

## Scottish Roads & Street Lighting Advisory Group

### Tayside Contracts

24 January 2017

#### 1. Introduction and welcome

Louise Melville welcomed everyone to the meeting and thanked Tayside contracts for their continued support in hosting these advisory groups. Louise also confirmed that unfortunately, due to other commitments Cllr Paul O'Kane would be unable to attend today's meeting.

#### 2. Attendance and apologies

Please see attached.

#### 3. Minutes of previous meeting 25 November 2016

These were confirmed as a true and accurate account of the meeting.

#### 4. Matters arising from previous meeting

There were no matters arising from the last group meeting.

#### 5. Developments in Road Surface Maintenance

Dr Howard Robinson provided an overview on RSTA including the organisations they engage with and the involvement they have in the development of standards and guidance. Howard highlighted the importance of an Asset Manager being fully aware of what treatments are available. It was noted that there was a free tool on the TRL website which can be used to look at what the best options are for asset management.

Howard then went on to provide the group with information on a number of developments in terms of guidance and inspections. He talked in detail about each one, these included:-

- HD37 is currently being updated and will be published later this year
- New code of practice for ironwork and systems installations & refurbishments will be available by around April 2017
- Design guide for road surface dressing (Road Note 39) updated last year
- PD6689 is currently being updated. This is an important document for Roads departments, the new version will be available in the second half of the year
- New code of practice for signing should be published in March of this year
- European standards for slurry surfacing is being updated

It was also noted to attendees that Howard's full presentation would be made available on the APSE Scotland advisory group pages.

Following Howard's presentation there was a number of questions and discussions from the floor which included:-

- Practicalities of having a number of different techniques on our roads networks.
- Importance of selecting the treatments correctly to ensure this minimises problems in the future
- Big issue particularly in Scotland in terms of chippings. Difficulties around putting orders in allowing for plenty of time to carry out the treatments at the correct time.

## **6. Overview of inspection and defects categorisation national guide: update**

Dougie McKay began his presentation by providing the group background on the reasons for taking forward the national guide. As well as this he provided some information on the “Well Managed Infrastructure: Code of Practice” recommendations.

Dougie then took the group through the processes involved in working towards the national document and some of the main barriers which had been identified along the way, particularly in relation to gathering feedback. It was also noted that there would be an addendum document for risk assessment processes and this is something which will be progressed further over the coming months.

In the final part of the presentation Dougie took the group through the next stages of the guide.

As part of the questions/ discussions following the presentation Bill Lennox informed the group that Aberdeenshire Council had tried to prepare a document on what the different defects may be and confirmed he would be happy to share should it be helpful in relation to the guide.

## **7. SCOTS/ APSE Performance Networks update**

Raymond Smith provided an update on the work of SCOTS/ APSE Performance Networks, this included information on the recent review of the upcoming template and information on the Asset Management tender.

## **8. Discussion of issues affecting service delivery and network queries**

A number of discussions took place during this agenda item which included:-

- Shared services and collaborative working. It was noted that a meeting was being held the following week to look at where local authorities were going in terms of roads.
- Loss of skills within the services. With a number discussing how they were looking to try to overcome this.

## **9. Process benchmarking update**

Colin McInnes provided the group with a short update on the flooding project which had been ongoing. There had now been 11 responses received and Colin was now working on the findings report to share with the group.

Colin also asked the group to start thinking about future/ potential process benchmarking topics which they would like to see undertaken.

## **10. APSE Update & Review of Awards Pis**

Louise Melville provided an update to the group on the work of the association which included information on our briefings service and research. Louise provided the group with some information around the two most recent publications which were the “Neighbourhood services poll” completed by Survation on behalf of APSE. Findings included that the vast majority of the public want to see more of their taxes spent in the local area and it also suggested that the public would welcome localised infrastructure investment. This was discussed in more detail at the recent Performance Networks awards and the presentation from Survation will be available on the APSE website. Louise then went on to provide information on the advocacy taking place in Scotland and Nationally, with Louise highlighting that at next month’s Scottish Building, Housing and Renewables seminar in Dunblane there

would be an expert panel including Fiona Lees, Chief Executive of East Ayrshire Council and Chair of SOLACE and Gavin Stevenson, Chief Executive, Dumfries and Galloway Council which will be looking at the challenges facing local authorities. Gavin will also be providing a presentation on Commercialisation and again this presentation will be available on the APSE website. Other areas covered included the fringe event and exhibition stand which APSE Scotland will be hosting at the Scottish Labour Party Conference, having already attended and hosted similar at the Autumn SNP conference in Glasgow. Finally, Louise highlighted some of the work in the other areas of APSE including APSE Solutions, APSE Energy, Performance Networks and APSE Training.

Louise then went on to provide the group with information in relation to the current list of Awards PIs which are used for APSE's Performance Networks awards. As part of the discussion Louise confirmed that should anyone feel that the current list did not reflect the best PIs for use, they could provide potential alternatives from the PI list within the service areas and she would pass these to the Manchester office for consideration and discussion.

#### 11. AOCB & Future Agenda Items

There was no additional business tabled at the meeting.

#### 12. Date & venue of next meeting

This was confirmed as Friday 28<sup>th</sup> April to be held at Tayside Contracts

#### 13. Lunch

#### Attendance

Louise Melville	APSE
Stuart Young	Aberdeen City Council
Joe Smith	Aberdeen City Council
Bill Lennox	Aberdeenshire Council
Douglas Hill	Angus Council
Colin McInnes	APSE Associate
Alan Simpson	City of Edinburgh Council
Ken McKenzie	City of Edinburgh Council
Scott Walker	Clackmannanshire Council
Lisa Chiles	Dundee City Council
David McKenzie	East Dunbartonshire Council
Raymond Smith	Falkirk Council
Bill Liddle	Fife Council
Sandy Dall	Fife Council
Chris Burns	Glasgow City Council
Stuart McKay	Glasgow City Council
Cllr Stephen Dornan	Glasgow City Council
John MacLennan	Highland Council
Brenda McDonald	Inverclyde Council
Mark Rankine	Midlothian Council
Joe Gordon	Midlothian Council
Brian Welsh	Midlothian Council

Stewart Walker	North Ayrshire Council
Dr Howard Robinson	Roads Surface Treatments Assoc.
Kenny Snedden	Stirling Council
Iain Waddell	Tayside Contracts
Dougie McKay	Tayside Contracts
Ewan MacNaughton	Tayside Contracts

#### Apologies

Brian Strachan	Aberdeen City Council
Kevin McIntosh	Argyll & Bute Council
Iona Kerr	Argyll & Bute Council
George Davidson	Ayrshire Roads Alliance
Cllr Paul O'Kane	East Renfrewshire Council
Dot Reid	Falkirk Council
Derek Crowe	Fife Council
Bailie Dr Nina Baker	Glasgow City Council
Elizabeth McIver	Highland Council
Billy Johnstone	Orkney Islands Council
Donald Scott	Scottish Borders Council
Stewart Ormond	West Dunbartonshire Council