

**REPORT TO: PLANNING & TRANSPORT COMMITTEE - 14 APRIL 2008
HOUSING, DUNDEE CONTRACT SERVICES AND ENVIRONMENT
SERVICES COMMITTEE - 28 APRIL 2008**

REPORT ON: CAPITAL PLAN 2008-2011 - HOUSING FOOTPATHS REPAIRS

**REPORT BY: JOINT REPORT BY DIRECTOR OF PLANNING AND
TRANSPORTATION AND DIRECTOR OF HOUSING**

REPORT NO: 203-2008

1 PURPOSE OF REPORT

1.1 To update Committee on progress with the city wide project to improve the condition of Housing Footpaths through the implementation of various repair programmes, and to seek authority to carry out further programmes of footpath repairs over the period 2008-2011.

2 RECOMMENDATION

2.1 It is recommended that the Committee:-

a note the content of this report and agree the proposed prioritisation of Housing Areas to be targeted for footpath upgrading as described below.

b authorise the City Engineer to have this work undertaken under the Maintenance Partnership Agreement with Tayside Contracts.

3 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

3.1 The Head of Finance has confirmed that funding has been identified in the 2008-2011 Capital Plan to the amount of £205,000 in years 2008/09 to 2010/11.

4 BACKGROUND

4.1 Since 2003, a number of reports both to the Planning and Transport Committee and the Housing Committee have been submitted detailing the Housing footpath upgrading project through Quality of Life funding and providing updates on the progress of the works programmes.

4.2 The criteria for footpaths to be included in the repair programmes were established in a comprehensive condition assessment of all the Housing footpaths carried out at the start of the project. This categorised condition on a scale of 0-5, with 5 being the poorest condition and considered a public safety risk. Category 4 condition was taken to be below the minimum acceptable standard. The project was progressed by initially treating Category 5 footpaths in all Housing areas and then treating Category 4 footpaths, prioritised by Housing areas.

4.3 The most recent report to Committee, Report number 222-2006, detailed the footpath works that were to be undertaken in the period 2006-2008. These works have largely been completed except for those footpaths affected by housing demolition works or future planned redevelopments.

- 4.4 The result of this and previous years' programmes is that of the 33 housing areas that contain footpaths for which that department is responsible, 28 areas have had the poorest condition footpaths upgraded. All housing footpaths in these areas therefore meet the minimum standard as defined by the assessment process undertaken at the beginning of the project.
- 4.5 Since the project began in 2003, the expenditure to date is £1,210,000.
- 4.6 The total length of all of the housing footpaths is estimated at 112km and of this, approximately 42km was found from the assessment process to have condition ratings of Category 4 or 5. Of this 42km, approximately 22km, including all of the Category 5 footpaths have now received treatment.
- 4.7 The prioritisation methodology previously agreed by Committee for the project has had the effect of concentrating the remaining 20km of footpaths still to be treated in to a small number of housing areas.

These are:-

- a Area 38 - Strathmore Street, Broughty Ferry and Aberdour Place
- b Area 14 - St Marys, Brackens and West Kirkton
- c Area 27 - Longhagh, Mains of Fintry and Whitfield
- d Area 2 - Menzieshill
- e Area 28 - Linlathen/Mid Craigie, Happyhillock and Midmill

Some work has already been possible in Area 38 from within the previously available budgets and the current estimated out-turn costs to carry out the remaining repair works in these areas is £1,220,000.

- 4.8 It is recommended that the funds identified in the Capital Plan be utilised in works programmes over the next 3 years as follows:-

2008/09 - Completion of Area 38 and Area 14 the extent of the available budget.

2009/10 - Completion of Area 14 and Area 27 excluding Whitfield which is the subject of proposed major regeneration. Any residual from the budget to be used in Area 2.

2010/11 - Continuation of Area 2.

- 4.9 Completion of the project to upgrade all of the Housing footpaths to the previously agreed minimum standard will be subject to securing additional funding of £605,000 in future years. This will provide for the completion of Area 2 and Area 28.

5 POLICY IMPLICATIONS

- 5.1 This Report has been screened for any policy implications in respect of Sustainability, Strategic Environmental Assessment, Anti-Poverty, Equality Impact Assessment and Risk Management.

There are no major issues.

6 CONSULTATIONS

- 6.1 The Chief Executive, Depute Chief Executive (Support Services), Depute Chief Executive (Finance), Head of Finance and Assistant Chief Executive (Community Planning) have been consulted and are in agreement with the contents of this report.

7 BACKGROUND PAPERS

- 7.1 None.

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MPG/FW/BW/EH

31 March 2008

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