

## Community and Enterprise Resources Executive Director Michael McGlynn

## Roads and Transportation Services – Transportation Engineering

Parent / Carer Our ref: CS/SL

Your ref:

If calling ask for:Colin ParkPhone:01698 453653Date:29 March 2016

Dear Parent / Carer

## **Removal of School Crossing Patrollers**

As you may be aware, the Council's income from government grant is falling and Council Tax remains frozen, at the same time as demand for our services is increasing. The Council has had to achieve significant levels of saving in recent years, and that remains the case as it plans for 2016/17 and beyond.

This has resulted in difficult choices having to be made. The removal of patrollers from locations which no longer satisfy the current criteria for the provision of a patroller was one of these decisions, having been taken at the 24 February 2016 meeting of the Executive Committee. Previous savings were also agreed at the 29 January 2014 meeting which are also ongoing. Please see the end of this letter for details of locations which will be affected. The purpose of this letter is to explain how these savings will be implemented.

When making this difficult decision a significant consideration was the fact that there is no statutory duty on any Scottish council to provide school crossing patrollers at any location. Rather, parents/carers are deemed to have responsibility for getting children safely to school. However, South Lanarkshire Council took the decision to provide patrollers in many locations, and approximately 160 sites are currently in operation.

One of the patrols affected by the decision to reduce the number of locations may be on your child's journey to school. I wish to advise you that patrollers at the identified locations will be permanently removed from 18<sup>th</sup> April 2016.

I want to reassure you that risk assessments have been undertaken at all of these locations by an experienced road safety professional to ensure that the road can still be crossed safely provided that reasonable care is taken. Please note that this assessment assumes that children are accompanied by an adult if required.

The ability of any child to cross the road safely will depend on traffic conditions and facilities present at or near the crossing point and the child's road safety skills. Similar to the walking routes to school assessment the Council adopts, parents need to assess if their child is competent to cross the road safely. If parents do not feel this to be the case, then arrangements require to be made for an adult to accompany the child on the route to / from school.

If you wish to discuss this matter further please contact Colin Smith on 01698 453757 or Stuart

Montrose House, 154 Montrose Crescent, Hamilton ML3 6LB Phone: 08457 406080 Fax: 01698 453600 Text Phone: 01698 454039 Email: enterprise.hq@southlanarkshire.gov.uk



Laird on 01698 453607.

Yours sincerely

## Colin Park Engineering Manager

| Area          | Location   |
|---------------|--|
| Biggar        | Station Road/ Blawhill Way                               |
| Lesmahagow    | Bankhead Road/ Balgray Road                              |
|               | Priory Road  |
| Strathaven    | Kirk Street/ Crofthead Street                            |
| East Kilbride | Stroud Road/ Larch Drive                                 |
|               | Quarry Road/ High Whitehills Road                        |
|               | Vancouver Drive/ Quebec Drive                            |
|               | Westwood Hill/ Mossneuk Road                             |
|               | The Murray Road/ Kelvin Road                             |
|               | (safe crossing points exist approx 150m to the north and |
|               | 100m to the south-west of the mini roundabout)           |
|               | Westwood Hill/ Melbourne Avenue                          |
|               | Belmont Drive  |
|               | Blacklaw Drive/ High Common Road                         |
|               | Calderwood Road  |
|               | Stewartfield Crescent/ MacArthur Drive                   |
|               | Stewartfield Road/ Stewartfield Crescent                 |
|               | Mossneuk Avenue/ Forth Grove                             |
| Rutherglen    | Stonelaw Road/ Parkhill Drive                            |
|               | Calderwood Road/ Greystone Avenue                        |
|               | Calderwood Road/ Dryburgh Avenue                         |
|               | Greystone Avenue/ Underwood Road                         |
|               | Hamilton Road/ McCallum Avenue                           |
| Cambuslang    | Dukes Road/ Hawthorn Walk                                |
| Hamilton      | Auchingramont Road/ Union Street                         |
|               | Thornhill Road   |
|               | Silvertonhill Avenue/ Larch Grove                        |
|               | Devonhill Avenue/ Dundonald Avenue (lunch removal only)  |
| Ashgill       | Ashgillhead Street/ Stewartgill Place                    |
| Larkhall      | Muir Street/ Drygate Street                              |
|               | Glen Avenue (lunch removal only)                         |
|               | Raploch Road/ MacNeil Street (lunch removal only)        |