

**ANGUS COUNCIL**

**COMMUNITIES COMMITTEE – 3 MARCH 2015**

**LIGHTING PARTNERSHIP**

**REPORT BY THE HEAD OF TECHNICAL AND PROPERTY SERVICES**

**ABSTRACT**

The report seeks approval to continue the lighting partnership between Angus Council Communities Directorate and Tayside Contracts with the present agreement for a further five years.

**1. RECOMMENDATIONS**

1.1 It is recommended that the Committee:

- (i) agrees in principle to continue with the partnership;
- (ii) authorises the Head of Technical and Property Services in consultation with the Head of Legal and Democratic Services to extend the partnership agreement for a further five years on the basis described in the attached partnership agreement.

**2. ALIGNMENT TO THE ANGUS COMMUNITY PLAN/SINGLE OUTCOME AGREEMENT/COPORATE PLAN**

2.1 This report contributes to the following local outcomes contained within the Angus Community Plan and Single Outcome Agreement 2013-2016:

- Our communities are prosperous and fair
- Our communities are safe and strong
- Our communities are sustainable

**3. BACKGROUND**

3.1 The Infrastructure Services Committee at their meeting of 25 August 2009 approved the proposal to enter into a lighting partnership between Angus Council Infrastructure Department and Tayside Contracts for an initial trial period of two years (Report No 581/09). This commenced on the 1 April 2010.

3.2 At the meeting of 17 January 2012 the Infrastructure Services Committee approved the extension of the lighting partnership for a further three years (Report No 44/12). This commenced 1 April 2012 and a copy of the current partnership agreement is attached in **Appendix 1**.

**4. CURRENT POSITION**

4.1 It was anticipated that by combining the lighting operations into a single unit opportunities would arise to improve the efficiency of the lighting service by:

- Improved communications and awareness of the lighting team
- Reduced duplication both in terms of systems and resources
- Improved management and reporting
- Improved supervision and productivity

- Opportunity to devise new and improved working practices to make more effective and efficient use of resources

With the aim to:

- Reduce costs
- Achieve the required rate of return for Tayside Contracts
- Improve the effectiveness and efficiency of the street lighting services in Angus

- 4.2 Prior to September 2012 Angus Council lighting staff were based at The Mart, separate from the Tayside Contracts supervisory staff and work force, with the continuation of the partnership this allowed for the relocation of the staff out to Tayside Contracts depot at Kirriemuir Road. This has greatly improved communication between all partnership staff resulting in an improvement in the programming and planning of works due to more management control over priorities.
- 4.3 Although the initial years of the partnership provided some difficulties with the management of staff on a day to day basis this has improved greatly since the relocation of all employees to Kirriemuir Road. The move was instrumental in forming the team's identity and developing a more positive ethos. The staff now accepts the partnership manager as leader of day to day operations.
- 4.4 Although there was limited success in the early years the partnership is now showing steady progress towards achieving the desired aims and objectives with evidence of improved service delivery; reduced costs; and improved rates of return for Tayside Contracts.

## 5. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

- 5.1 There are no direct financial implications as a result of this report.
- 5.2 Continuation of the partnership provides the opportunity to balance service improvements with the drive to reduce costs and improve productivity. The potential to offer future cashable efficiency savings can be achieved with more effective and efficient use of resources

## 6. CONSULTATION

- 6,.1 The Chief Executive, Strategic Director of Resources, Head of Corporate Improvement & Finance, Head of Legal and Democratic Services and the Managing Director of Tayside Contracts were consulted in the preparation of this report.

**NOTE:** The background papers, as defined by Section 50D of the Local Government (Scotland) Act 1973 (other than any containing confidential or exempt information) which were relied on to any material extent in preparing the above report are:

Report No 581/09 - Lighting Partnership - 25 August 2009  
 Report No 44/12 - Lighting Partnership - 17 January 2012

## Appendix 1 Partnership Agreement

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