

School Transport Programme

Executive Summary

This report is to update the AT Board on the progress and achievements of the school transport programme in 2012.

The school transport programme (Travelwise) delivers a whole of school approach to improving road safety and reducing congestion around schools. AT has grown the programme by 103 schools in the 2012 school year with 319 out of 540 Auckland schools (shown in attachment A) engaged in the Travelwise programme. The programme encompassing over 160,000 students, approximately 63% of Auckland school aged students.

In the 2012/13 financial year a total of \$12m is being invested in the development and implementation of SSTP's delivering road safety and congestion initiatives, walking school buses, cycle training, road safety infrastructure and pedestrian improvements around schools. Engineering improvements such as pedestrian crossings are being delivered to streets around 35 schools and 17 schools are receiving electronic warning signs or 40 km speed zone restrictions.

The school transport programme has resulted in a benefit cost ratio as calculated by NZTA economic evaluation manual of 6.9. School aged road users fatal and serious crashes in Auckland have now reduced by 14%.

As part of the AT SOI, the school transport programme provides inputs into the reduction of AM peak vehicle travel. The results of the 2012 school year evaluation has resulted in an 18% decrease in car use from 2011 which provides a reduction of 11,097 vehicles in the morning peak. This equates to approximately 2.5% of all traffic movements across Auckland in the morning peak. Locally the impact of the programme can be seen in reducing congestion on roads outside school gates. Examples include a reduction of am peak traffic by 9% on Manukau Road and 16% on Albany Highway improving traffic flow and safety.

AT has also invested \$10.1m in providing 400 school buses, servicing 154 schools and carrying 2,654,141 passenger trips. Students also used urban services and commercially operated bus services and receive concession fares. The number of all school age trips using these services was recorded as 9,875,482 passenger trips.

Growth in the transport initiatives delivered at schools has resulted in over 9000 students in 92 schools receiving cycle training and 3900 children using 348 walking school bus routes. Additional initiatives that have been offered to students in 2012 include scooter training, curriculum activities incorporating road safety and a Travelwise student leadership programme delivered to 21 intermediate and secondary schools.

In 2012 AT partnered with a number of business and public bodies to deliver the Travelwise programme including, 20th Century Fox, BUPA, AMI, Bunnings, Nga Mahi Kia Tupatoa, Auckland based Sports Trusts, Bike NZ, Bike On, NZ Police and NZTA.

Recommendations

It is recommended that the Board:

- i. Receive the report.

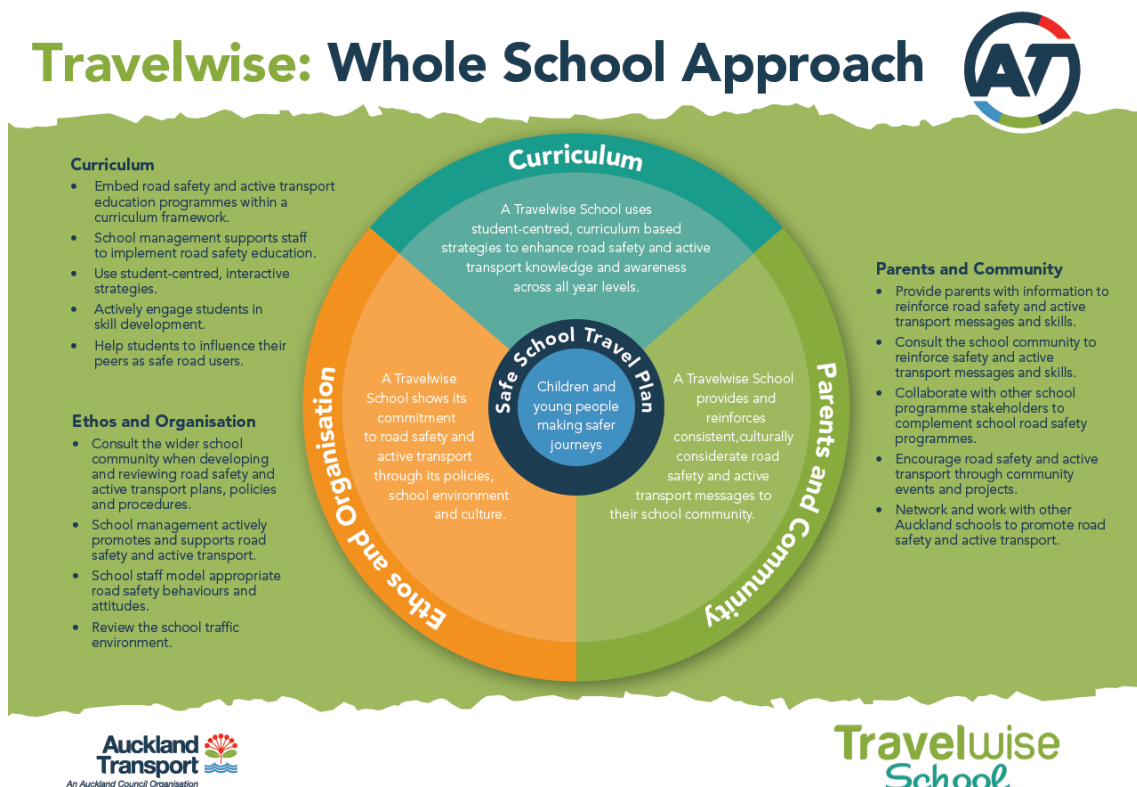
Strategic Context

As part of AT's SOI, the school transport programme contributes to the overarching outcome: "Auckland's transport system is effective and efficient, and provides for the region's social, economic, environmental and cultural wellbeing" and specifically to the target of the number of morning peak (7-9am) car trips avoided through travel planning initiatives.

