
Report To:	Environment & Regeneration Committee	Date:	30 August 2018
Report By:	Corporate Director Environment, Regeneration & Resources	Report No:	ENV025/18/MM
Contact Officer:	Steven Walker	Contact No:	714828
Subject:	Scottish Roads Maintenance Condition Survey (Phase 4)		

1.0 PURPOSE

- 1.1 The purpose of this report is to advise the Committee on the proposal to enter into a collaborative procurement for Phase 4 of the Scottish Roads Maintenance Condition Survey (SRMCS).

2.0 SUMMARY

- 2.1 Under Section 10 of the Public Finance and Accountability (Scotland) Act 2000, Audit Scotland incorporated statutory performance indicators in respect of road condition. A Consortium of 32 Scottish Local Authorities agreed to determine the condition of the Scottish local public road network using a vehicular based survey system - the Scottish Road Maintenance Condition Survey (SRMCS).
- 2.2 The Councils have previously entered into an agreement for the purpose of regulating the basis on which they wish to co-operate and fund the Project, with Perth and Kinross Council the Lead Authority.
- 2.3 Phases 1 to 3 of the SRMCS have been carried out since 2006, with Phase 3 ending in 2018. It is proposed to continue the Project into Phase 4 of the SRMCS, and this will commence in 2019 for an initial period of 4 years, with a possible extension of 3 years subject to satisfactory performance.
- 2.4 The Lead Authority will carry out a procurement exercise on behalf of the Consortium.

3.0 RECOMMENDATIONS

- 3.1 That this Committee, in accordance with Order 12.0 - Framework And Non-Exempt Collaborative Agreements, of the Council's Standing Orders Relating to Procurement, give approval to enter into a collaborative contract for Inverclyde Council to participate in Phase 4 of the SRMCS for a period of 4 years, with a possible extension of a further 3 years, and at a cost of £5k per annum.

Martin McNab
Head of Environmental & Protection

4.0 BACKGROUND

- 4.1 Under Section 10 of the Public Finance and Accountability (Scotland) Act 2000, Audit Scotland incorporated statutory performance indicators in respect of road condition. A Consortium of 32 Scottish Local Authorities agreed to determine the condition of the Scottish local public road network using a vehicular based survey system - the Scottish Road Maintenance Condition Survey (SRMCS). The Councils have previously entered into an agreement for the purpose of regulating the basis on which they wish to co-operate and fund the Project, with Lead Authority, Perth and Kinross Council. The Lead Authority, and Consortium Steering Group, oversee the Project and determine the programme of Work, sanction any necessary expenditure to meet the aims of the Project within the approved budget, as defined in the Schedule, subject to increases triggered by the price fluctuation clause within the Survey Term Contract to take account of inflation and to advise the Lead Authority as appropriate. They also agree the appointment of any consultants and contractors.
- 4.2 Phases 1 to 3 of the SRMCS have been carried out since 2006, with Phase 3 ending in 2018. It is proposed to continue the Project into Phase 4 of the SRMCS, and this will commence in 2019 for an initial period of 4 years, with a possible extension of 3 years subject to satisfactory performance. The Lead Authority, and Consortium Steering Group, will carry out a procurement exercise on behalf of the Consortium.
- 4.3 It is estimated that Inverclyde's contribution to the SRMCS will be £5,000 per annum for Phase 4.
- 4.4 The SRMCS assist in the allocation of Roads capital and revenue budgets for the purpose of maintenance and this has led to the road condition improving over the last 5 years since RAMP investment commenced in 2013. Roads Officers have access to online mapping which categorises the roads network based on the SRMCS. All 32 Authorities are in the consortium and the data from the Condition Survey allows authorities to bench mark and share best practice through the APSE family groups. The Road Condition Indicators are reported on Inverclyde Performs.

5.0 PROPOSALS

- 5.1 That this Committee, in accordance with Order 12.0 - Framework And Non-Exempt Collaborative Agreements, of the Council's Standing Orders Relating to Procurement, give approval to enter into a collaborative contract for Inverclyde Council to participate in Phase 4 of the SRMCS for a period of 4 years, with a possible extension of a further 3 years, and at a cost of £5k per annum.

6.0 IMPLICATIONS

- 6.1 Finance:

This is an annual allocation as part of the Consortium to cover the costs of the surveys over an initial 4 year period with a possible extension for a further 3 years.

One-off costs:

Cost Centre	Budget Heading	Budget Years	Proposed spend this report (£000s)	Virement from	Other comments
N/A					

Annually recurring costs:

Cost Centre	Budget Heading	Budget Years	Proposed spend this report (£000s)	Virement from	Other comments
Roads	Revenue	2019/26	5 per annum		To be contained within existing budgets

Legal

6.2 There are no legal implications arising from this report.

Human Resources

6.3 There are no specific HR implications arising from this report.

Equalities

6.4 As this report does not involve a new policy or a new strategy, there are no equalities issues arising.

Repopulation

6.5 The quality of the roads network is an influencing factor in the perception which people have of the area and the work associated with this report will have a positive benefit to the Council's Repopulation Strategy.

7.0 CONSULTATIONS

7.1 The Chief Financial Officer, Head of Legal & Property Services, and the Corporate Procurement Manager have been consulted on the contents of this report.

8.0 LIST OF BACKGROUND PAPERS

8.1 None.