

ANGUS COUNCIL**ROADS COMMITTEE****30 APRIL 1998****PIARC WORLD WINTER ROAD CONGRESS****LULEA, SWEDEN - 16 - 19TH MARCH 1998****REPORT BY THE DIRECTOR OF ROADS****ABSTRACT**

This report gives a brief overview of the proceedings of the PIARC World Winter Road Congress (full details of which are available) and comments on the continued benefits to Angus Council being afforded by active participation in the workings of the World Road Association.

1 RECOMMENDATIONS

It is recommended that the Committee:

- (i) note the success of the Xth PIARC International Winter Road Congress;
- (ii) note that a set of the Conference Volumes have been made available in the Members Lounge for reference purposes;
- (iii) note the continuing benefits to Angus Council arising from Membership of the World Road Association.

2 INTRODUCTION

At its Committee on 29 January 1998 it was agreed that the Convener of Roads and the Director of Roads (or appropriate delegates) attend the Xth PIARC International Winter Road Congress in Lulea, Sweden between March 16 - 19th 1998.

3 DETAILS

- (i) The conference was attended by some 950 - 1000 delegates from all over the world.
- (ii) The conference addressed the following key areas of winter maintenance service provision:
 - Service for the Winter Road User
 - Interaction between People and Vehicles
 - Maintenance, information and other support systems for Winter Road Management
 - Winter Maintenance Policies : Strategy
 - Ice and Snow Control Methods
 - Winter Maintenance Policy : Organisation
 - Special Winter Road Problems in Urban Areas
- (iii) Throughout the sessions active presentations and question/answer times were provided via instantaneous translation in Swedish, French and English.
- (iv) Contacts have been made at both Elected Member and Officer level. The Director has also received follow-up communication from the Swedish Road and Transport Research Institution since the conference on a number of areas which might be of relevance to Angus.

4 **FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

There are no financial implications arising from this Report.

5 **CONSULTATION**

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

6 **CONCLUSIONS**

Clearly the participation by Angus Council in this international event (held every 4 years) has allowed the Council to be kept fully up to date of all the ongoing world-wide developments and information technology advances in the provision of winter maintenance services.

International contacts have been made/maintained and such information/technology transfer will be to the benefit of Angus in the management and maintenance of winter emergency operations both now and in developing policy and operational arrangements into the future.

Dr Bob McLellan
DIRECTOR OF ROADS

NOTE

No background papers as defined by Section 50D of the Local Government (Scotland) Act 1973 (other than any containing confidential or exempt information) were relied on to any material extent in preparing the above Report.

