primary	Mar-04	Farnsfield Primary	Sep-04	Robert Jones Infants	Nov-04				
			John Hunt Infants	Nov-04	Roberts Jones Junior	Nov-04				
			John Hunt Juniors	Nov-04	Winthorpe Primparry	Nov-04				
					Maun Infants	Nov-04				
					Forest View Juniors	Nov-04				

										TOTAL SCHOOL CONTACTED
Total Greater Notts	27		8		2		21	5	2	3
Total North Notts	27		18		16		0	6	6	11
COUNTY TOTAL	54		26		18		21	11	8	14
										68
										84
										152

* schools that did not get beyond Gov. presentations

** schools that did not get beyond Open Meeting

Red Schools who received Capital Grant in 2004

Blue Schools contact made recently

schools who felt plan not necessary but now developing plan

schools with completed plans who are now revising Plans to claim Capital Grant in 2005

Thrumpton/Gamston will be required to do STP as part of Planning Permission

stpgeneral.stpoverviews.copy of stpschools.xls