ABSTRACT
This report asks the Committee for authorisation to proceed with various junction improvement schemes which have previously been authorised for further investigation.

1 RECOMMENDATIONS
1.1 It is recommended that the Committee agree:-

(i) to the implementation of the various junction improvement schemes previously authorised for further investigation;

(ii) to authorise the Director of Property Services to proceed with negotiations for the acquisition of the land necessary for the improvements as detailed below;

(iii) to authorise the Director of Law and Administration to acquire the necessary land in due course.

2 INTRODUCTION
2.1 Reports No 1016/02 and 1409/02 approved by the Roads Committee on 29 August 2002 and 28 November 2002 respectively, listed a number of junction improvement schemes to be investigated. These investigations have now been completed.

3 DETAILS
3.1 The following are the various junction improvement schemes identified in Reports No 1016/02 and 1409/02 previously authorised for investigation. Plans showing the individual junctions are attached (Appendix A) and a key plan showing locations has been placed in the Members Lounge and displayed in the Committee room.

3.1.1 B961/C4 at Drumsturdy Road

3.1.1.1 After site investigation it is proposed to relocate approximately 62m of existing boundary wall and replace an approximately 5m length of existing post and wire fence with new. Land is required to ensure the visibility splay is preserved.

3.1.1.2 The estimated cost of this scheme is £ 13,500.
3.2 **A933/U495 at Muirheads**

3.2.1 After site investigation it is proposed to reduce the height of the verge to improve the visibility to the south of the junction and to relocate the existing post and wire fence line. The fence line to the north of the junction will also be relocated to improve visibility. Land is required to ensure the visibility splay is preserved.

3.2.2 The estimated cost of this scheme is £4,200.

3.3 **A932/U468 at Guthrie**

3.3.1 After site investigation it is proposed to relocate approximately 26m of boundary wall to provide improved visibility to the east of the junction. Land is required to ensure the visibility splay is preserved.

3.3.2 The estimated cost of this scheme is £8,000.

3.4 **B9134/U368 at Carseburn**

3.4.1 After site investigation it is proposed to relocate approximately 80m of post and wire fence and to re-form the verge to provide improved visibility to the east of the junction. Land is required to ensure the visibility splay is preserved.

3.4.2 The estimated cost of this scheme is £7,000.

3.5 **U459/U460 at Auchterforfar**

3.5.1 After site investigation it is proposed to remove approximately 80m of boundary wall, re-form the verge and erect approximately 75m of new post and wire fence to provide improved visibility to the south of the junction. Land is required to ensure the visibility splay is preserved.

3.5.2 The estimated cost of this scheme is £15,200.

3.6 **B9128/C53 at Idvies**

3.6.1 After site investigation it is proposed to relocate 40m of existing post and wire fence line to the north of the junction and sections of boundary wall to the north and south of the junction to provide improved visibility to either side of the junction. Land is required on either side of the junction to ensure the visibility splays are preserved.

3.6.2 The estimated cost of this scheme is £19,300.
3.7 **C31/U400 at Memus**

3.7.1 After site investigation it is proposed to reduce the height of the existing verge to provide improved visibility to the north of the junction. The work can be contained within the existing road boundary, eliminating the requirement for land acquisition. A similar improvement was carried out on the south side of this junction approximately 10 years previously.

3.7.2 The estimated cost of this scheme is £1,000.

3.8 **C29/U399 at East Bog**

3.8.1 After site investigation it is proposed to replace approximately 10m of existing boundary wall with 10m of post and wire fence, improving forward visibility on the C29. Land is required to ensure the visibility splay is preserved.

3.8.2 The estimated cost of this scheme is £4,000.

3.9 **B961/C50 at Knockhill**

3.9.1 After site investigation it is proposed to relocate approximately 10m of existing boundary wall to provide an improved visibility splay to the north of the junction. Land is required to ensure the visibility splay is preserved. Existing BT plant will require relocation as part of the improvement.

3.9.2 The estimated cost is £9,700.

3.10 **C6/U314 Junction at Murroes Primary School**

3.10.1 After site investigation it is proposed to reduce the height of the verge to improve the visibility to the north of the junction. These works can be carried out within the public road boundary, therefore no land acquisition is required.

3.10.2 The estimated cost of this scheme is £5,500.

4 **FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

4.1 The estimated total works and engineering costs for the junction improvements listed above is £87,400. Whilst individual land costs may vary, it is estimated that the collective land costs will be in the region of £8,000. There is currently provision of £77,000 within the Roads and Transport Renewal and Repairs Fund for these junction improvements (Report No 311/03 to the Roads Committee of 6 March 2003 refers). The programme of work will be restricted to this value and schemes will be prioritised from the ones detailed above dependent on when land becomes available. Actual costs (which may be more or less than the estimated costs) will be monitored as the work progresses and any shortfall in the overall funding required will be the subject of a further report to this Committee.
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, the Director of Property Services and the Chief Constable have been consulted in the preparation of this Report.

7 CONCLUSION

7.1 The junction improvement schemes listed in section 3 are all existing junctions with sub-standard visibility. Implementing the proposed improvements will greatly reduce potential accident risks to road users.

R W McNeil
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:-


CH/JSG
4 December 2003
RFREPORTS/vis.imps.jan.04