

School Travel Plans (STPs) Update

1. A School Travel Plan (STP) is a working document individual to each school outlining their travel problems and setting realistic objectives and targets for solutions. It is developed by the school community with support from the County Council's School Travel Plan Officers. An STP includes a series of measures to reduce journeys to/from school by car, increase walking, cycling and the use of public transport.

The main aims of a STP are to:-

- a) reduce congestion caused by 'the school run'
- b) improve road safety outside the school
- c) raise awareness of travel issues ; promote healthy and sustainable travel.

A Capital Grant from Central Government, for schools with 'signed off' STPs is currently available until the end of March 2008. The grant is to be spent only on improving facilities within the school grounds, to enable and encourage more sustainable travel to school. In November 2005 the Government announced a continuation of funding to LAs from 2006 – 2008 for the employment of School Travel Advisors, (in Nottinghamshire known as School Travel Plan Officers).

2. Central Government has set a target for all schools to have a STP by 2010 and an interim milestone of 40% of schools by March 2006. In Nottinghamshire the number of schools as at 2004 was used as a baseline to monitor progress towards this target. The baseline is 378 schools, made up of 307 Primary, 48 Secondary, 11 Special and 12 Independent.

As at mid October 2005, there were **75** completed STPs. In addition, the County's four full-time School Travel Plan Officers are currently working with a further 44 schools which are in the process of developing STPs, 45 schools which are due to start STPs i.e. are at the Governor / Open meeting stages, 20 schools which have been contacted after expressing an interest and 24 schools are on the waiting list to be contacted.

Local targets have been set for the proportion of journeys to/from school by car. For 2004/05 the targets and actual percentages are shown below:-

Proportion of journeys to/from school by car	Target	Actual
Primary schools with an STP	43%	41%
Primary schools <i>without</i> an STP	45%	42%
Secondary schools with an STP	22%	14%
Secondary schools <i>without</i> an STP	23%	19%
Overall #	29%	29%

- these percentages are calculated by factoring up the above figures