



Economy, Residents, Communities and Governance Scrutiny Committee – Working Group

Scrutiny Observations to Cabinet on: 17.09.2019 Highways Asset Management Plan Winter Maintenance Plan

The Working Group of the Economy Residents, Communities and Governance Scrutiny Committee met on 10.07.2019 and considered the following documents:

- Highways Asset Management Plan
- Winter Maintenance Plan

The Working Group thank Shaun James (Senior Manager Highways Technical), Brent Campbell (Senior Manager Highways Operations), Alastair Knox (Network Manager), and Antony Roberts (Policy and Assets Manager) for attending scrutiny.

Highways Asset Management Plan

Scrutiny's Recommendation	Accept (plus Action and timescale)	Partially Accept (plus Rationale and Action and timescale)	Reject (plus Rationale)
1 That there needs to be an assurance that the ranking system for assessment has been tested;		<p>Partially Accept - The Well-Managed Highway Infrastructure Code of Practice made 36 recommendations that range from quite fundamental matters to more peripheral issues.</p> <p>Adoption of the recommendations is a matter for each Highway Authority based upon its legal interpretation, risks, needs and priorities.</p> <p>In order to inform Members of the HAMP, we felt it would be appropriate to indicatively 'score' ourselves against</p>	

		<p>these recommendations.</p> <p>We would accept however, that a criteria for Low / Medium / High would be useful, and have included more definition for the cabinet paper.</p>	
<p>2 That an action plan be prepared to respond to the recommendations of the ranking system for assessment;</p>		<p>Partially Accept - As above, the Code of Practice is not statutory, but a guidance document and adoption of the recommendations is on a needs / priority basis.</p> <p>We would accept however, that an indicative timeline / action plan would be useful and this will need to be developed going forward to address the recommendations.</p>	
<p>3 That a policy be developed in relation to Carbon Reduction;</p>		<p>Partially Accept, Recommendation 32 of the Code of Practice is <i>'The impact of Highway Infrastructure maintenance activities in terms of whole life carbon costs should be taken into account when determining appropriate interventions, materials and treatments.'</i></p> <p>As with all recommendations in the COP we would accept this as an aim. It will form part of the overall plan to all the recommendations with development determined on a needs and priority basis.</p>	

<p>4 That if the Cabinet support the using of the CSSW Hybrid Approach there needs to be a close monitoring of the impact on resources;</p>		<p>Partially Accept - Adopting a new approach will create change, and this will need to be monitored and managed with regard to outcomes and risk as well as resources.</p>	
<p>5 That the approach should be reviewed in accordance with the CSSW recommendation of 2 years with Members receiving an update on the approach in 12 months.</p>	<p>Accept - The HAMP will be formally reviewed in 2 years from its full implementation and an update can be provided in 12 months.</p> <p>This update will be provided to the Portfolio Holder to determine if further action is required.</p>		
<p>6 That Members be asked to provide feedback to the service following the implementation of the new approach to assist the ongoing monitoring of the approach.</p>	<p>Accept - Member interaction is important, and this will continue through the ongoing depot engagement sessions with the operational teams.</p>		

In accordance with Rule 7.27.2 the Cabinet is asked to provide a written response to the scrutiny report, including an action plan where appropriate, as soon as possible or at the latest within 2 months of the date of the Cabinet meeting i.e. by 17.11.2019

Members of the Economy, Residents, Communities and Governance Scrutiny Committee Working Group present on 10.07.2019:

County Councillors:

M Dorrance, J Gibson-Watt, G Jones, I McIntosh, D Jones-Poston.