

ANGUS COUNCIL

RESOURCES & CENTRAL SERVICES COMMITTEE

1 SEPTEMBER 2005

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 Silver Award in recognition of its health and safety performance.

1. RECOMMENDATION

The Committee note that the council has won a RoSPA Health and Safety Silver Award in recognition of its health and safety performance during 2004.

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. The council first submitted itself for these awards last year. It was decided at that time 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. The council achieved the Bronze Award last year and this year, following consideration of its submission by an adjudication panel, it was unanimously agreed that the council met the required criteria for the Silver Award.

The council has now received certification to confirm that outcome, and will, during the current year, work towards achievement of the Gold Award.

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

D S Sawers
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.