

ROADS ISSUES

1. SUMMARY

1.1 This report provides an update on outstanding roads-related issues in Mid Argyll, Kintyre & Islay.

2. RECOMMENDATIONS

2.1 It is recommended that Members note this report.

3. DETAIL

3.1 Capital Programme – 2011/12 (see Appendix B).

- Capital surfacing work is progressing well in Mid Argyll with completion of the last section of overlay on the A816 at Cairnbaan expected by mid July.
- Surfacing work in Kintyre is expected to commence in mid July, with completion programmed for mid August.
- Surfacing work on Islay is expected to commence following the completion of works on the mainland in mid August with completion programmed for late September.
- All surfacing work in Kintyre and Islay will be carried out under the Council's new partnership agreement with Breedon Aggregates (See press release in Appendix A).
- Surface dressing is now complete. All surface dressing work was carried out this year by our external contractor – Colas.

3.2 General revenue works –

- General safety-related works (drainage and permanent patching) is ongoing. Some scrub cutting is being carried out in Kintyre.
- Grass cutting – 1st cut nearing completion – should all be complete by mid July for all areas.
- The Patchmaster vehicle will commence work on Islay on Monday 18 July 2011.

3.3 Islay – Port Ellen to Ardbeg Road

- A public consultation is planned for the latter part of July to discuss options being proposed. A verbal update will be given at the Area Committee meeting following the public consultation.

3.4 Asset Management Strategy Report

- An Asset Strategy Plan is being prepared for all primary routes across Argyll. A report will be presented to members by the Head of Roads and Amenity Services at an Area Committee later in the year.

3.5 A83 Drumore / UC59 Machrihanish road surfacing works.

- Discussions regarding remedial works are ongoing with the contractor. A verbal update will be given at the Area Committee meeting.

3.6 Scottish Water Works in Campbeltown

- Campbeltown works are expected to be complete by late summer / early autumn.

- 4. Policy:** The road network will be maintained in line with the 'Road Maintenance & Asset Management Plan' as closely as the available roads maintenance budget will allow.
- 5. Financial:** Expenditure of revenue and capital budget to maintain the network.
- 6. Personnel:** Nil

For further information, please contact:

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APPENDIX A

BREEDON SIGNS PARTNERSHIP WITH ARGYLL & BUTE TO IMPROVE ROADS IN ISLAY, JURA, MULL & KINTYRE

Breedon Aggregates Scotland has signed a pioneering partnership agreement with Argyll & Bute Council to undertake road improvement programmes on Islay, Jura, Mull and Kintyre. The three-year partnership agreement, which has an option for a one-year extension, will cover a programme of road reconstruction, resurfacing, patching and markings as well as surface dressing and coated roadstone installation. The overall value of the contract is estimated to be over £7 million.

For the first year the programme of works has been prepared and designed by Argyll & Bute Council. In subsequent years, Breedon Aggregates will be responsible for the design and preparation of the programme.

Alan Mackenzie, chief executive of Breedon Aggregates Scotland, said: "This is great news for Breedon Aggregates Scotland and for the local authority, as this approach allows them to maximise their budgets at a time when funding is under pressure. We have a good working heritage in this area and the fact that this is a long-term deal and a partnership agreement is testament to our experience and ability to deliver good quality results."

Spokesperson for Transport and Infrastructure at Argyll and Bute Council, Councillor Duncan MacIntyre, said: "This partnership agreement will ultimately mean that we can ensure good maintenance of the routes in Islay, Jura, Mull and Kintyre over a long period of time at a competitive rate. It will make a real difference to the communities in these areas of Argyll and Bute. We are committed to improving the area's roads for local people, businesses and tourists. Breedon Aggregates have proved that they are able to deliver time and again. We are looking forward to working with them."

The contract commences this month.

APPENDIX B

