
ARGYLL AND BUTE COUNCIL

**BUTE AND COWAL
AREA COMMITTEE**

**DEVELOPMENT AND
INFRASTRUCTURE SERVICES**

4 DECEMBER 2018

ROADS AND AMENITY SERVICES UPDATE

1.0 EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

- 1.1 This report/briefing note provides an update of operational matters in the Bute and Cowal area.
- 1.2 It is recommended that Members note the update.

ROADS AND AMENITY SERVICES UPDATE

2.0 INTRODUCTION

- 2.1 This report provides an update on operational matters in the Bute and Cowal area.

3.0 RECOMMENDATIONS

- 3.1 It is recommended that Members note the update.

4.0 DETAIL

Capital Programme – Roads Reconstruction

- 4.1 The original 2018/19 Capital Programme for the Bute and Cowal area is largely complete, works include:

Roads Capital (Surfacing , Structural Patching and Surface Dressing works) – Works are complete on all of the Routes listed below:

A844	Craigmore - Ascog Bridge
B881	Kingarth
U4	Ardmory
U6	Glenmore Road
B881	North of Kingarth
U5	Glecknabae Road
C1	Bruchaig
U29	Westlands Road
U23	Loch Fad Road
U26	Portavadie Road
A815	A83 JCT - Ardno JCT
C10	Brackley
B8000	North of Otter Ferry
A8003	Ormidale - Tighnabruich
A886	West Glendaruel Jct to South of the B836 Jct
C6	Carrick Castle Road

A815 Coylet to Alt na Blathaich - Edge Strengthening/ Carriageway Widening / Drainage (Works will be completed Feb 2019)

- 4.2 Additional funding has been secured through the Strategic Timber Transport Fund which has enabled additional works to be carried out that will benefit both the Council, as roads authority, the timber industry and the travelling public. The additional sites in the Bute and Cowal area are:

B8000 North of Otter Ferry Structural Patching +Overlay
A8003 Ormidale – Tighnabruich Edge Strengthening/ Overlay

LED Street Lighting Replacement

- 4.3 The LED lighting in Bute and Cowal is substantially complete. There remains a small number of old luminaire which are yet to be replaced. These tend to be columns that need some minor fabrication work to accommodate the new luminaire or columns that need to be replaced and will be replaced as part of the Column Replacement Programme which will commence early in the new calendar year. It is pleasing to report that the LED project has gone extremely well across the whole Argyll and Bute area and consequently, energy bills for lighting have been reduced significantly. The public largely seem to be content with the LED lighting which gives better colour definition and also reducing light pollution. 3549 Luminaires have been upgraded to LED in the Bute and Cowal Area. Some decorative Columns and Street Lamps have yet to be upgrading (Approx. 130 are being looked at considered for upgrade options). 38 Streetlights have as yet to be upgraded due to Recurring Faults / Cabling issues and of the 38 we require to replace 26 Columns in the area (works scheduled for yearly next year).

Winter Maintenance 2018/19

- 4.4 Across the Council area, there are 31 frontline vehicles ready for winter action, and two spare in case of breakdown. We have further seven vehicles which can be deployed if necessary along with a number of tractors and excavators which can all be used if required. We also have a network of local contractors who can be mobilised in emergencies, as happened earlier in the year when the 'Beast from the East' struck. More than 11,000 tonnes of salt will be stockpiled. The Policy for Winter will be considered at the Environment, Development and Infrastructure Committee on 6th December. The Policy is unchanged from 2017/18.

Roads and Amenity Service Redesign

- 4.5 From 3rd December, changes came in to place as part of the ongoing service redesign for Roads and Amenity. Essentially, the operations teams from the former Roads and Amenity have merged into a single

delivery unit. Area teams will be supported from a central control hub which will set programmes of work, allocate plant and equipment and enable the best use of the Council's limited resources for the delivery of roads and amenity activity. The Head of Service for Roads and Amenity will be attending January Business Days to provide further information and to discuss with Members how these new arrangements will make best use of the Council's resources.

Communications

- 4.6 Roads and Amenity Services have embarked on a Customer Care Project. This is aimed at providing better communications to both Elected Members and members of the public. A number of initiatives are being progressed including additional staff resource for dealing with correspondence, model answers etc. There will also be additional information provided on the website and from early in the New Year, we are planning on sending out newsletters to Elected Members detailing upcoming works.

5.0 CONCLUSION

- 5.1 This report provides an update on operational matters in the Bute and Cowal area.

6.0 IMPLICATIONS

- 6.1 Policy – none known
- 6.2 Financial – funded from existing budgets
- 6.3 Legal – none known
- 6.4 HR – none known
- 6.5 Equalities / Fairer Scotland Duty – none known
- 6.6 Risk – none known
- 6.7 Customer Service – none known

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December 2018

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