

AYRSHIRE SHARED SERVICE JOINT COMMITTEE

11 March 2022

Report by the Head of Roads - Ayrshire Roads Alliance

AYRSHIRE ROADS ALLIANCE SERVICE PLAN IMPROVEMENT ACTIONS

PURPOSE OF REPORT

1. The purpose of this Report is to advise the Joint Committee on the management of the Action Plan detailed in the 2021/22 service plan.

RECOMMENDATIONS

2. **It is recommended that the Joint Committee:**
 - i. **Notes the Service Plan Improvement Actions presented in this report;**
 - ii. **Continues to receive updates on progress; and**
 - iii. **Otherwise, notes the content of the report.**

BACKGROUND

3. The Service Plan Improvement Action Plan is a new report to be considered as a standing agenda item to the Joint Committee. The purpose of the report is to provide regular updates on the Improvement Action Plan detailed within the Service Plan. This will ensure that the actions are monitored and scrutinised at a minimum of a quarterly basis.

MAIN REPORT/MAIN ISSUES

This Improvement Action Plan is collated by the Strategic Business Support Manager and used to:

- monitor the progress in meeting the Ayrshire Roads Alliance's objectives;
- help managers to continually review the actions and progress to date; and
- identify any risk / problem areas that need addressed regarding the Improvement Action Plan.
- Provide regular updates to Head of Service at Senior Management Team Meetings.

POLICY/COMMUNITY PLAN IMPLICATIONS

4. A well maintained road network will contribute to achieving the Community Plan objectives in relation to Economy & Skills and Safer Communities to maintain good access to our communities within East Ayrshire.
5. The matters referred to in this report contribute to South Ayrshire Council strategic objective of 'Enhanced Environment through Social, Cultural and Economic Activities' and within that to the outcome 'Work with partners to improve roads and other infrastructure, to encourage house building and business investment that sustains local communities'.

LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

6. The Risk Register is a management tool and this will not replace the existing statutory returns for risk and performance related information.

HUMAN RESOURCES IMPLICATIONS

7. The Risk Register has no direct impact on human resources.

EQUALITY IMPACT IMPLICATIONS

8. The Risk Register complements the Equality Impact Assessment by ensuring that any issues arising are adequately prioritised, managed and either eliminated or mitigated.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

9. The Risk Register facilitates the existing scrutiny arrangements to manage, prioritise, and review the budget provided by East Ayrshire Council and South Ayrshire Council to the Ayrshire Roads Alliance.

RISK IMPLICATIONS

10. The Risk Register assists in the prioritisation of risks that need to be mitigated by the Ayrshire Roads Alliance in order to reduce the overall risk to either Council and to comply with the Community Plan/Council Plan in both partner bodies.

TRANSFORMATION STRATEGY

14. This Report aligns with the following design principle stated in the "Transformation Strategy 2017-2022".
 - "Maximum value for our communities", by ensuring the various elements of the Ayrshire Roads Alliance improves transport provision throughout East Ayrshire.

Kevin Braidwood
Head of Roads – Ayrshire Roads Alliance
28 February 2022

BACKGROUND PAPERS

None

LIST OF APPENDICES

1. Improvement Action Plan Update.

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AYRSHIRE ROADS ALLIANCE IMPROVEMENT ACTION PLAN - UPDATE : MARCH 2022

Action		Success Criteria/ Desired Outcome	Responsible	Timescale	Details	Progress to Date
1	Continue to use the integrated Roads Asset Management Plan across the Ayrshire Roads Alliance.	There is one Asset Plan for the Service delivering a risk based approach for full service delivery	Head of Service	December 2021	SCOTS RAMP3 Project. Development work is ongoing with staff attending various external workshops to progress this work.	
2	Continue to prepare details for developing an integrated Local Transport Strategy.	<p>A Strategy covering both Council areas, which will involve consultation with stakeholders. Information will be gathered to inform the future Local Transport Strategy.</p> <p>Continue to contribute to the Scottish National Transport Strategy, Regional Transport Strategy and Strategic Transport Projects Review work.</p>	Head of Service and Designated Officer -Kerr Chalmers	December 2021	<p>The National Transport Strategy work is developing; and responses from both East Ayrshire and South Ayrshire were submitted by the end of the consultation period.</p> <p>The Regional Transport Strategy, through SPT, has just commenced on which the Alliance has Board membership. The Local Strategy will be created as an appendix to the RTS when this is published in 2021</p>	<p>Due to Covid-19 the preparation of SPT's RTP has been delayed and is now scheduled to be published in Spring 2022.</p> <p>Work on the ARA LTS will commence later in 2022 on completion of the RTS and the EAC and SAC Active Travel Strategies</p>
3	Action the Flood Risk Management Plan	Complete schemes and undertake studies. Inform the next national cycle of potential flood risk management schemes beyond 2022.	Head of Service and Designated Officers-David McPherson and S Greig	September 2022	Continue with construction of new Cumnock Phase 2. Continue design work on the Irvine Valley Work. Continue with flood study works for the River Ayr, River Doon and in Girvan.	Flood study works completed and valid flood scheme identified and submitted for national prioritisation to the Scottish Government.

