ANGUS COUNCIL

INFRASTRUCTURE SERVICES COMMITTEE

4 MARCH 2004

ANGUS COUNCIL ROAD SAFETY PLAN

REPORT BY THE DIRECTOR OF ROADS

ABSTRACT
This report seeks approval for the preparation of the next Angus Council Road Safety Plan and sets casualty reduction targets for the year 2010.

1 RECOMMENDATIONS

1.1 It is recommended that the Committee agree:-

(i) that transport consultants Colin Buchanan and Partners be appointed to prepare the Council's next Road Safety Plan;

(ii) to note that the appointment is subject to exemption from normal contract arrangements as permitted by Financial Regulations 16.1.3b(ii) and (iii);

(iii) that the Council formally adopt the national casualty reduction targets for 2010 set by the Government.

2 DETAILS

2.1 In January 2000 the Council published "A Road Safety Action Plan for Angus" which set out the Council's action plan for road accident casualty reduction by the year 2010.

2.2 In March 2000 the Government published the document "Tomorrows Roads - Safer for Everyone" which set out the Government's road safety strategy and casualty reduction targets for 2010. The Government's casualty reduction targets are as follows:-

- a 40% reduction in the number of people killed or seriously injured in road accidents.
- a 50% reduction in the number of children killed or seriously injured.
- a 10% reduction in the “slight” casualty rate, expressed as the number of people slightly injured per 100 million vehicle kilometres.

These targets are for the year 2010, compared with the average for 1994-98.

2.3 It is proposed that the next Council Road Safety Plan adopt these national targets set by Government.
2.4 The Council's first Road Safety Action Plan was prepared in conjunction with David McGuigan and Associates who were a small consultancy firm specialising in traffic and road safety work. Mr McGuigan is now an Associate Director of Colin Buchanan and Partners who are a major UK wide consultancy firm. An approach has been made to Colin Buchanan and Partners and Mr McGuigan has submitted a proposal for the preparation of the next Angus Council Road Safety Plan with himself taking the lead role in this. The estimated cost of this work is £9640 inclusive of expenses.

The sum quoted is considered to represent very good value for money. Given the consultant’s previous involvement in preparing the Council’s first Road Safety Action Plan and therefore prior knowledge of the issues and priorities in Angus, it is very unlikely that another consultant, without this previous background, could offer a more advantageous cost/quality proposal.

2.5 Section 16.1.3.b(ii) of the Council's Financial Regulations allows a contract for services of a specialist nature to be exempt from the normal tender procedures. Exemption is also permitted in Section 16.1.3b(iii) where the services required are the subject of a long standing agreement which proves advantageous to the Council and which, therefore merits exemption. The quotation received is less than the financial limit of £10,000 in Appendix 1 of the Financial Regulations for Consultancy Services priced on a Schedule of Rates/Menu Pricing.

2.6 Given the benefits of having Mr McGuigan work on an update of the previous Road Safety Plan for Angus it is proposed that Colin Buchanan and Partners be awarded the contract to assist in the preparation of the next Angus Council Road safety Plan.

2.7 It is intended that the final production of the new document would be carried out by the Council's own Print and Design Unit.

3 LINKS WITH CORPORATE PRIORITIES

3.1 The Road Safety Plan is an essential element of the overall strategy for road accident reduction. As such it plays a major part in delivering the Council’s objectives for Healthy, Safe and Caring Communities in Angus Council’s Corporate Plan 2003-2007, and the Angus Community Planning Partnership’s priorities for Health Improvement and Community Safety.

4 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

4.1 The estimated all inclusive cost of the consultancy work involved in producing the next Road Safety Plan is £9640.

4.2 The cost of producing the document itself is likely to be in the region of £4000 depending on the numbers of copies printed, colours used etc.

4.3 These costs will be contained within the Roads Department's Revenue Budget for Road Safety for 2004/05.
5 HUMAN RIGHTS IMPLICATIONS

5.1 There are no human rights implications arising from the proposals in this report.

6 CONSULTATION

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

Ronnie McNeil
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.

NJ/JSG
28 January 2004
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