

ANGUS COUNCIL

ROADS COMMITTEE

27 APRIL 2000

ROADS DEPARTMENT – SERVICE PLAN 2000/2001

REPORT BY THE DIRECTOR OF ROADS

ABSTRACT

This report gives a brief overview of the contents of the Roads Department's Service Plan for the 2000/2001 financial year, clearly identifying where the Department's key objectives link into Angus Council Key Themes and Corporate Priorities.

1 RECOMMENDATIONS

It is recommended that the Committee agree:

- i) to approve the Roads Department's Service Plan for the 2000/2001 financial year.
- ii) to note that the Service Plan for the 2001/2002 financial year will be submitted for Committee approval in May/June 2001.
- iii) to note the important part the Service Plan continues to play in demonstrating compliance with the Best Value process.
- iv) to note the significant progress made towards achieving the objectives stated in the 1999/2000 Service Plan as detailed in Appendix A of this report and note the stated Priority Service Areas for 2000/2001 identified in Appendix B.

2 DETAILS

- i) The Department's previous Service Plans were widely distributed including copies to all members of staff ensuring that they had to hand a document which laid out the aspirations of both the Council and the Roads Department whilst promoting ownership and encouraging positive contributions for future Service Plans.
- ii) Copies of the Roads Department Service Plan 2000/2001 have been placed in the Members' lounge for reference.
- iii) The structure and layout of the Service Plan is in keeping with that for the 1999/2000 document and provides a clear summary of progress made towards previous objectives and also of objectives set for the 2000/2001 financial year.

The layout of the document has again been structured to the following format in keeping with the corporate guidelines.

- Introduction Section
 - Context
 - Departmental Objectives
 - Roads Service and Profiles
- Progress Against 1999/2000 Action Plan
 - Engineering and Design
 - Lighting Maintenance
 - Roads Maintenance
 - Traffic
 - Investors In People
- Priority Objectives 2000/2001
 - Engineering and Design
 - Lighting Maintenance
 - Roads Maintenance
 - Traffic
- Appendices
 - Roads Committee Remit and Directors Delegated Authority
 - Key Themes and Corporate Priorities
 - Revenue Budget
 - Capital Budget
 - Utilisation of the Roads & Transport Renewal and Repair Fund
 - Central Service Recharge Matrix
 - Organisational Structure
 - Draft Corporate Balanced Scorecard Framework
 - Draft Roads Department Balanced Scorecard Framework
 - Investors In People Action Plan
 - Performance, Management & Planning Improvement Template

3 **FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

There are no financial implications directly associated with this Report.

4 **CONSULTATION**

The Chief Executive, the Director of Law and Administration and the Director of Finance have been consulted in the preparation of this Report.

Dr Bob McLellan
DIRECTOR OF ROADS

NOTE

The following background papers, as defined by Section 50D of the Local Government (Scotland) Act 1973 (and not containing confidential or exempt information) were relied on to a material extent in preparing the above Report:-

Report No 670/98 – Roads Department Service Plan 1998/99 - Angus Council Roads Committee – 11 June 1998.

Report No 843/99 – Roads Department Service Plan 1999/2000 – Angus Council Roads Committee – 26 August 1999.

GJS/JGS
REPORTS/serv.plan.2000-01
10 April 2000

APPENDIX A**PROGRESS AGAINST 1999/2000 PRIORITY OBJECTIVES****ENGINEERING AND DESIGN****A92**

This project continues to make significant progress. The Notices of Intention to Develop (NID's) were published in the summer of 1999 for those portions of the project located in the respective Council areas (Angus Council and Dundee City Council). The Councils were notified in December 1999 that the project had received planning consent for both portions. Progressing the commensurate Orders continues, primarily in the area of negotiating with objectors and resolving accommodation issues.

The Prior Indicative Notice (PIN) was published in the Official Journal of the European Community (OJEC) in December 1999 for the main Design, Build, Finance & Operate (DBFO) contract and it is intended that the contract notice will be published in May/June 2000 with the Invitation to Tender following in October 2000. Work continues on the preparation of the contract documentation.

The Business Case is being updated through the further development of the payment mechanism, public sector comparator and risk allocation matrix in line with Treasury Taskforce guidelines and the Council's auditor's initial view on the likely balance sheet treatment for the project has been sought.

Montrose Bridge

Further visual inspections of the bridge, a review of the earlier analytical assessment (by Carl Bro) and completion of the alkali silica reaction chemical testing at the end of 1999 has confirmed that the prognosis for the structure is very poor.

A report was submitted to Roads Committee in January 2000 setting out the way ahead for the procurement of a replacement crossing. It is intended that the process will enable a breadth of design options appropriate to the sensitive location of the bridge but which at the same time will deliver the value for money benefits of a design and build procurement philosophy.

The Babtie Group appointed for the (stage1) commission in January 2000 to assist the Council initially in engaging with the relevant consultees and interested parties and to assemble a series of "constraint maps" to better inform the design process.

A multi-disciplinary team has been established (March 2000) under the chairmanship of the Director of Roads in order to steer the project through the procurement process. It is currently envisaged that a replacement crossing will be in place during 2005.

Bridge Assessment/Strengthening

The assessment programme for Angus Council owned bridges was completed by December 1998. The programme of strengthening/repair work is on going within the current financial year.

Assessments on approximately half of the bridges owned by Railtrack Ltd. have been completed leaving those on less strategic routes still to be assessed. It is hoped to complete the assessment of the Rail Property bridges within the current year, only four having been put in hand last year due to legal delays.

Structural Maintenance of the bridge stock is an ongoing activity.

