

**ANGUS COUNCIL**

**ROADS COMMITTEE**

**14 JUNE 2001**

**MONTROSE BRIDGE REPLACEMENT**  
**RENEWABLE ENERGY STUDY**

**REPORT BY THE DIRECTOR OF ROADS**

**ABSTRACT**

This report informs the Committee of the progress which has been made on the investigation into the feasibility of generating renewable energy from the tidal/river flow within the River South Esk in conjunction with the Montrose Bridge replacement.

**1 RECOMMENDATION**

It is recommended that the Committee agree to note the progress on the study into renewable energy proposals for the River South Esk.

**2 INTRODUCTION**

Committee members will be aware of the ongoing process to replace Montrose Bridge carrying the A92 over the River South Esk.

As part of this process the Roads Committee of 12 October 2000 agreed the appointment of Halcrow Crouch to undertake the Stage 2 Consultancy Commission (Report No 1163/00). The Committee will recall that this commission was extended to examine the feasibility of generating renewable energy from the tidal river flow within the South Esk in conjunction with the bridge replacement.

A budget allowance of £25,000 was made for this study.

**3 DETAILS**

Following the Roads Committee of 12 October 2000 Halcrow Crouch provided an estimate for carrying out preliminary studies as per the brief provided by the Director of Roads at a budget cost of £16,000. Further studies may be required depending on the outcome of these preliminary studies.

It is anticipated that this initial study will be completed by the end of June 2001.

It should be noted however that hydrological surveys undertaken by St Andrews University on behalf of Halcrow Crouch have indicated that the highest measured tidal flow is of the order of 4.5 knots which is lower than anticipated. The prospect of commercial/cost-effective generation of renewable energy in conjunction with the

replacement of Montrose Bridge is therefore less likely than otherwise might have been envisaged.

#### **4 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

To date the Director of Roads and the Director of Finance have been unable to identify any source of external funding for either further studies or renewable energy production equipment, but are actively continuing to pursue this issue.

There are therefore no new financial implications associated with this report.

#### **5 HUMAN RIGHTS IMPLICATIONS**

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

#### **6 CONSULTATION**

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

#### **7 CONCLUSION**

There has been good progress in the investigation into the feasibility of generating renewable energy from the tidal flow within the River South Esk in conjunction with Montrose Bridge replacement. The initial study is expected to be completed by the end of June 2001.

Dr Bob McLellan  
DIRECTOR OF ROADS

#### NOTE:

The following 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 this Report:-

Report No 1163/00 – Angus Council Roads Committee –12 October 2000 – Montrose Bridge Replacement Stage 2 Consultants – Tender Acceptance.

IAC/JSG  
10 May 2001  
REPORTS/mont.bridge.study