

ANGUS COUNCIL

ROADS COMMITTEE

8 MARCH 2001

ROADS DEPARTMENT – PROGRESS ON SERVICE PLAN 2000/2001

REPORT BY THE DIRECTOR OF ROADS

ABSTRACT

This report gives a brief overview of the progress made on the Roads Department's Service Plan for the 2000/2001 financial year.

1 RECOMMENDATIONS

It is recommended that the Committee agree:

- i) to note the significant progress made towards achieving the objectives stated in the 2000/2001 Service Plan as detailed in Appendix A of this report;
- ii) to note that the Service Plan for 2001/2002 will be submitted for Committee approval early in the new financial year;
- iii) to note the important part the Service Plan continues to play in demonstrating compliance with the Best Value process.

2 DETAILS

- i) The Department's previous Service Plans were widely distributed including copies to all members of staff ensuring that they had to hand a document which laid out the aspirations of both the Council and the Roads Department whilst promoting ownership and encouraging positive contributions for future Service Plans.
- ii) Copies of the Roads Department Service Plan 2000/2001 were previously placed in the Members' lounge for reference.
- iii) The structure and layout of the 2001/02 Service Plan will be in keeping with that for the 2000/2001 document and will provide a clear summary of progress made towards previous objectives for the 2000/2001 financial year.

3 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

There are no financial implications directly associated with this Report.

4 **HUMAN RIGHTS IMPLICATIONS**

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

5 **CONSULTATION**

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

Dr Bob McLellan
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:-

Report No 670/98 – Roads Department Service Plan 1998/99 - Angus Council Roads Committee – 11 June 1998.

Report No 843/99 – Roads Department Service Plan 1999/2000 – Angus Council Roads Committee – 26 August 1999.

Report No 460/00 – Roads Department Service Plan 2000/2001 – Angus Council Roads Committee – 27 April 2000.

BMCL/JGS
REPORTS/service.plan.8 mar.01
22 March 2001

APPENDIX A**PROGRESS AGAINST 2000/2001 PRIORITY OBJECTIVES****ENGINEERING AND DESIGN****A92 Dundee to Arbroath – Proposed Dualling**

While the project has continued to make progress through the current financial year it is clear now that a Public Local Inquiry will require to be held (during April 2001) into the various Orders associated with the promotion of the project. This has been required since various of the statutory objectors have maintained their objections to the Orders and the Scottish Ministers have no alternative under these circumstances than to require an Inquiry to be held. Clearly the Inquiry of itself has required significant preparatory work to be undertaken by the various Council officers involved with the project.

Although negotiations have continued with the affected land owners and tenants in respect of compensation and accommodation works it has generally not been possible to finalise agreement prior to the Inquiry being held.

The pre-qualification of bidders for the project was conducted during the autumn of 2000 and a provisional short-list of tenderers was agreed by Roads Committee at their meeting on 23 November 2000. At the same time work is progressing on the preparation of the documentation for the contract issue, so that once the result of the Inquiry is known it will be possible to issue the tender documents immediately thereafter.

The Business Case is being continually updated as the project develops and it is currently anticipated that the updated business case will be forwarded to the Scottish Executive for the information of the Ministers in the summer of 2001.

A90 – Forfar Bypass Junction Improvements

This project continues to make progress. The draft Orders for the A94/A929 Glamis Junction and the A926 Kirriemuir Junction were published in March 2000. Following public exhibitions and further work on the specimen design and contract documents, the Prior Information Notice (PIN) was published in the Official Journal of the European Community (OJEC) in September 2000 for the Design and Construct Contract. The Restricted Procedure Notice was published in December 2000.

Pre-qualification submissions have been received and are currently being assessed with the Invitation to Tender proposed for April/May 2001. Work continues on the preparation of the Contract documentation.

Montrose Bridge

Further work by the Council's consulting engineers Carl Bro Group in May 2000 has confirmed the earlier prognosis that the bridge is unlikely to be economically maintainable after 2004/2005.

Inspection monitoring of the structure is now being undertaken on a quarterly basis and additional maintenance of the alkali silica reaction is ongoing.

The Stage 1 Commission by the Babbie Group was completed in June 2000 and the Stage 2 consultants Halcrow Crouch were appointed in November 2000. This commission has now commenced the consultation process needed for planning.

The multi-disciplinary team is continuing to meet and a Planning Supervisor and Designated Accountable Manager has been appointed.

Bridgeworks

The design and supervision of Mill of Inverarity Bridge has been completed within the allocated timescale.

Dunlappie Bridge has not been progressed to design completion following issues of funding and several reports to the Roads Committee.

Due to delays with dealings with Railtrack and Rail Property Ltd the assessment of private bridges in Angus is behind programme. A Report to Committee details the current position.

Environmental Improvements

Arbroath Town Centre Phase III was completed in December 2000 with substantial savings in the project budget. Some additional works were requested by SET at the end of the contract and these were undertaken in February 2001.

