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<b>Report To:</b>	<b>Environment &amp; Regeneration Committee</b>	<b>Date:</b>	<b>29 October 2015</b>
<b>Report By:</b>	<b>Corporate Director Environment, Regeneration &amp; Resources</b>	<b>Report No:</b>	<b>ERC/ENV/IM/15.251</b>
<b>Contact Officer:</b>	<b>Graeme Blackie</b>	<b>Contact No:</b>	<b>4828</b>
<b>Subject:</b>	<b>Environmental Services (Roads) Renewal of Weather Forecast Partnership &amp; Provision of Weather Forecasting Service</b>		

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## **1.0 PURPOSE**

- 1.1 To seek approval to enter into a further Weather Forecast Partnership, with twelve other Councils, for the provision of a Weather Forecast Service Contract, for roads in the West of Scotland.

## **2.0 SUMMARY**

- 2.1 The current Weather Forecast Partnership ends on termination of the current Weather Forecasting Service Contract on 15 May 2016. The Weather Forecast Partnership requires to be renewed, along with procurement of a further Weather Forecasting Service Contract.

## **3.0 RECOMMENDATIONS**

- 3.1 That the Committee remit to the Head of Environmental & Commercial Services to enter into a new Weather Forecast Partnership with the twelve other West Of Scotland Councils, commencing October/November 2015, and for the provision of a Weather Forecast Service Contract, commencing 16 May 2016, for a 4 year period with the option to extend for a further 2 years.

**Ian Moffat**  
**Head of Environmental & Commercial Services**

## 4.0 BACKGROUND

- 4.1 On 27 October 2009, the Safe Sustainable Communities Committee approved Inverclyde Council entering into a Weather Forecast Partnership agreement with eleven other Councils for the provision of a Weather Forecast Service Contract for the West Of Scotland. The Partnership comprised Argyll & Bute, North Ayrshire, South Ayrshire, East Ayrshire, West Dunbartonshire, East Dunbartonshire, Inverclyde, Glasgow, East Renfrewshire, Renfrewshire and North Lanarkshire, along with South Lanarkshire as lead authority.
- 4.2 The Weather Forecast Service Contract was awarded to MeteoGroup and commenced 16 May 2010 for a period of 4 years. The terms of the contract permitted a two year extension and this option was taken up, and the contract expires on 15 May 2016.
- 4.3 The Weather Forecast Service Contract is an essential part of Councils' winter maintenance and other weather response policies and procedures.

## 5.0 PROPOSALS

- 5.1 Roads' Officers of the above twelve Councils, with the addition of Dumfries & Galloway Council, wish to participate in a new Partnership which would be known as the "Weather Forecast Partnership"; it is intended that the Weather Forecast Partnership commence October/November 2015, the actual date being subject to agreement of all participating Councils. There is a period of overlap of the existing Partnership with the proposed new Partnership, but that is provided for in the terms of the new Partnership agreement.
- 5.2 For the new Weather Forecast Service Contract, it is proposed to procure a 4 year term contract for the period 16 May 2016 to 15 May 2020, with the provision for a further 2 year extension to 15 May 2022.
- 5.3 It is intended that each member Council of the new Weather Forecast Partnership share the costs in establishing the Partnership, along with preparing the contract documentation for the new Service Contract, at a one-off cost of £1,000 per Council, along with recurring Partnership and Service Contract administration costs at £750 per annum per Council. The costs associated with the operation of the Weather Forecast Service Contract are specific to each Council, and for Inverclyde, amount to an estimated £19,000 per annum.

## 6.0 IMPLICATIONS

### 6.1 Financial Implications:

#### One off Costs

Cost Centre	Budget Heading	Budget Years	Proposed Spend this Report £000	Virement From	Other Comments
Revenue	Winter Maintenance	2015/16	1	-	Establishment of the Weather Forecast Partnership and procurement of the Weather Forecast Service

#### Annually Recurring Costs/ (Savings)

Cost Centre	Budget Heading	With Effect from	Annual Net Impact £000	Virement From	Other Comments
Revenue	Winter Maintenance	2016/17	20	-	Administration of Weather Forecast Partnership & Operation of Weather Forecast Service

## **Legal**

6.2 Legal Services have been consulted on the content of this report.

## **Human Resources**

6.3 No implications.

## **Equalities**

6.4 No implications.

## **Repopulation**

6.5 No implications.

## **7.0 CONSULTATIONS**

7.1 None.

## **8.0 LIST OF BACKGROUND PAPERS**

8.1 None.