

ANGUS COUNCIL

ROADS COMMITTEE

14 JUNE 2001

ROADS DEPARTMENT – SERVICE PLAN 2001/2004

REPORT BY THE DIRECTOR OF ROADS

ABSTRACT

This report gives a brief overview of the contents of the Roads Department Service Plan for the 2001/2004 financial year which clearly identifies where the Department's key objectives link into Angus Council's Corporate Vision and Themes.

1 RECOMMENDATIONS

It is recommended that the Committee agree:

- i) to approve the Roads Department's Service Plan for the 2001/2004 financial year;
- ii) to note the significant contribution which the Service Plan makes in demonstrating the commitment of the Roads Department to the Best Value process;
- iii) to note the significant progress made towards achieving the objectives set in the Department's 2000/2001 Service Plan as detailed in Appendix A of this report.

2 DETAILS

- i) The Roads Department's previous Service Plans have been widely distributed with copies given to all members of staff. This ensured that the staff had to hand a document which laid out the aspirations of both the Council and the Roads Department, whilst promoting ownership of the document and encouraging positive contributions for future Service Plans.
- ii) Copies of the Roads Department Service Plan 2001/2004 have been placed in the Members' lounge for reference.
- iii) The structure and layout of the Service Plan is similar to the 2000/2001 document and complies with corporate guidelines. A clear summary of progress made towards the objectives set in the previous Plan is given and new objectives are set for 2001/2004.

The layout of the document is follows:

- Introductory Section
 - Context
 - Roads Service and Profiles
- Contribution to Corporate vision and themes
- Progress Against 2000/2001 Action Plan
 - Engineering and Design
 - Traffic
 - Lighting Maintenance
 - Roads Maintenance
- Priority Objectives 2001/2002
 - Engineering and Design
 - Traffic
 - Lighting Maintenance
 - Roads Maintenance
- Appendices
 - Roads Committee Remit and Directors Delegated Authority
 - Corporate Vision and Themes
 - Revenue Budget
 - Capital Budget
 - Utilisation of the Roads & Transport Renewal and Repair Fund
 - Organisational Structure
 - Draft Corporate Balanced Scorecard Framework
 - Draft Roads Department Balanced Scorecard Framework
 - Investors In People Action Plan Update
 - Performance, Management & Planning Improvement Template

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 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 460/00 – Roads Department Service Plan 2000/2001 - Angus Council Roads Committee – 27 April 2000.

Report No 335/01 – Roads Department Progress on Service Plan 1999/2000 – Angus Council Roads Committee – 8 March 2001.

GH/JSG
16 May 2001
REPORTS/serv.plan.update.june01

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

This project has continued to make real progress throughout 2000/2001, culminating in the Public Local Inquiry which was held from 18 -25 April 2001 into the various statutory orders associated with the promotion of the road. Much of the necessary accommodation works have been agreed with affected owners and tenants although the remainder are still to be resolved in the light of the outcome of the Public Local Inquiry.

The supplemental Notices of Intention to Develop (NIDs) have been published and the associated planning consents have been obtained without the need for referral to the Scottish Ministers.

The pre-qualification of prospective bidders for the contract has been undertaken and was considered by the Roads Committee at their meeting in November 2000. This will enable the Invitations to Tender to be issued as soon as the outcome of the Public Local Inquiry is known.

The preparation of the detail of the tender documentation is in progress and it will now be possible to finalise this in line with the timescale envisaged for the issue of the Invitations to Tender.

A90 – Forfar Bypass Junction Improvements

This project has continued to make good progress. The draft Orders for the A94/A929 Glamis Road Junction and the A926 Kirriemuir Road 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.

Some delay has occurred in the resolution of the objections to the Side Roads Orders but this has now been resolved.

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

Further to the award of the Contract in November/December 2001 commencement on site should follow in February 2002.

Montrose Bridge

Further work by the council's consulting engineers Carl Bro Group in May 2000 has confirmed the earlier prognosis that the bridge was 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 silicia reaction is ongoing. Design works for the repair of the bridge counterbalances is complete and tenders issued. The works are due to commence in May 2001.

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 is progressing with the consultation process needed for planning, and environmental consideration.

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

Bridgeworks

The design and supervision of the Mill of Inverarity Bridge has been completed within the allocated timescale. Emergency work was undertaken at Kingoldrum Bridge and further works will be required in 2001/2002.

Dunlappie Bridge has not been progressed to design completion following issues of funding and several reports to the Roads Committee. The scheme is now to be progressed as a "Bailey Bridge" structure and the planning process is underway with construction programmed to start in September 2001.

Due to delays by Railtrack and Rail Property Ltd the assessment of private bridges in Angus is behind programme. A Report to Committee details the current position. Inspections of the bridge stock have continued as required by the appropriate Codes of Practice.

Environmental Improvements

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

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

A90 South of Brechin Bypass

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

Commissions for Property Services, Housing and Recreation Services

Various commissions have been undertaken and are ongoing for other Departments, including Forfar Academy, Paths for All (Forfar), Brechin Recycling Centre and Marine Avenue Car Park, Montrose.

Arbroath Harbour

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

Coast Protection – Milton Mill, Monifieth

The Scheme is on target to be promoted as a formal coast protection scheme in 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 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 in place in line with the revised financial plan which schedules a start for 2002/03.

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

TRAFFIC

Road Safety

Good progress has been made in 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 and has received 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 an experimental 20mph speed limit trial 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 commercial 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 and 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. Various speed limit orders have also been progressed.

Traffic Signals

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

Angus Partnership

Work at High Street, Forfar was completed. Work is 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 successfully launched in June 2000 with a number of opening ceremonies held along the route. Discussions are ongoing to establish the link required from Montrose northwards via the Northwater Railway Viaduct.

Local Transport Strategy

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

STREET LIGHTING

Hydro-Electric Service Level Agreement

Analysis of Hydro-Electric's performance in relation to response times to repair street lighting faults was completed, following which Report 515/01 was submitted to the Roads Committee meeting of 26 April 2001.

Customer Satisfaction Survey

Responses to the first customer satisfaction survey utilising the ACCESS line facility were collated in 2000. The feedback received will be examined and service improvements introduced as appropriate. Surveys will continue periodically in future.

Lighting Column Numbering

The fixing of permanent reference numbers to lighting columns is ongoing with a target completion date of February 2002.

GIS Mapping System

Discussions are ongoing with "Datamap" to establish a GIS interface with the Hilight system. Support continues to be provided by the IT Department.

Electricity at Work Regulations

Electrical Testing and Visual Inspections have been accelerated and will continue to be monitored on an annual basis to ensure compliance with the Electricity at Work Regulations.

ROADS 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 Repair Fund.

Carriage Overlays

Ten carriageways have been completed to the value of £360,000 utilising the Roads and Transport Renewal and Repair 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 was made, following which Report No. 509/01 was submitted to the Roads Committee meeting of 26 April 2001 recommending the procurement of the preferred system (Confirm). This was approved.

Recycling

The promotion of recycling methods was continued with the use of a “retread” carriageway surfacing system in the Glens housing area in Montrose.