

## **APSE Scotland Roads & Street Lighting advisory group**

**25<sup>th</sup> January 2019**

### **Minutes from this meeting**

#### **1. Introduction and welcome**

The group's Chair Cllr Frank Anderson welcomed all to the latest meeting of the roads and street lighting advisory group. Frank thanked Tayside Contracts for continuing to host the groups meetings within their Inveralmond depot.

#### **2. Attendance and apologies**

See attached.

#### **3. Minutes of the previous meeting held on 26<sup>th</sup> October 2018**

The minutes were deemed to be a true and accurate record of the meeting.

#### **4. Matters arising**

There were no matters arising

#### **5. Commercialisation: Future Opportunities and Tips for Getting Started**

Iain Waddell, Managing Director of Tayside Contracts provided a presentation focused on commercialisation and evolving your business to meet with new demands and access new opportunities. Iain firstly provided some background to Tayside Contracts and why it was established as well as the involvement into other areas such as catering.

Iain, highlighted that within his presentation that collaboration was key and that working together helps to provide opportunities. He spoke about budgets and the impact of cuts on all council services. He posed a question to the room asking, are you using your budgets as effectively as you can?

Some key tips from Iain included:-

- Need to know what you're good at but also what you're not so good at
- Considering debt management is also important and within his own organisation is discussed and reviewed at every management meeting
- Everyone occasionally gets things wrong but its learning from this and understanding why in order that it doesn't happen in the future

Following the presentation there was questions from the floor including:-

- How do you think smaller authorities can move quickly to survive in the current climate? Working together is so important whether that's through partnerships or a joint committee etc. There are opportunities out there its just looking for them and taking the steps to benefit from them.

- How do Tayside Contracts terms and conditions differ from local authority? T&Cs don't differ greatly from local authorities especially as local authorities are and have been making changes to their own. Job evaluation in 2018 brought about some changes to these. All staff came from the old Tayside Region therefore all 3 sets of staff were on the same terms and conditions.

Iain also opened up the invitation for anyone to contact him and speak about the presentation in a bit more detail or find out more about some of the areas covered within it.

## **6. Review and Analysis of Performance Networks Outcomes for 2017/18**

Colin McInnes, APSE Associate provided the group with an overview of the main opportunities as part of the process benchmarking. As part of this Colin provided some headline stats Roads and Street Lighting. Colin noted that it wasn't all about the figures but also the processes which sit behind them.

There was a discussion around some of the potential processes which help all reach the figures produced within the PN reporting. Some of the areas discussed included enquiries and complaints procedures.

It was agreed that these stats and the processes would continue to be discussed at future meetings.

## **7. Measuring customer satisfaction for roads maintenance – survey progress update**

Dot Reid of Falkirk Council and SCOTS provided a short update on the customer satisfaction survey. It was highlighted that the survey was currently out at the moment for feedback and discussion.

## **8. Roads & Street Lighting Clinic**

This part of the meeting provided attendees with the opportunity to ask their colleagues about any issues or queries which they had from within their own authorities. Topics for discussion included:-

- Caravans, Trailers and Boats on public roads
- Prices for skips, scaffolding etc
- Salt domes

It was agreed that Louise would circulate the spreadsheet on pricing which West Lothian put together last year in order for it to be re-issued to the group and updates/ amends sent to APSE to enable a new spreadsheet to be collated for the next meeting of the group (29<sup>th</sup> March). It was agreed that this spreadsheet would be issued to all in attendance at the next meeting (hard copy) in order that a group discussion could be held on the information collected.

It was also agreed that Louise would re-issue the network query on salt domes to the group in order for any additional responses to be sent through.

## 9. APSE update

Louise Melville provided the group with an update on all of the recent work of the Association both in Scotland and UK wide. This included information on recent briefings and publications including information on the recently launched “Hollowed Out: The impact of financial localisation on neighbourhood services” and “The New Municipalism: Taking pack entrepreneurship”. Louise also provided the group with information on the various areas of advocacy APSE were involved in, including Party Political Conferences. With the latest (Scottish Labour conference) which was to be held in Dundee from the 8-10 March. APSE will have a stand and host a fringe which will be focused on “New Municipalism and Building Community Wealth”. Finally, Louise provided information on the other services provided by APSE which included an update on Performance Networks, Energy, Solutions and Training.

## 10. AOCB

There was no other competent business.

## 11. Date of the next meeting

The next meeting of the group will be held on Friday 29<sup>th</sup> March at Tayside Contracts training room in their Inveralmond depot in Perth.

## 12. Lunch

### Attendee List

<b>Name</b>	<b>Council</b>
Douglas Hill	Angus Council
Louise Melville	APSE
Colin McInnes	APSE Associate
David Dickson	City of Edinburgh Council
Sean Gilchrist	City of Edinburgh Council
Lisa Chiles	Dundee City Council
Mark Flynn	Dundee City Council
Steve Wilson	Dundee City Council
Eleni Gigourtaki	East Lothian Council
Ryan Robertson	East Lothian Council
Jane Corrie	East Renfrewshire Council
Dot Reid	Falkirk Council
Gordon Maclachlan	Falkirk Council
Sorin Panait	Falkirk Council
Bill Liddle	Fife Council
Mark Atherton	Moray Council
Stewart Walker	North Ayrshire Council

Cllr John Anderson	South Lanarkshire Council
Nicci Wallace	Stirling Council
Alex Laird	Stirling Council
Iain Waddell	Tayside Contracts
Kenneth Brown	West Lothian Council
Graeme Malcolm	West Lothian Council
Cllr Frank Anderson	West Lothian Council
Rob Jackson	Yotta

**Apologies**

Elizabeth Maciver	Highland Council