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Our Ref: JMcL/JRB/6022 **Your Ref:**
Date: 22 August 2006
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Dear Sir

EFFICIENT GOVERNMENT FUND BID – ROADS ASSET MANAGEMENT

I refer to your letter of 14 August regarding the SCOTS (Society of Chief Officers of Transportation in Scotland) led initiative, to submit an Efficient Government Fund Bid to jointly procure a common roads asset management framework for all 32 Scottish Local Authorities.

I note the comments made and the advantages that would be gained from having a common nationwide strategy. I recognise that supporting this initiative will meet the requirements of Audit Scotland's Report 'Maintaining Scotlands Roads', and also address some of the issues raised in the Local Government in Scotland Act 2003 which encourages Councils to develop Asset Management Plans.

A report on this matter was submitted to our Strategic Policy Committee on 15 June 2006, and was subsequently endorsed at the full Council on 28 June 2006. I acknowledge that officers within Roads & Amenity Services have received a full copy of the bid documentation, including indicative costs for this Council, and that we were also represented at the national meeting held on 18 August.

You requested a response to three specific issues in your letter.

- 1 Argyll & Bute Council supports the Bid in principle, and we wish to participate in this initiative.
- 2 Argyll & Bute Council confirms agreement that Glasgow City Council will act as the lead authority, which will have operational responsibility for the project, and the appropriate authority to act for, and on this authority's behalf in the Bid process.

APPENDIX 2

3 Having reviewed the various bid documents, I would confirm that this Council is in agreement with all aspects of its content.

I acknowledge that should this bid be successful, you will write again to inform me of the detailed cost implications of participation, and then request our formal agreement to enter into a multi -Local Authority Partnership to deliver a Roads Asset Management Plan Framework for Scotland.

I acknowledge that the bid process will be led by Ian Bruce and Christine Francis of Glasgow City Council, and any issues regarding the bid will be directed through them.

I consider this initiative to be very worthwhile, and I hope that it will be successful.

Yours faithfully

James McLellan
Chief Executive