

MAINTAINING SCOTLAND'S ROADS

1. SUMMARY

Audit Scotland issued a national report towards the end of November 2004 entitled, "Maintaining Scotland's Roads". The national report did not have any implementation dates assigned to its 9 recommendations. In response the Head of Roads & Amenity Services prepared an action plan incorporating the reports recommendations and added a further 3 to reflect dependent issues. All 12 recommendations were then assigned an implementation date. The Head of Service commenced reporting to the Audit Committee and Strategic Policy Committee (SPC) in December 2004. Set out below is the updated position.

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 31st of October 2005, of the 12 recommendations reported by the Head of Roads & Amenity Services to the SPC in December 2004, only 2 now remain to be implemented. Of these, one has an implementation date of December 2005 and the other March 2006. Management have reported to Internal Audit that implementation for both recommendations remains ongoing. See Appendix 1.

3.2 The Audit Committee was informed at the last meeting that the Head of Roads & Amenity Services would shortly be preparing a report update for the SPC on progress made; this is provided in Appendix 2. The update report details the results of the 2004 – 2005 Scottish Roads Maintenance Condition Survey (SRMCS) together with an Action Plan for 2006.

3.3 The report states that the Scottish Executive has recognised that road maintenance is under funded and from the financial year 2006 – 2007 an additional £60 million has been awarded to Scotland's Councils through additional GAE contribution.

4. CONCLUSIONS

Progress with the implementation of the report's 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)

Ian Nisbet

Internal Audit Manager 31 October 2005.

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