

NORTH LANARKSHIRE COUNCIL

REPORT

AGENDA ITEM No 6

To: PLANNING & ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE		Subject: School Crossing Patrol Service Dis-Establishments
From: DIRECTOR OF PLANNING & ENVIRONMENT		
Date: 14 September 2005	Ref: D/TT/71/43	

**1. Purpose Of Report**

- 1.1 The purpose of this report is to seek approval for the dis-establishment of unused school crossing patrol sites.
- 1.2 This report has been prepared in conjunction with the Department of Community Services.

**2. Background**

- 2.1 The Department of Planning and Environment are responsible for the assessment of patrol sites and the Department of Community Services have the budget and operational responsibility. All requests in relation to the establishment / dis-establishment of school crossing patrols are assessed against criteria contained in the national document 'School Crossing Patrol Service Guidelines', as previously approved by Committee, together with the updated version of the guidelines issued in 2003.

**3. Proposals**

- 3.1 The patrol sites at:

- Carlisle Road / Brownsburn Road, Airdrie, and
- Dunbeth Road / Muirhall Hall Street (Puffin Crossing), Coatbridge,

were monitored for usage and it was determined that neither met the criteria for the continuing provision for the school crossing patrol service. Schools were informed at that time that the sites would therefore not be covered due to the lack of children crossing and a lack of resources.

- 3.2 The patrol site at Carlisle Road / Brownsburn Road, Airdrie, has been out of service since 20 October 1997, and the one at Dunbeth Road / Muirhall Street (at a Puffin Crossing), Coatbridge, since 19 August 1997. An efficiency saving made against the patrol service by the Department of Community Services included the service provision at these patrol sites.
- 3.3 The Department completed a re-assessment of these patrol sites on the 15 June 2005 (Carlisle Road / Brownsburn Road) and 14 June 2005 (Dunbeth Road / Muirhall Street), which confirmed that they no longer meet the required criteria and that there is no requirement for them.

- 3.4 At the Carlisle Road / Brownsburn Road, Airdrie, site only 3 children (who arrived together and were accompanied by an adult) crossed the road during the half hour period between 8.15 – 8.45AM, which is well below the threshold where a crossing patrol is justified. At the Dunbeth Road / Muiryhall Street, Coatbridge, site between 8.30 – 9.00AM 5 unaccompanied and 4 accompanied primary school aged children crossed, together with 36 secondary school children. However, this is at an established Puffin Crossing, where the revised guidelines advise that a school crossing service is no longer required, as it essentially only serves to duplicate the operation of the light-controlled crossing, that is to stop traffic so that pedestrians may cross the road safely.
- 3.4 The dis-establishment of the following sites from the School Crossing Patrol Service is therefore required:

Sites for Dis-Establishment.

- Carlisle Road / Brownsburn Road, Airdrie.
- Dunbeth Road / Muiryhall Hall Street (Puffin Crossing), Coatbridge.

#### **4. Sustainability Implications**

- 4.1 This proposal will have no adverse impact upon the Council's environmental agenda, as it only concerns the formal removal of a facility that is not being used. The dis-establishment of these sites will also assist in releasing resources for other, more appropriate, sites. However, the school crossing patrol service generally helps to encourage cycling and walking to schools, thereby promoting sustainable transport options.

#### **5. Corporate Considerations**

- 5.1 Discussions in relation to this matter have taken place with the Department of Community Services, who are in agreement with this report.
- 5.2 Background papers are available from the Department of Planning and Environment.

#### **6. Recommendations**

- 6.1 It is recommended that Committee:
- a) Approve the dis-establishment of the school crossing patrol sites detailed in paragraph 3.4 above.
  - b) Refer the report to the Community Services Committee for information.



**David M. Porch**  
**DIRECTOR OF PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENT**  
**18 August 2005**

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