
Report To:	Education & Communities Committee	Date:	3 September 2024
Report By:	Ruth Binks, Corporate Director, Education, Communities and OD	Report No:	EDUCOM/35/24/HS
Contact Officer:	Hugh Scott, Service Manager	Contact No:	01475 715459
Subject:	School Crossing Patrol (SXP) Site Survey Results		

1.0 PURPOSE AND SUMMARY

- 1.1 For Decision For Information/Noting
- 1.2 This report outlines the results of school crossing patrol site surveys and requests Committee approval to use this data to evaluate the current placement of patrol sites.
- 1.3 There is no saving attached to this proposal. The goal is to optimise the location of patrols to enhance their impact and ensure that the safety of children and staff is prioritised, which may lead to the consideration of the movement of some lightly trafficked patrol sites that do not meet the guidelines criteria (category 3 and 4 sites).

2.0 RECOMMENDATIONS

- 2.1 It is recommended that the Education and Communities Committee:
- i. notes the updates provided in this report; and
 - ii. grants approval for Council officers to continually assess and adjust school crossing patrol site locations in consultation with the school community to ensure they are in optimal locations.

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Corporate Director
Education, Communities and Organisational Development

3.0 SCHOOL CROSSING PATROL SURVEY RESULTS

- 3.1 The current policy for provision of SXP points takes consideration of guidance from Road Safety GB and RoSPA and sets out a clear, calculable criteria and a two-stage assessment process for the assessment and subsequent allocation of SXP provision for Primary School children in Inverclyde.
- 3.2 The initial assessment criteria consider the pedestrian and traffic volume at the SXP point allowing a weighted, ratio-based score to be allocated to the location. The second stage of assessment is technical assessment of the site which takes account of speed, gradient, visibility, junctions, road markings, street lighting, the age of children and accident history.
- 3.3 Where the score is 4 or above then it is confirmed that a staffed crossing point is required. Where the score is between 1.3 and 3.9 and more than fifteen primary school pupils utilise the crossing point then the second stage of assessment is required. Where the score is below 1.3, or fewer than fifteen primary school pupils utilise the crossing, there is no requirement to provide a staffed crossing point.

There are currently four levels of priority for school crossing patrollers (SXPs) for primary schools, with priority 1 being the highest priority. Sites are prioritised using the following criteria:

Criteria	Priority Rating
Less than 15 children (guideline requirements not met)	4
PV2 less than 1.3 (guideline requirements not met)	3
PV2 1.3 – 4 (Further assessment required)	2
PV2 4 + (site justified)	1

- 3.4 As part of the delivery of the School Crossing Patrol service an Inverclyde-wide assessment of crossing sites was carried out in March 2024 to ensure that our sites continue to meet our adopted Road Safety GB Guidelines and continue to be appropriate for acceptable walked routes to school. This is a routine exercise that The Council is recommended to carry out from time to time, generally every 3 to 4 years. The last exercise was undertaken in 2021.
- 3.5 The assessment involved a survey of the existing 33 school crossing patrol sites, and two additional proposed sites were also surveyed which had previously been identified as locations which could be considered for potential movement of two existing crossing points. These proposed sites were located on Kilmacolm Road, Port Glasgow and Kilmacolm Road, Greenock.
- 3.6 The following table provides a summary of the priority rating count changes between 2021 and 2024 for the existing 33 sites.

Priority Rating	Number of sites 2019	Number of sites 2024	Change
1	5	3	-2
2	7	8	+1
3	15	16	+1
4	6	6	0

A copy of the full survey results is provided in appendix 1 to this report.

- 3.7 The survey data reveals that 22 of the existing 33 sites would not qualify for a school crossing patrol based on our criteria (rated priority 3 and 4). Some of these locations experienced very low numbers of primary school children crossing on the survey day. Currently, when staff are absent and temporary cover cannot be arranged, these sites may be left unattended as patrol staff are reassigned to areas with higher pedestrian traffic.