The programme is a cross-organisation programme involving Community Transport, Road Corridor Operations and Maintenance, Capital Development Division, Parking and Enforcement, Public Transport and Communications. The delivery of the programme requires a partnership with the school, the local community, Local Boards and key stakeholders including NZTA, Auckland Council and NZ Police.

Background

AT partners with NZ Police education officers to deliver road safety and cycle training in schools and with school lead teachers to embed road safety into the school curriculum. 2012 saw substantial growth in the number of schools implementing and developing a Safe School Travel Plan, with 103 new schools signed on to the Travelwise Programme. The whole school approach has been adopted for Travelwise which is based around the following framework:



Attachment 2 shows the results of the 2012 evaluation which has resulted in a reduction in morning peak vehicle trips of 11,097, the distribution across the region and the main modal shift patterns.

Next Steps

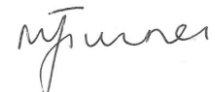



The focus for the school transport programme in 2013 will be to continue the growth of schools joining the programme with the aim to:

- Continue to grow the number of schools in the programme by an additional 50;
- Deliver additional road safety infrastructure to contribute to a targeted 2% reduction of serious and fatal crashes for vulnerable road users aged between 5-18 years for 2013,
- Reduce car trips in the morning peak by over 12,000;
- Deliver safety at the school gate parking enforcement to over 250 schools;
- Deliver cycle training to 10,000 students;
- Deliver the scooter skills programme to 3000 students;
- Deliver 400 walking school buses;
- Promote HOP and rail safety programmes within schools across the region to improve the use, safety and accessibility of public transport for students;
- Utilise engagement with the schools to further promote AT infrastructure projects to the community;
- Enhanced curriculum resources, promotional events and lead teacher professional development opportunities to promote and support the delivery of road safety education in schools across Auckland;
- Enhanced web based tools and resources;
- Develop further sponsorship and partnering opportunities with businesses and community groups.

Attachments

Number	Description
1	School's engaged in the Travelwise school transport programme
2	Key results from the 2012 Travelwise evaluation

Document Ownership

	Name / Title	Signature
Prepared by	Melanie Turner School Safety Regional Advisor	
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Recommended by	Greg Edmonds Chief Operating Officer	
Approved for Submission	David Warburton Chief Executive	

Attachment 1 :

School's engaged in Travelwise school transport programme

Attachment 2: Key results of 2012 Travelwise Evaluation

Figure 1: Number of Travelwise Schools in Auckland

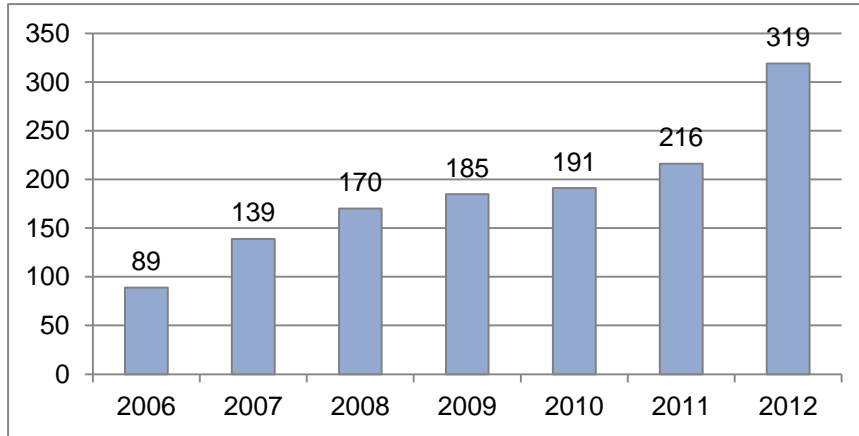


Figure 2: Travelwise school - distribution across Auckland

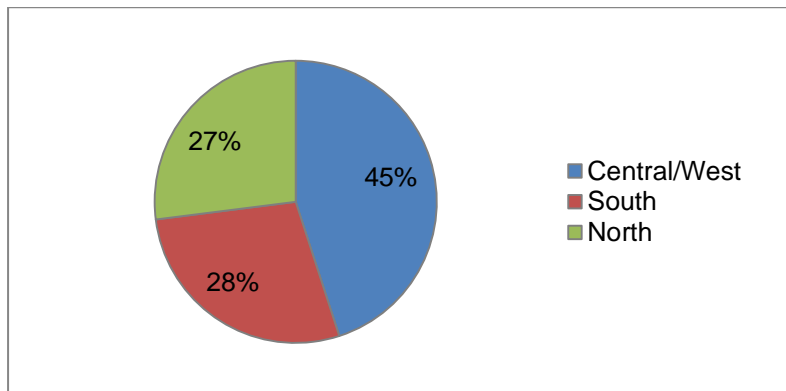


Figure 3: 2012 Modal shift results of students

