

Members' Library Service Request Form

Date of Document	14/03/13
Originator	Head Of Infrastructure
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Document Title	SCOT/CSSW Asset Mangement Project Agreement 2013-17

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Additional information:

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REPORT TO: Members' Library Service

MEETING DATE:

BY: Executive Director (Services for Communities)

SUBJECT: SCOTS/CSSW Asset Management Project
Agreement 2013-2017

1 PURPOSE

- 1.1 To provide Cabinet with background information in support of East Lothian Council's involvement in a joint SCOTS (Society of Chief Officers of Transportation in Scotland) and CSSW (County Surveyors Society, Wales) project and continuing the agreement for a common asset management framework to further develop road asset management plans (RAMP) in conjunction with all 32 local authorities in Scotland and, since 2012, Wales.

2 RECOMMENDATIONS

- 2.1 That Cabinet support East Lothian Council's involvement with the SCOTS/CSSW Asset Management Project for the period 2013 to 2017 and note the use of the Council Seal under Section 194 (2) of the Local Government (Scotland) Act, 1973; when the Agreement with all the other participating Local Authorities is signed by a proper officer on behalf of East Lothian Council.

3 BACKGROUND

- 3.1 Audit Scotland in their November 2004 report "Monitoring Scotland's Roads" recommended that Councils should develop road maintenance plans in the context of their transportation and asset management strategies.
- 3.2 The whole process of developing asset management plans that relate expenditure to community and stakeholder aspiration and level of service with available budgets, strategic aims and objectives linked to road condition information is an important step in demonstrating that the

available funding has been put to prudent use. It is delivering on the Best Value agenda as set out in the Local Government (Scotland) Act, 2003, and the challenging demands of the Scottish Government to improve efficiency. The process also allows a local roads authority to develop performance information, from strategic information through to service specific data for comparison with like authorities.

- 3.3 In 2008 SCOTS considered Councils would wish to benefit from the advantages that a common framework approach for the development of asset management plans based on a single asset management protocol would deliver in relation to improving the local road network throughout Scotland, as expected by the Scottish Parliament and in early 2008 following the signing of the first Agreement procured and appointed a consultant to take forward the asset management framework leading to developed asset management plans in consultation with the appropriate officials in each Council in Scotland. Glasgow City was the Lead Authority.
- 3.4 The initial Road Asset Management Plan (RAMP) for the East Lothian Council road network was approved by the PPRC in June 2012. The next update report is due to be considered by PPRC at the June 2013 meeting.
- 3.5 More work remains to be done, however, and the SCOTS steering group established links with the County Surveyor's Society (Wales) via the common support consultant. Both groups are at a similar stage of development and both are in a position to renew the respective asset management support contracts. There is therefore a real opportunity to further develop and align the two projects to achieve best value from a joint, collaborative Asset Management Project.
- 3.6 The project would run for 3 years with the option to extend a further year with SCOTS administering the project under Scots law, lead authority will be Glasgow City Council.

4 POLICY IMPLICATIONS

- 4.1 None

5 EQUALITIES IMPACT ASSESSMENT

- 5.1 This report is not applicable to the wellbeing of equalities groups and Equalities Impact Assessment is not required.

6 RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS

- 6.1 Financial – During the first year of the next project a financial commitment of up to £9,000 per council has been estimated by SCOTS, which can be made available from the Transportation - Road Network Revenue budget.
- 6.2 Personnel – Road Network Staff time /resources required to continue with further developing the RAMP for the East Lothian Road Network will be found from the existing staffing establishment.
- 6.3 Other – None

7 BACKGROUND

- 7.1 Members Library Report of February 2008 – Scottish Asset
- 7.2 Management Framework Agreement 2008-2011.

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