

REPORT TO BUCHAN AREA COMMITTEE – 19 MARCH 2019

2019/2020 BRIDGEWORKS PROGRAMME (ROAD NETWORK)

1 Recommendations

The Committee is recommended to:

1.1 Approve the Buchan Area 2019/2020 Bridgeworks Programme (Road Network), as detailed in Appendix A to this report.

1.2 Note that approval for any Buchan Area based procurements of £50,000 or more will be sought within the Infrastructure Service 2019/2020 Procurement Plan.

2 Background / Discussion

2.1 Looking after bridge infrastructure in an efficient and effective manner is vital for a rural authority like Aberdeenshire. The Council continues to develop its bridge strategic asset management processes in accordance with the approved Road Asset Management Plan and with ongoing development work by the Society of Chief Officers for Transportation in Scotland (SCOTS).

2.2 Aberdeenshire Council's road network is carried by 1,566 bridges. The estimated gross replacement value for these bridges, using the SCOTS standard appraisal method, is approximately £430 Million. The number of council owned road network bridges in each council area and split into 3 size groupings is as follows;

Bridge Span Length	Banff & Buchan No.	Buchan No.	Formartine No.	Garioch No.	Kincardine & Mearns No.	Marr No.
Large (15 metres and over)	7	19	18	11	25	47
Medium (5 to 14.9 metres)	52	40	60	58	96	117
Small (1.5-4.9 metres)	131	157	179	121	153	275
TOTAL	190	216	257	190	274	439

- 2.3 Prioritisation of bridge works within the 2019/2020 available budget has been undertaken on an Aberdeenshire wide basis, which takes account of road network criticality, bridge size, individual bridge maintenance condition and remaining structural load carrying capacity. Essential safety critical repairs for all bridge sizes and class of road are allocated the highest priority followed by necessary major refurbishment, strengthening and replacement of larger bridges on the busier A and B class roads or C class and Unclassified roads which provide sole vehicle access to communities and businesses.
- 2.4 The scheme estimates for the priority work identified for 2019/2020 are given under the main list section of Appendix A to this report. Any revenue works less than £15,000 on an individual bridge have been amalgamated under the General Reactive Repairs Line in Appendix A.
- 2.5 The reserve schemes section of Appendix A comprises the next 4 highest council wide priority capital schemes and the next single council wide, over £15,000, priority revenue scheme, which could be brought forward from 2020/2021 should additional capital or revenue funding become available, or if any main list schemes are delayed due to unforeseen circumstances.
- 2.6 Bridge works contained within the promoted programme will be carried out using both in-house construction resources and external contractors employed through the appropriate procurement process.
- 2.7 The purpose of this report is for committee to agree the works programme. This report does not give Infrastructure Services the authority to incur expenditure on goods, works and services of £50,000 or more. The approval to incur expenditure on good, works and services will be sought in the Infrastructure Service Annual Procurement Work Plan, with area specific expenditure approved by Area Committee and cross area expenditure approved by Infrastructure Services Committee.
- 2.8 The Head of Finance and the Monitoring Officer within Business Services have been consulted in the preparation of this report and they are satisfied that the report complies with the Scheme of Governance and relevant legislation.

3 Scheme of Governance

- 3.1 The Committee is able to consider and take a decision on this item in terms of Sections B.1.1, B.6.1 and B.6.2 of the List of Committee Powers in Part 2A of the Scheme of Governance as they are being asked to determine a matter that is specific to their area and they are prioritising revenue expenditure estimates and commenting on capital projects on matters that are in the area and impact the area.

4 Implications and Risk

- 4.1 An equality impact assessment is not required because there is no differential impact on any of the protected characteristics.
- 4.2 There are no staffing implications.
- 4.3 The Council's 2019/2020 Revenue Budget for Roads, Landscape and Waste Service includes an allocation of £640,000 for essential bridge repairs, routine cyclic bridge maintenance and repairs to bridges from vehicle collisions, for which the cost is deemed to be unrecoverable.
- 4.4 The Council's Capital Budget for 2019 to 2032, as approved by Full Council on 14th February 2019, includes an allocation of £1,750,000 in 2019/2020 for refurbishment, renewal, strengthening, enhancement and future protection of Aberdeenshire's Road Network bridges.
- 4.5 There are no specific corporate or service strategic level risks which have been separately identified with respect to the asset management of Aberdeenshire Council's bridges stock (Road Network).

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