

ANGUS COUNCIL

INFRASTRUCTURE SERVICES COMMITTEE – 13 OCTOBER 2009

PROGRAMME OF PATH WORKS

REPORT BY DIRECTOR OF INFRASTRUCTURE SERVICES

**ABSTRACT: This report seeks the Committee's authority to undertake a programme of path works comprising bridge installations and path improvement works in Monifieth, Craigmill Den (Carnoustie) and the Cateran Trail Link between Glen Isla and Glen Prosen.**

**1. RECOMMENDATION**

It is recommended that the Committee:-

1. agrees to proceed with signposting the Monifieth Path Network and associated path network leaflet at an estimated cost of £10,000;
2. agrees to proceed with path improvements and construction of a new bridge at Craigmill Den, Carnoustie at an estimated cost of £47,000;
3. agrees to proceed with a footbridge linking the Cateran Trail in Glen Isla with Glen Prosen at an estimated cost of £20,000;
4. authorises the Head of Roads to proceed with the procurement of the works;
5. authorises the Head of Law & Administration to enter into legal agreements with the relevant landowners.

**2. BACKGROUND**

- 2.1 A key element of the Angus Countryside Access Strategy is the establishment of path networks around each of the burghs. As part of developing a Monifieth path network, the Committee approved path works in The Dighty in October 2008 (report No. 986/08). These works have been completed and a Monifieth Path Network can now be established by signposting routes and producing a Monifieth Path Network leaflet, similar to existing path networks for Forfar, Arbroath, Brechin and Kirriemuir.
- 2.2 In Carnoustie, the path through the Craigmill Den provides a circular route leading to Panbride. This path can be accessed from the recently completed Carnoustie to East Haven footway/cycleway and will be an important link in the emerging Carnoustie path network. The path is however in a poor condition and is in need of upgrading over its full length.
- 2.3 The existing footbridge at Craigmill Den was inspected by a Structures Engineer in July 2009 and was found to be in need of a significant amount of work to bring it up to standard as abutments require repair, decking boards need replaced and the structure requires strengthening.
- 2.4 During the Eastern Cairngorm Access Project (ECAP) an important link was identified between the Cateran Trail (long distance walking route) in Glen Isla and Glen Prosen. A clearly defined path exists and is signposted/waymarked for part of its length. A bridge is however required to allow access users to cross the Glen Damff Burn as there is currently no bridge at this location.

### 3. PROPOSALS

- 3.1 In Monifieth the proposal is to establish a burgh path network by signposting routes around the town, promoting the routes with a Monifieth Path Network leaflet and organising maintenance on the paths to keep them clear from vegetation and maintained to a suitable standard.
- 3.2 The signposts will be similar to those in place in other burghs, i.e. wooden finger posts with green insets or metal signs near roadsides. The signposts south of the railway will be branded as the Angus Coastal Path.
- 3.3 At the Craigmill Den, near Carnoustie, the proposal is to upgrade an existing path to provide a circular route. The proposed chippy dust path would be 1.8m wide and 750m in length. The path would narrow to 1.20m wide where there are space constraints. The estimate includes a geo-textile layer below the path to prevent butterbur penetrating and breaking up the surface in the future.
- 3.4 The existing footbridge could be repaired but this would require significant work and be an ongoing maintenance burden. It is therefore proposed to install a new bridge which would provide an all abilities route. Although this would involve additional capital expenditure, it would result in a longer term reduction in maintenance costs. These works would be subject to a legal agreement with the landowner at Craigmill Den who has agreed in principle to the proposed works.
- 3.5 A new footbridge is proposed at Glen Damff. The bridge will be of timber/metal construction and have a 7–10m span. A short length of footpath is proposed to link with the new bridge. The contract would be awarded on a design and build basis. These works would be subject to a legal agreement with the landowner who has agreed in principle to the proposed works.

### 4. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

#### Capital Costs

- 4.1 The estimated total cost of these projects, including in-house fees is £77,000 as shown below.

Monifieth Signage and Promotional Leaflet	£10,000
Craigmill Den Path Works and Bridge	£47,000
Cateran Trail Link Bridge	£20,000
TOTAL	<u>£77,000</u>

- 4.2 This expenditure can be met from unallocated resources within Paths for All Initiatives within the Planning & Transport 2009/10 Capital Budget.

#### Revenue Costs

- 4.3 The Craigmill Den path is currently maintained by Neighbourhood Services who will continue to maintain the path and will accept responsibility for the new bridge once the works have been completed.
- 4.4 The cost of maintaining the fingerpost signage in Monifieth and the new bridge at Glen Damff will be minimal and will be met from the Planning & Transport Division's revenue budget in future years.

### 5. HUMAN RIGHTS IMPLICATIONS

- 5.1 There are no human rights implications arising from this report.

### 6. EQUALITIES IMPLICATIONS

- 6.1 The issues dealt with in this Report have been the subject of consideration from an equalities perspective (as required by legislation). An [equalities impact assessment](#) is not required.

## **7. SINGLE OUTCOME AGREEMENT**

7.1 This report contributes to the following local outcome contained within the Single Outcome Agreement for Angus.

- The health of the Angus population is improved.
- Children and young people in Angus are active with opportunities and encouragement to participate in play and recreation, including sport.
- The importance and benefits to society of the environment is recognised.

## **8. CONSULTATION**

8.1 The Chief Executive, Director of Corporate Services, Director of Neighbourhood Services, Head of Law & Administration and Head of Finance have been consulted during the preparation of this report.

## **9. CONCLUSION**

9.1 The proposed works will help form path networks for the benefit of residents and visitors to Monifieth and Carnoustie and will improve walking opportunities in the Angus Glens.

**ERIC S LOWSON  
DIRECTOR OF INFRASTRUCTURE SERVICES**

**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 a material extent in preparing the above report.

**P&T/GWC/KvE/IAL  
18 September 2009**