Funding for Montrose Closes was withdrawn by Planning and Transport, with the funding re-allocated to the Marquis of Montrose Statue improvements which has been tendered.

The Northwater Viaduct Cycle Track has been tendered but due to land issues has not yet commenced construction.

A90 South of Brechin Bypass

The lane rental contract was completed in July 2000 and within budget on behalf of the Scottish Executive.

Commissions for Property Services, Housing and Recreation Services

Various commissions have been undertaken and are ongoing for other services, including Forfar Academy and Paths for All.

Arbroath Harbour

Upgrading of the harbour slipway has been completed with European grant assistance, and the maintenance works have also been completed.

Coast Protection – Milton Mill, Monfieith

The scheme is on target to be promoted as a formal coast protection scheme by March 2001. Works are due to be carried out within the period May to September 2001.

Coast Protection – Carnoustie

Short term maintenance measures are continuing in an attempt to extend the life of the failing gabion section in the centre of the beach by 1 – 3 years.

Flood Prevention

Preliminary design to allow the formal promotion of a formal flood prevention scheme at River Street, Brechin will be approximately one to two months behind target. This will still allow the scheme to be built in line with the revised financial plan timetable of a start year 2002/03.

An initial investigation and survey has been carried out for the Tayock Burn flood prevention scheme and a complete strategy will be completed approximately six weeks behind the 2000/01 target of 1 March 2001.

TRAFFIC

Road Safety

Good progress has been made with the implementation of the Road Safety Plan with regular meetings taking place between all parties concerned. The Safer Routes to School initiative has progressed well with an additional £109,000 from the Scottish Executive. Cycle Audits have been carried out on the A92 and the A90 Forfar By-Pass junctions. The Young Driver Training (Pass Plus) has again been popular, and Angus Council

has joined with other authorities in a 20mph speed limit experiment outside schools. The expenditure level on Road Safety Measures has been maintained.

Traffic Management Engineering Programmes

A new footway was provided at the A92 adjacent to the development at Ethiebeaton, and in Victoria Street. Further village gateway signing was installed, and traffic calming is being introduced at Great Michael Road, Arbroath.

Improvements to Road Network Infrastructure.

A number of junction improvements are being investigated. Anti skid surfacing has been provided at various roundabouts and traffic signals, new vehicle barriers have been installed at two sites.

Signing

New brown tourist signing has been provided in Arbroath, and the signs to the car parks have been renewed.

Traffic Orders

A large number of orders have been progressed including waiting restrictions throughout Angus and School Keep Clear markings. Also various speed limits Orders have been progressed.

Taffic Signals

New traffic signals were provided at Abbey Path, Arbroath, and a new 'Puffin' crossing was provided at Dundee Road , Forfar. Refurbishment work was carried out at West Port, Forfar, East and West High Street pedestrian crossings in Forfar and at Brechin Bridge.

Angus Partnership

Work at High Street, Arbroath was completed. Work was ongoing in regard to Forfar Town Centre, Monifieth Sea Front, Brothock Bridge, Arbroath and in the vicinity of Arbroath Abbey.

Cycling

The Sustrans National Cycle Route was launched in June with a number of ceremonies along the route. Discussions were ongoing with regard to the link from Montrose northwards.

Local Transport Strategy

In conjunction with the Planning and Transport Department, this document was produced and submitted to the Scottish Executive. As part of this exercise a comprehensive Traffic Monitoring Programme was introduced in response to the Road Traffic Reduction Act.

MAINTENANCE

Footways

Twenty five footways schemes have been completed to date to the value of £498,700 utilising both Revenue Budget and the Roads and Transport Renewal and Repairs Fund.

Carriageway Overlays

Ten carriageway overlays have been completed to date to the value of £360,000 utilising the Roads and Transport Renewal and Repairs Fund.

Drainage

Twenty six road drainage schemes have been completed to date to the value of £304,000 utilising the Revenue Budget

Pavement Management System

Comparison of two pavement management systems is ongoing. Benchmarking with other Authorities using these systems is in progress and a decision on the most suitable system will be made shortly.

Unadopted Roads Working Party

The identification and costing of "unadopted" paths and areas is still ongoing. It is intended to bring forward a Committee Report at an early date.

STREET LIGHTING

Updating of records still ongoing with Brechin, Auchmithie, Balkeerie, Charleston, Checkiefield, Colliston, Craigo, Hosiepark and Inverkeilor now completed.

Issuing maintenance works via Hilight.

All street lighting maintenance works are now being issued to Tayside Contracts via Hilight with faults being raised by client and repairs details being input by contractor.

Lighting Column Numbering

The numbering of lighting columns is continuing with Forfar and Brechin completed along with 20% of the Villages.

Testing and Inspection – Electricity at Works Regulations

The cyclic testing and inspection of existing lighting units is progressing.