

Update - Provision of footway on A815 at Hunters Quay Holiday Village

1. PURPOSE

- 1.1 To provide Members with a further update on the funding options for the potential footway connection between Hunters Quay and Sandbank on the A815 at Dunoon.

2. RECOMMENDATIONS

- 2.1 Members give guidance to Officers, by designating this project as a priority scheme within the area and make application to Full Council for allocation of Roads Capital Reconstruction and Cycling, Walking and Safer Streets budgets, as match funding.

3 DETAILS

- 3.1 Details provided in previous reports:-

- The footpath connecting Hunters Quay and Sandbank has a gap section of some 507 lin. m. either side of the entrance to Hafton House.
- Records indicate that there have been four road traffic accidents in the past three years at this location.
- An initial estimate for the provision of a footway at this location is in the order of £240,000. As such, this is in excess of any available internal budget to finance exclusively.
- Existing landowners, adjacent to the footway, are under no legal obligation to provide a footway on the A815 public road. However, the submission of a recent planning pre-application for this area may allow a proportion of the footway to be provided through the “planning gain” route if the development is taken forward.
- The on-going implementation process for the 30mph zone in this area may allow a reduction in the specification of the footpath.
- A site survey has been carried out on the southern end between Hunters Quay Holiday Village and vehicular access serving Hafton House; some 190 linear metres. There is adequate space to provide a narrow footway on the landward side.

3.2 Latest update:-

- The 'going live' date for the 30mph speed restriction at Sandbank is Friday 4th October. All the necessary signage will be erected beforehand and bagged for uncovering on this date.
- A full survey has now been carried out to ensure that there is sufficient width for the remainder of the footway. This will allow for at least minimum 1.3m wide walkway over the entire length adjacent to the existing boundary walls, within the existing road corridor.
- In advance of any footway construction works, scrub cutting will be carried out in the near future and field drainage and culverts proven; these works will serve as preparation prior to the commencement of any future footway works and will provide a refuge for pedestrians in the interim; these 'maintenance' works will be carried out this financial year under the auspices of the roads revenue budget.
- Special funding for the new footway is still being sourced by officers. The award of Sustrans funding may be conditional on the provision of improvements to both cycling and walking. However, the minimum width achievable may not meet Sustrans specification for an award of funds.
- Adjacent landowners are being contacted and a request made to contribute to the works for the mutual benefit of all but as stated above, there is at present no mechanism to compel them to contribute. An approach will also be made to the Military Covenant Award Board to contribute to this project. This is likely to be subject to competition from other schemes of equal or greater merit.
- The aforementioned planning application has not progressed greatly in the last 6 months and there is no indication that any works will commence in the short to medium term.

4. CONCLUSIONS

- 4.1 The possible procurement of finances to fund the footway proposal is still being investigated by officers. It is likely however, that progress to completion will take some considerable time without a significant contribution from the Councils own budgets , in a similar manner to the A880 Kilmun Footway works of 2012 which remain incomplete at this time.
- 4.2 Preparation works will commence this financial year under the revenue maintenance budget, to improve the use of the existing road verge by removing overgrown scrub and installing positive drainage.

5. IMPLICATIONS

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| 5.1 | Policy | <i>Assists in the promotion of health and wellbeing.</i> |
| 5.2 | Financial | <i>Requires substantial external contributions to complete the works.</i> |
| 5.3 | Personnel | <i>None</i> |
| 5.4 | Equalities
Impact
Assessment | <i>None</i> |
| 5.5 | Legal | <i>Land acquisition implications</i> |
| 5.6 | Risk | <i>none</i> |
| 5.7 | Customer Service | <i>Improves local amenity for residents and tourists</i> |

6. APPENDICES

- 6.1 A815 Location plan

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