

## **Education and Lifelong Learning Committee**

**The Transport Policy Division, National Assembly for Wales provided this paper for the Education and Lifelong Learning Committee, for its information.**

### **Safe Routes to School Initiative**

- This initiative was introduced in 1999-2000. As well as tackling the congestion caused by the school run, the safe routes initiative is important for the promotion of healthier lifestyles for children. By showing children from an early age that alternatives to the car such as walking and cycling are attractive and fun, they can be encouraged to take regular exercise and develop healthy travel habits for the future.
- The scheme funds capital items such as crossings and traffic calming measures, improved school entrances, construction of cycle and footpaths, secure cycle facilities (including stands and CCTV), lockers and changing facilities. A successful scheme needs to demonstrate co-operation between schools, parents, teachers and local authorities so that a strategic approach to reducing car journeys to school can be developed. It should also enhance road safety and make the community a safer place to live.
- In 1999-2000 £800k was allocated to 14 projects covering approximately 47 schools. In 2000-2001 £1.4million was allocated, also to 14 projects covering approximately 48 schools. In 2001-02 £2.7 million was allocated to 19 projects covering approximately 84 schools.
- On 22 January a further £2.7 million was allocated to the initiative for the next financial year. 22 projects are being supported covering approximately 80 schools across Wales. Details of the schemes are attached as an Annex.
- Although the safe routes to school initiative has been operating since 1999-00 it has taken a while to see completed schemes on the ground. However indications from local authorities indicate that modal shift is occurring and there has been a reduction in traffic speeds at many of the locations. More importantly the feedback from pupils is extremely positive and there are some excellent examples of partnership working within the local authority areas.

**ANNEX**

### **TRANSPORT GRANT SETTLEMENT**

### **SAFE ROUTES TO SCHOOLS PROJECTS 2002-03**

<b>COUNTY</b>	<b>SCHEME</b>	<b>BID £'000s</b>	<b>TG Settlement £'000s</b>
Blaenau Gwent	Nantyglo Comprehensive	120	120
Bridgend	Brynteg	300	300
Caerphilly	Risca Comprehensive/Crosskeys College	155	155
Cardiff	Llanrumney Comprehensive	110	110
Carmarthenshire	Brechfa	30	30
Ceredigion	Ceredigion SRTS	160	109
Conwy	Conwy SRTS	173	80
Denbighshire	Rhyl Initiative	19	19
Flintshire	SRTS Initiative	241	241
Gwynedd	Bethesda	65	65
Merthyr Tydfil	Afon Taff	90	70
Monmouthshire	Caldicot	105	105
Neath Port Talbot	Sandfields	401	198
Newport	Duffryn Comprehensive	148	148
Pembrokeshire	Pembrokeshire SRTS	354	140
Powys	Ystradgynlais	110	110
Rhondda Cynon Taff	Caegarw Primary School, Mountain Ash	110	110
Swansea	Greater Gowerton	35	35
	Clydach	95	95

Torfaen	Llantarnam SRTS	439	246
Vale of Glamorgan	Barry-Penarth-Cardiff	440	115
Wrexham	Wrexham SRTS	220	107
Total		3920	2708