3.8 The additional proposed sites surveyed at the same priority rating as existing nearby locations and there is no proposal to consider movement of the current site at Kilmacolm Road, Port Glasgow. However, a safety concern around the current site at Kilmacolm Road / Blairmore Road has necessitated changes at this site which are outlined in section 4 of this report.

4.0 SCHOOL CROSSING PATROL SITE – KILMACOLM ROAD, GREENOCK

4.1 The school crossing patrol site at Kilmacolm Road, Greenock which is located adjacent to All Saints Primary School received numerous reports of vehicles driving through the school crossing patrol site while the patroller was on the road during the last school year. This has also been raised as an issue in previous years.

4.2 Following the increase in incident reports this year the Community Safety & Resilience Team visited the site on several occasions towards the end of the school year with Health & Safety Officers, Roads engineers, and Police Scotland. While this issue is primarily a problem of driver behaviour the group has raised concerns that the current location is not suitable for a patroller due to patroller visibility, signage, the width of the two roads they are expected to cross, and the road markings causing confusion about an island in the middle of the road at the crossing point just before the junction between Kilmacolm Road and Leven Road. The Roads Service has also confirmed it has explored all options to engineer a solution to this and there are no further works identified that could be considered.

4.3 Given the immediate safety concerns for children and Council employees over the suitability of this crossing point an operational decision was taken to carry out works around barriers and signage in this area over the summer holidays with a view to utilising two school crossing patrollers in this area into the next academic year 24-25. One patroller will be covering a single-crossing point on Kilmacolm Road slightly north of the current location, and a second patroller will be crossing children at another single-crossing point across Blairmore Road.

4.4 Operationally, the service already reallocates crossing patrollers from the lowest priority sites to prioritise the highest priority sites when there is sickness absence, or when it is unable to recruit for posts. The additional crossing patroller for Kilmacolm Road has been temporarily moved from the category 4 crossing point at Sinclair Street / Grosvenor Road. Catchment schools and parents have been notified in advance of the new academic year and fuller engagement will be carried out with the school community to explore any changes on a permanent basis as part of the proposals contained within this report.

5.0 PROPOSALS

5.1 The results from this, and future, site assessments will be used to inform an ongoing review of school crossing patrol sites in Inverclyde to ensure that Council resources are placed in optimal locations. This may lead to the consideration of the permanent movement of some lightly trafficked sites rated 3 or 4 which do not meet the guidelines criteria, to ensure they are in specific locations which best serve the school population. The initial focus of the review will be on the category four sites which surveyed at fewer than 15 children using a crossing.

5.2 Any future changes will be done through further assessment of sites and engagement with the school community in advance of any permanent patroller moves.

6.0 IMPLICATIONS

6.1 The table below shows whether risks and implications apply if the recommendation(s) is(are) agreed:

SUBJECT	YES	NO
Financial		X
Legal/Risk	X	
Human Resources	X	
Strategic (Partnership Plan/Council Plan)		X
Equalities, Fairer Scotland Duty & Children/Young People's Rights & Wellbeing	X	
Environmental & Sustainability		X
Data Protection		X

6.2 Finance

The proposals in this report would maintain the number of crossing patrol sites at 33 and would have no net financial implications.

One off Costs

Cost Centre	Budget Heading	Budget Years	Proposed Spend this Report	Virement From	Other Comments
N/A					

Annually Recurring Costs/ (Savings)

Cost Centre	Budget Heading	With Effect from	Annual Net Impact	Virement From (If Applicable)	Other Comments
N/A					

6.3 Legal/Risk

The risks of this proposal are managed by undertaking assessments of the site linked to the guidelines.

6.4 Human Resources

This proposal will require movement of staff to different locations.

