

ANGUS COUNCIL

RESOURCES & CENTRAL SERVICES COMMITTEE

2 DECEMBER 2004

ROYAL SOCIETY FOR THE PREVENTION OF ACCIDENTS HEALTH AND SAFETY AWARD

REPORT BY CHIEF EXECUTIVE

ABSTRACT

This report advises the committee that the council has won a Royal Society for the Prevention of Accidents (RoSPA) Occupational Health and Safety award in recognition of its health and safety performance.

1. RECOMMENDATION

The Committee note that the council has won a RoSPA Health and Safety award in recognition of its health and safety performance during 2003.

2. BACKGROUND

RoSPA operates an annual award scheme to recognise organisations' commitment to health and safety. RoSPA describes the awards as being aimed at organisations which 'wish to prove to themselves and others that they take health and safety seriously.... and that they are willing to play their part in raising health and safety standards right across the board, by working hard to improve their own performance.'

To achieve the award the council was required to submit evidence of good safety management systems and to demonstrate a consistently good and continuously improving accident/injury performance.

The council's submission therefore included information on the following areas:

- Accident records
- Arrangements for ensuring safe working by contractors and sub-contractors
- The commitment of top management to leading health and safety management
- The involvement of the workforce and their representatives in the management of health and safety
- The provision of appropriate health and safety training
- Arrangements for the effective communication of health and safety information

A theme of the awards is that responsibility for health and safety is jointly held by managers and employees. Consequently, and as a requirement of the award scheme, the council's submission was jointly signed by the Chief Executive and a senior representative of the council's trade unions.

RoSPA achievement awards are awarded at bronze, silver and gold level. As this was the council's first involvement with these awards it was decided to make a submission for the bronze award with a view to moving towards the gold award in future years. It was felt that this approach would provide an incentive to encourage the continuous improvement of health and safety management systems. Following consideration of its submission by an adjudication panel it was unanimously agreed that the council met the required criteria and that it had, accordingly, won a bronze award.

The council has now received certification to confirm that outcome.

3. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

The entry and administrative costs associated with achieving these awards were met from the council's health and safety budget. There are no other financial implications associated with the achievement of this award.

4. HUMAN RIGHTS IMPLICATIONS

There are no human rights implications associated with this report.

5. CONSULTATION

The Director of Finance and Director of Law & Administration have been consulted on the terms of this report.

A B Watson
Chief Executive

HR/PerServMan

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.