

MAINTAINING SCOTLAND'S ROADS

1. SUMMARY

Audit Scotland issued a national report towards the end of November 2004 entitled, "Maintaining Scotland's Roads". The report contained the findings of a recent study of the steps taken by the Scottish Executive and councils to monitor the condition of Scotland's road network and to manage structural maintenance. The national report did not have any implementation dates assigned to its 9 recommendations. The Head of Roads & Amenity Services prepared an action plan incorporating the reports recommendations and added a further 3 to reflect dependent issues. In December 2004, the Head of Service commenced reporting to the Strategic Policy Committee (SPC).

2. RECOMMENDATIONS

2.1 The contents of this report are noted and to be followed up by Internal Audit.

3. DETAILS

3.1 As at the 22nd of July 2005, of the 12 recommendations reported by the Head of Roads & Amenity Services to the SPC in December 2004 only 3 now remain to be implemented. Of these 2 have an implementation date of December 2005 with the remaining one being March 2006. Management have reported to Internal Audit that implementation for these recommendations remains ongoing. See Appendix 1.

3.2 The Audit Committee on the 4th of March 2005 requested that the SPC be asked whether they were satisfied that the Council had the necessary resources to address the issues highlighted in the national report. A response was provided to the Audit Committee on the 3rd of June 2005. However, the Audit Committee decided to request that the SPC give further consideration to their initial questions. Attached in Appendix 2, is an extract from the SPC meeting of the 7th of July 2005, this advises the Audit Committee of the budget resource position and proposed action.

3.3 The Head of Roads & Amenity Services has informed Internal Audit that he will be preparing an update report for the SPC in December 2005. A copy will be made available to the Audit Committee.

4. CONCLUSIONS

Progress with the implementation of the reports recommendations will continue to be reported by Internal Audit.

5. IMPLICATIONS

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| 5.1 | Policy: | None |
| 5.2 | Financial: | None |
| 5.3 | Personnel: | None |

5.4 Legal: None

5.5 Equal Opportunities: None

For further information please contact Ian Nisbet, Internal Audit Manager (01546 604216)

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