Coast Protection - Milton Mill Monifieth

Although NOSWA remain willing to discuss the issue of a possible contribution, Railtrack continue to effectively ignore requests for an appropriate contribution. We continue to lobby Railtrack in an attempt to find an acceptable and enduring long term solution to this coast erosion problem.

Coast Protection - Carnoustie

A desk top study into short and long term options for the gabion revetment in the central part of the beach was carried out together with further rock armour and gabion reinforcement work.

Flood Prevention

The Flood Appraisal Group continues to meet on a six monthly basis.

Specialist consultants are nearing the completion of a hydrological study of the potential flooding problem at River Street, Brechin. Delay has been incurred to allow the consultant to review the flood analysis in the light of recently published national guidance.

Environmental Improvements

Following the adoption of the Designated Accountable Manager (DAM) principle, The Roads Department has taken on the responsibility of managing "partnership" projects from detailed design to completion of construction. Those elements of works carried out on Environmental Improvements within the 1999/2000 financial year have been successfully carried out on time and to budget in Arbroath (three projects) and Montrose.

Feasibility studies have been carried out in relation to the proposals for Monifieth and Forfar Town Centres. Works are likely to be concentrated around the seafront area of Monifieth at this time whilst in Forfar the area including Castle Street and The Cross will be the subject of more detailed design prior to a period of consultation.

LIGHTING MAINTENANCE

Street Lighting Records

Significant progress has been made on the updating of the Street Lighting records and the following Towns and Villages have been completed.

Monifieth, Carnoustie , Aberlemno , Auchterhouse , Birkhill , Bridgefoot , Inveraldie , Fowlis Easter , Hosiepark , Kellas and Kirkton of Tealing .

The remainder of Angus will be updated in 2000/2001 and thereafter the records will be kept up to date as alterations to the Street Lighting infrastructure occur.

Issuing Maintenance works via. Hilight.

All Street Lighting maintenance works were issued to Tayside Contracts via. Hilight from August 1999. This resulted in a total of 4078 Faults being issued to the value of approximately £104,000.

Lighting Column Numbering

Significant progress has been made on the fixing of unique numbers to Lighting columns. Monifieth has been completely numbered and work has started in Carnoustie , Forfar , Kirriemuir and some of the small Burghs throughout Angus.

This exercise will be completed in 2000.

Testing and Inspection - Electricity at Works Regulations.

Testing and Inspection of lighting units is progressing. Inspections will be completed in 2000.

ROADS MAINTENANCE

Footway Reconstruction

Eighteen footway reconstruction projects were completed to the value of £324,000 utilising both Revenue Budget and the Repair & Renewal Fund.

Structural Maintenance

The Structural Maintenance Programme for 1999/2000 was completed on target and within budget including six Carriageway Overlay schemes costing a total of £200,000

Pavement Management System

Two Pavement Management Systems are currently under review. Further investigations are required prior to a decision being taken including approaching potential partner authorities.

Unadopted Roads Working Party

The Unadopted Roads Group are continuing to identify areas of road/paths which require treatment and considering how funding can be sourced for this purpose.

TRAFFIC

Road Safety

A comprehensive Road Safety Plan was published and reported to Committee in January, 2000. A review of accidents occurring at pedestrian crossings, traffic signals and A Class and B Class road junctions was undertaken. The requirement to carry out a Road Safety Audit on schemes was included in the procedural guides as part of the Quality Management System.

Traffic Management Engineering Programmes

A traffic calming scheme was carried out at Grant Road, Arbroath. Various new village gateways were provided. Mini roundabouts were provided at A92/Newhame Road, Montrose and at A92/Brechin Road, Arbroath.

Safer Routes to Schools

A comprehensive report on School Crossing Patrols was approved in March. A report was also approved on the pilot studies at Arbroath High School and Grange Primary School and improvement measures implemented at these schools.

Traffic Arrangements for The Open Golf Championship

Traffic arrangements for this major sporting event ensured the smooth and uneventful passage of spectators to and from the event. Indeed, the highly acclaimed success of the arrangements has been offered up as a reason for the event to return to Carnoustie, a significant shift from the position of doubt which surrounded this particular issue prior to the event.

Improvements to Road Network Infrastructure

Junction improvements were carried out at A92/Rossie and Wards Road/Drumachlie Loan, Brechin.

Signing

New signing was provided to all the car parks and further improvements were made to the signing on the A92 National Tourist Route.

Traffic Orders

Various orders were progressed in connection with the Abbey Arch in Arbroath, the High Streets in Montrose and Arbroath, and speed limits were introduced on the A92 Dundee-Arbroath road. Part of Myre Road, Forfar became one way.

Traffic Signals

New signal controls were provided at the junctions on A92, Burnside Drive, Arbroath, and new signals were provided at the A92/Coronation Avenue junction in Montrose. A new puffin crossing was provided at Academy Street, Forfar. The crossings at Cairnie Street, Arbroath and at Monifieth High Street were renewed.

Angus Partnership

Montrose High Street was completed. Schemes were completed at Arbroath High Street, Upper High Street, Arbroath and Kirk Square, Arbroath. Feasibility studies continue in Forfar Town Centre, Monifieth High Street and the Sea Front at Monifieth.

Cycling

The Sustrans National Cycle Route and the North Sea Cycle Route were signed throughout Angus.

Obstruction to Footpaths

A leaflet entitled "Safer Footways For All" was published to highlight the difficulties caused by obstructions on footways. This leaflet has been well received locally and the department has received requests from other authorities for permission to reproduce it outwith Angus.

'Safer Footways For All' received a commendation from the Scottish Accident Prevention Council.