

ANGUS COUNCIL

COMMUNITIES COMMITTEE – 28 MAY 2019

ROADS ASSET MANAGEMENT PLAN UPDATE

REPORT BY DIRECTOR OF INFRASTRUCTURE

ABSTRACT

The Roads Asset Management Plan (RAMP) attached at **Appendix 1** has been produced to detail the Council's strategy for maintenance of the road asset and to inform future capital investment.

1. RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended that the Committee approves the Roads Asset Management Plan as outlined within the report.

2. ALIGNMENT TO THE ANGUS LOCAL OUTCOMES IMPROVEMENT PLAN/CORPORATE PLAN

2.1 This report contributes to the following local outcomes contained within the Angus Local Outcomes Improvement Plan and Locality Plans:

ECONOMY

- An inclusive and sustainable economy
- A skilled and adaptable workforce
- Attractive employment opportunities

PLACE

- Safe, secure, vibrant and sustainable communities
- A reduced carbon footprint
- An enhanced, protected and enjoyed natural and built environment

3. BACKGROUND

3.1 The Roads (Scotland) Act 1984 states that a local roads authority shall manage and maintain all such roads in their area that are included in the list of public roads held by the authority. These are commonly referred to as "adopted roads" (including adopted footways).

3.2 Trunk Roads (such as the A90 in Angus) are the responsibility of the Scottish Ministers.

3.3 In discharging the duties in the above Act, it is good practice to determine a Roads Asset Management Plan (RAMP) to set out the Council's plans for the management of the Council's Roads Asset for the current 5 years. This RAMP has been produced in accordance with national guidance and recommended good practice developed through the Society of Chief Officers of Transportation in Scotland (SCOTS) Roads Asset Management Project.

4. CURRENT POSITION

4.1 The RAMP (see **Appendix 1**) has been written to provide an overview of the policy drivers and investment decisions that affect the provision and maintenance of road assets. The intention of a good RAMP is to consider and then determine options and report on status and outcome on a regular basis.

- 4.2 Roads Assets are defined as the carriageway, footway and verge of adopted roads; structures that support or provide support for the road, including bridges, culverts and retaining walls; drainage systems on roads; street lighting, traffic signals and other street furniture, such as traffic signs, bollards, and grit bins on the public road.
- 4.3 It has been projected that the population of Angus will have increased by the end of the RAMP period creating even greater demands on the road network and associated infrastructure. The RAMP also needs to allow for continuingly constrained funding levels when customer expectations of the levels of service are believed to be increasing. However, analysis of customer contacts indicates that in general the public have fewer complaints about the roads asset and this RAMP will seek to ensure that this trend continues.
- 4.4 For the Council, it is vitally important that the road infrastructure is maintained efficiently and effectively, ensuring that the best value possible from allocated budgets.
- 4.5 It is anticipated that asset management will be used to inform the budget setting process, target spending and help predict the impact that funding levels may have on the on-going condition of the asset.
- 4.6 Angus Council is responsible for a road network of 1,814 km with a Gross Replacement value of £1.4 billion (17/18) before the value of its associated infrastructure (street lighting, structures, and traffic management) is included. This makes the Roads network the Council's most valuable asset and the only one which is relied upon every day by every citizen and visitor alike.
- 4.7 The carriageway backlog figure is calculated as £49.707m.
- 4.8 The RAMP seeks to set out the priorities for the Council's roads assets, which includes:
- Focussing on the condition of the network within current available budgets;
 - Managing energy reduction by ensuring that energy costs are monitored and savings are made, wherever possible; and
 - Directing the available funding for structures to those schemes which are deemed the highest priority.

5. PROPOSALS

- 5.1 It is proposed that the RAMP is approved for the period up to 2024, which is the monitoring period.
- 5.2 Subject to approval by the Committee, the RAMP will be reviewed every 3 to 5 years, which will be reported to committee at that time.

6. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

- 6.1 No direct financial implications within this report. Financial requirements for roads asset maintenance will be addressed through the normal protocols and noted in the attached RAMP noting that under funding will result in priorities not being addressed.

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. 169/19: Road Inspection Strategy, Communities Committee 28 May 2019

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List of Appendices: Appendix 1 – Roads Asset Management Plan to 2024