6.5 Strategic

N/A

6.6 Equalities, Fairer Scotland Duty & Children/Young People

(a) Equalities

This report has been considered under the Corporate Equalities Impact Assessment (EqIA) process with the following outcome:

X	YES – Assessed as relevant and an EqIA is required, a copy of which will be made available on the Council website: Equality Impact Assessments - Inverclyde Council
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	NO – This report does not introduce a new policy, function or strategy or recommend a substantive change to an existing policy, function or strategy. Therefore, assessed as not relevant and no EqlA is required. Provide any other relevant reasons why an EqlA is not necessary/screening statement.
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(b) Fairer Scotland Duty

If this report affects or proposes any major strategic decision:-

Has there been active consideration of how this report’s recommendations reduce inequalities of outcome?

	YES – A written statement showing how this report’s recommendations reduce inequalities of outcome caused by socio-economic disadvantage has been completed.
X	NO – Assessed as not relevant under the Fairer Scotland Duty for the following reasons: Provide reasons why the report has been assessed as not relevant.

(c) Children and Young People

Has a Children’s Rights and Wellbeing Impact Assessment been carried out?

X	YES – Assessed as relevant and a CRWIA is required, a copy of which will be made available on the Council website: Equality Impact Assessments - Inverclyde Council
	NO – Assessed as not relevant as this report does not involve a new policy, function or strategy or recommends a substantive change to an existing policy, function or strategy which will have an impact on children’s rights.

7.0 CONSULTATION

7.1 Consultation with the Council Health & Safety, Council Roads engineers, and Police Scotland has taken place. For any permanent decisions, parents and communities will be involved in the process.

8.0 BACKGROUND PAPERS

8.1 None

Site	Category	PV2	Current Category	Change
Kilmacolm Rd (Port Glasgow)	1	10.10	1	0
Lochwinnoch Rd / Churchill Rd	1	6.32	1	0
Broomberry Dr / Davidson Dr	1	5.16	1	0
Kilmacolm Road PG (Proposal)	1	5.00	#N/A	#N/A
Boglestone Avenue	2	3.80	2	0
Drumfrochar Rd	2	3.32	2	0
Drumshantie Rd / George Rd	2	2.54	4	2
Kilmacolm Road GNK (Proposal)	2	2.28	#N/A	#N/A
Larkfield Rd / Manor Cr	2	2.19	1	-1
Kilmacolm Road / Blairmore Rd	2	2.10	2	0
Lochwinnoch Rd / Gryffe Rd	2	2.09	1	-1
Patrick St / Houston St	2	1.83	2	0
Cumberland Rd	2	1.75	2	0
Cumberland Rd / Westmorland Rd	3	1.14	3	0
Glenburn St / Glen Avenue	3	0.96	3	0
Bridgend Avenue	3	0.94	3	0
East Crawford St / Grosvenor Rd	3	0.82	2	-1
Robertson St / Newton St	3	0.81	3	0
Newton St / Campbell St	3	0.79	3	0
East Crawford St / Bawhirley Rd	3	0.71	3	0
Ardgowan Rd Wemyss Bay	3	0.65	3	0
Finnart St / Robertson St	3	0.59	3	0
Old Inverkip Rd / Gateside Ave	3	0.38	3	0
Wren Road / Fancy Farm Rd	3	0.26	3	0
Kirn Dr / Moorfoot Dr	3	0.23	3	0
King St / Royal St	3	0.22	3	0
Station Road Inverkip	3	0.22	3	0
Marloch Avenue	3	0.18	3	0
Ann Street / Drumfrochar Rd	3	0.11	4	1
Tower Dr / Kingsway	4	< 15 children crossing	2	-2
Sinclair Street / Grosvenor Rd	4	< 15 children crossing	3	-1
Ardgowan Sq / Roberston St	4	< 15 children crossing	4	0
Inverkip Rd / Pennyfern Rd	4	< 15 children crossing	4	0
Broomberry Dr / King St	4	< 15 children crossing	4	0
Larkfield Rd / George Rd	4	< 15 children crossing	4	0