

Officer responsible City Streets Manager	Author Alix Newman: Cycle Planning Officer
Corporate Plan Output: Pages 9.5.37 & 38	

The purpose of this report is to advise the Committee of the bike ride activities undertaken in 1999.

BIKE RIDE ACTIVITIES

During 1999 the City Streets Unit has arranged the following bike ride activities. Each of the activities was contracted out to event organisers.

Park-to-Pier Mass Bike Ride

The mass bike ride from Hagley Park to the New Brighton Pier was held on 31 October. It attracted approximately 1,000 cyclists and raised \$860 for the Camp Quality Charity.

The numbers were lower than hoped for, but the weather was cold and blustery and is likely to have put off a significant number of potential participants. The promotion work prior to the ride indicated that knowledge of the event was very high, and higher numbers could reasonably have been expected.

Survey feedback is incredibly positive. All were appreciative of the event and glowing in their account of the ride organisation and safety measures. Post-ride analysis has yet to be completed, but there is scope for some improvement to make the event more attractive. A second Park-to-Pier is planned for late October 2000.

Bike to Work Day

A bike-to-work day and commuters breakfast in the square was held in mid-February. This event attracted over 500 cyclists on a very fine day. It included personality bike races; free, simple breakfast fare, and café stalls for the more culinary adventurous.

All feedback for the event was also very positive. The next event is currently in planning for 16 February 2000.

Tour-de-City

The tour-de-city is a bike event for school children in Hagley Park. Groups of children from schools that have completed the Cycle Safe programme ride (in supervised groups) to Hagley Park. They participate in advanced cycling skills and compete for a competence reward (although all participants will receive a medal). Depending upon the success and feedback of the event, a decision has yet to be made about a similar or expanded event next year (at the time of report writing, the event had yet to be completed).

Bike Parking

At all family based events in Hagley Park last summer, a free, secure cycle park area was set up. The facility proved very popular (up to 200 bikes at the last event), and many were surprised and encouraged that the facility was free.

Organising work is almost complete to have the cycle park running again in summer 2000.

FUTURE EVENTS

All of the above events have earned (or will earn) the City Council excellent recognition in its support of cyclists and cycling. The three main events target family and recreational cycling (Park-to-Pier), commuter cycling (Bike-to-Work) and school children cycling (Tour-de-City) and therefore pick up all the main cyclist groups the Strategy aims to reach.

As feedback on the events completed has been so positive, it is intended to run them on an annual basis, and an increase in numbers can be reasonably expected each time.

Chairman's

Recommendation: That the information be received.