

ANGUS COUNCIL

PLANNING AND TRANSPORT POLICY COMMITTEE

23 NOVEMBER 1999

SUBJECT: ANGUS PATHS FOR ALL NETWORKS - FEASIBILITY STUDY UPDATE

REPORT BY DIRECTOR OF PLANNING AND TRANSPORT

Abstract: This report updates members on the Angus Paths for All Feasibility Study.

1 RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended that the Committee note the content of this report and ask the Director of Planning and Transport to report progress to the Planning and Transport Committee of 27 January 2000.

2 INTRODUCTION

2.1 Members will recall that the Paths for All - Feasibility Study: Stage 1 (Forfar) was completed earlier this year. The Committee of 8 June 1999 authorised the letting of Stage 2 (six Burghs). This report updates members of progress to date.

3 STAGE 1 (FORFAR)

3.1 The Stage 1 (Forfar) Feasibility Study was carried out by Halcrow Fox earlier this year. The Planning and Transport Committee of 26 August 1999 agreed to the Paths for All Partnership letting a survey/specification contract to cover part of Forfar at no cost to Angus Council (Report No. 813/99 refers). This contract is currently being undertaken and is likely to be completed later this year. It is anticipated that the results of this study will be reported to the Planning and Transport Committee of 27 January 2000 along with details of a funding package for consideration by Committee.

4 STAGE 2 (SIX BURGHS)

4.1 This contract is nearing completion and copy of a draft final report is available in the Members' Lounge.

4.2 It should be noted that the proposals for Montrose are incomplete with the draft yet to be finalised. It had been hoped the three Community Councils in and around Montrose would provide a useful means of involving members of the public who use paths locally, but in Montrose the consultants have found this approach unsuccessful, despite the involvement of Community Councils in the other Burghs being successful. Following an encouraging response to a news release the consultants are now in a position to progress matters for Montrose. Details of the proposals will be reported to Committee in January 2000, together with an evaluation of the consultant's report.

5 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

- 5.1 There are no financial implications incumbent on the Council as a result of this report.
- 5.2 It is however, anticipated that the studies could lead to a rolling programme of works. Partnership funding for these works has not yet been secured but will be sought and reported to Committee for consideration in due course. The scale of the eventual programme will be determined by the level of partnership and revenue funding able to be secured. Should funding be available and the Council agree to implement the works, it is likely to be programmed over a number of years but even if finance is not initially available, the survey information will remain valid and useful (in rights-of-way enquiries for instance) for a considerable period of time, perhaps until funds are made available.

6 CONSULTATION

- 6.1 The Chief Executive, Director of Finance, Director of Law and Administration, Director of Recreation Services and the Director of Roads have been consulted in the preparation of this report.

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.

AA/SJR/SP
16 November 1999

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Director of Planning and Transport