

**Active Travel Signage, Dunoon**

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**1.0 EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

This report provides a brief summary of the proposals to install active travel signage in Dunoon in line with similar projects recently undertaken in other key towns in Argyll. Dunoon has benefited from significant investment in active travel infrastructure in recent years including in excess of £500k of Sustrans Community Links grant funding to undertake the upgrade of Dunoon Esplanade and a footway on the A815 linking Sandhaven and Inverreck. It is considered that the installation of active travel signage in Dunoon will complement the previous infrastructure projects by making the active travel network more visible and detailing distances to key trip generators in the town including the hospital, local schools, leisure facilities and public transport hubs. In total it is proposed to install 186 signs across the town centre including 10 signs on the Dunoon Esplanade indicating that this route is now suitable for shared use by pedestrians and cyclists.

The above works are being 100% funded by Scottish Government Smarter Choices Smarter Places (SCSP), and Cycling Walking Safer Streets (CWSS) grant funding.

## **2.0 INTRODUCTION**

- 2.1. This report details proposals to install active travel signage in Dunoon following recent investment in the local active travel network. In excess of £500k of external grant funding has been secured for active travel projects in Dunoon and surrounding areas in recent years including £280k in 2014/15 to significantly upgrade the surface of Dunoon Esplande to encourage increased levels of active travel in the town.
- 2.2. It is considered that the recent investment in active travel infrastructure in Dunoon in addition to the works being undertaken via the CHORD programme will encourage increased levels of walking and cycling in the town.
- 2.3. Adequate signage is key to developing safe and attractive active travel networks. Active travel signage makes local networks more visible to pedestrians and cyclists and also makes pedestrians and cyclists more visible to other road users. As such, Argyll and Bute Council have commissioned TP&E consultancy to undertake an active travel signage strategy for Dunoon using Scottish Government SCSP and CWSS grant funding.
- 2.4. Given the size of Dunoon and spread of key local trip generators across the town this is by far the most extensive active travel signage strategy undertaken to date by Argyll and Bute Council with 186 signs proposed at strategic locations across the Town. In developing this strategy Officers from Argyll and Bute Council's Roads Services and the Regeneration Project Manager for Dunoon have been consulted.

## **3.0 RECOMMENDATIONS**

- 3.1. Members are asked to note the proposals to install active travel signage in Dunoon.

## 4.0 DETAIL

- 4.1. An active travel signage strategy for Dunoon has been undertaken by TP&E Consultancy on behalf of Argyll and Bute Council following the upgrade works undertaken on Dunoon Esplanade in 2014/15 using Sustrans Community Links funding.
- 4.2. In line with funding requirements, the upgraded infrastructure was designed and constructed to be suitable for shared use by pedestrians and cyclists. As such, Dunoon Esplanade is now up to 5m wide which greatly exceeds the desirable minimum width for shared use infrastructure of 3m as set out in Transport Scotland's document Cycling by Design.
- 4.3. Drawing 739/10/04/001 Rev A which is included in Appendix 1 details the proposed routes and locations of signs along with some of the indicative signage dimensions and details provided by Dee-Organ. Full details can be provided if required but have not been included at this stage given the number of signs and size of the document.
- 4.4. All signs are compliant with the design regulations set out in Chapter 7 of the Traffic Signs Manual and in line with Council policy the signage is bilingual and includes Gaelic translations.
- 4.5. As part of the signage strategy and in accordance with the national guidance set out in Cycling by Design it is also proposed to install 10 shared use signs on Dunoon Esplanade to make users aware that this route can now be used by both pedestrians and cyclists. An example of this signage is indicated in the extract from Cycling by Design (diagram number 956) included in Appendix 2.
- 4.6. Following a competitive procurement exercise the signs will be manufactured by Dee-Organ.

## **5.0 CONCLUSION**

- 5.1. Argyll and Bute Council have commissioned an active travel signage strategy as the next phase of the recent works to upgrade the local active travel network in and around the town. Over £500k of external grant funding has been invested in the active travel network in Bute and Cowal in the past 2 financial years.
- 5.2. It is proposed to install 186 signs at strategic locations across the town including Dunoon Esplanade which is now a shared use facility. All costs associated with the works are being funded by Scottish Government grant funding which requires to be spent and claimed by 31<sup>st</sup> March 2016.

## **6.0 IMPLICATIONS**

- 6.1. Policy – Encouraging increased levels of active travel.
- 6.2. Financial – 100% funded by external grants
- 6.3. Legal - None
- 6.4. HR - None
- 6.5. Equalities – Active travel infrastructure is DDA compliant.
- 6.6. Risk – Adequate signage will reduce risks of conflict with cyclists, pedestrians and vehicular traffic.
- 6.7. Customer Service - None

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## **APPENDICES**

Appendix 1: Signage Location Drawing and Details extract

[Appendix 1](#)

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Appendix 2 – Shared use signage example (extract from Cycling by Design)

[Appendix 2](#)