



Street Design - Fife

Project overview

Katrine Crescent in Kirkcaldy's Templehall area is the site of a community-led Street Design project. Improvements are being made to encourage active travel, make the street safer using traffic calming, better paths, more greenery, safer routes to school, better lighting - all priorities which the community decided on. Sustrans are working in partnership with Fife Council, and the project runs in parallel with the Make Your Move Kirkcaldy project.

Project aims

The project's principal aim is to inspire and support a community-led process in Kirkcaldy to redesign a street, so that it becomes a safe and attractive space to socialise in, play in and travel actively through.

Activities/how it works

The Street Design schemes promote work with residential streets which are en route to schools, but are not bus routes, since there's more scope to make improvements and also engage with as large a cross-section of the community as possible. After launching the project with an event on the street - a chance to have an informal chat about the issues people were concerned about - a questionnaire was compiled to seek residents' views in depth.

Project name
Street Design

Location
Kirkcaldy, Fife

Target group
Primary school pupils

Contact
Mark Chalmers, Senior
Project Officer, Street Design,
Sustrans
Tel : 08451 555555 ext 476593
Email:
mark.chalmers@sustrans.org.uk

During spring and early summer, a series of structured design workshops took place in a nearby church hall. Once the proposals emerged, they were set down in sketch form - the drawings were deliberately kept loose to allow folk to feel able to influence them. Similarly, dozens of school pupils travel along and across the street each day, so we worked with a class at both Fair Isle Primary and Torbain Primary Schools to explore the pupils' experience of the area, and their aspirations for it (the pictures illustrating this case study came from these sessions)

The artist Nicola Atkinson has been involved, helping to stimulate discussion and encourage the children to consider how their ideal street might work. Besides mapping the areas around the primary schools, path surfaces, plants, handrails - even litter - were used to inspire the children's artwork which will feed into the project.



So what happens next?

Construction began in October 2011, and the "hard" elements of the work should be complete in December. Once construction is complete, we anticipate that the children will remain involved, with their drawings being translated into decorative patterns to identify the routes they use, and the intention is that the children will also help apply their own artworks.

Our partners

Fife Council

More information

Mark Chalmers is a Senior Project Officer with Sustrans working within Fife Council in Kirkcaldy. His remit covers re-designing streets with the local community to make them safer and more pleasant to move through on foot or by bike.

For more information on Street Design in Kirkcaldy see this blog;

<http://templehall.wordpress.com/>

For more information on Make Your Move Kirkcaldy see this website

<http://www.makeyourmovekirkcaldy.co.uk/>

The benefits/ outcomes

Alongside the physical aspects of Street Design are its social benefits. A community-led ethos runs through the scheme, and while Fife Council will adopt the completed works, a fledgling Residents' Association will take ownership of the scheme in a broader sense, and help to look after it.

The close association with the local schools will hopefully foster an interest in and respect for the landscaping- the children will feel they played an integral part in the scheme's design, hence the environmental part of their curriculum is developed in a practical way.

Sustrans is the charity that's enabling people to travel by foot, bike or public transport for more of the journeys we make every day.

It's time we all began making smarter travel choices.
Make your move and support Sustrans today.

www.sustrans.org.uk



Sustrans is a Registered Charity No. 326550 (England and Wales) SCO39263 (Scotland). Images courtesy Sustrans staff.