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					<p>East Ayrshire Council has appointed Wills Bros Civil Engineering Ltd. to undertake the New Cumnock Flood Protection Scheme - Phase 2 on a tender of £5,149,584.00. Works commenced in late April 2021 and the 18 month contract is due to complete in November 2022. The works have suffered some delay due to problems with concrete supply due to national material shortage issues and this delay will incur further cost.</p> <p>The Irvine Valley Flood Study is complete and presents options for flood protection measures totalling over £27m. EAC is seeking its inclusion in the Scottish Government's list of Cycle 2 flood protection schemes. It awaits 'prioritisation' by the Scottish Government and allocation of 80% Scottish Government Funding</p>

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					<p>before any detailed design work can begin. However, the Scottish Government and COSLA has currently paused all non-legally committed/Unconfirmed Flood Risk Management Schemes/Works whilst a review is undertaken of the affordability of both the Cycle 1 and proposed Cycle 2 flood protection schemes.</p> <p>Consultants have been appointed to undertake Flood Studies for both the River Ayr and River Doon and these studies should be complete by Summer 2022. They will include options for potential works along with budget costs.</p> <p>The flood study for Girvan is complete and highlights the need for flood protection measures estimated at £3m, It awaits 'prioritisation' and allocation of Scottish Government 80% funding.</p>

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						SAC will require to fund 20%.
4	Improve the condition of the road network.	Improve annual roads survey results which are part of the SRMCS work. Ensure the Alliance undertakes more proactive maintenance.	Head of Service. Designated Officer- David Shaw	Site works will be undertaken throughout 2021/22.	Key dependencies are the Road Improvement Plans to be approved by the relevant Committees in East Ayrshire and South Ayrshire in spring 2022.	Progress is provided to members, and relevant Committees with reports due to be submitted in early Spring.
5	Ensure the road network remains safe through raising awareness and improving road safety through education, engineering and enforcement.	Reduce road accidents in line with government targets. Provide appropriate traffic management schemes and initiatives.	Head of Service/Designated Officer- Kerr Chalmers	March 2022	Scottish Government and SCOTS guidance is used. A key dependency is the Road Improvement Plans which are presented to Cabinet and Leadership each year.	Road accidents on the network are continually reviewed and a road safety programme is prepared and implemented each year targeted at casualty reduction.
6	Improve the condition of the bridge stock.	Improve bridge condition index. Reduce the number of weight restricted bridges. Complete all general, special and principal bridge inspections.	Head of Service Designated Officer- Alan Ierland	March 2022	Through the Road Asset Management Plan. Key dependencies are Road Improvement programmes approved by Committees in East Ayrshire and South Ayrshire in spring 2021. Deliver the capital and revenue programmes.	The Capital and Revenue programmes of bridge works approved by respective Councils are being designed and implemented in both Council areas via in-house staff and consultants. These works will improve the condition of the bridge and its individual bridge

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						condition index which in turn contributes to the overall Bridge Stock Condition Score. However, continuing deterioration in other bridges identified via inspections will also contribute to lowering of the Bridge Stock Condition Score.
7	Manage and improve the street lighting asset and install energy efficient lighting schemes.	Maintain high standard of fixing dark street lights. Complete the LED lighting replacement programme in both East Ayrshire and South Ayrshire.	Head of Service/Designated Officer-Paul Symington	October 2021	Through the Road Asset Management Plan, with additional funding being provided to commence the LED programme. At present performance is 35% of streets lights are now LED in EAC; and 80% in SAC. On target for completion within timescales.	Proportion of LED Streetlighting in East and South Ayrshire is currently 68% and 98% respectively. Programme delayed owing to availability of contractors last year post lockdown.
8	Maximise and deliver externally funded sources of work	Identify external funding sources and deliver work on time and on budget. Improve infrastructure; and contribute to improving the condition of the network.	Head of Service	Works will be undertaken throughout the 2021/22.	External sources, including Timber Transport, Sustrans, SPT - Regional Transport Partnership, CWSS - Cycling Walking and Safer Streets.	ARA to deliver routes 1 & 2 of the KGIL, approximately £16 million over next 2 -3 years. Additional design/supporting information to be obtained

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						to support further bids for routes 3, 4 & 5
9	Implementation of Parking Strategy	Develop	Head of Service/Designated Officer-Barrie McDonnell	Works will be undertaken through 2021/22	Amendments to TRO's, lining, signing and residential parking permits	First Ayr parking consultation completed in September 21. Report submitted to portfolio holders for consideration but instruction is to hold in abeyance any further work until after May 22.
9	Prepare Service Plan	Publish	Head of Service	Annual	East Ayrshire Council Community Plan. South Ayrshire - Local Outcomes Improvement Plan and Local Place Plans. Draft Plan to be submitted to Joint Committee in December 2021.	
10	Continue to review insurance costs and insurance issues.	Review current practices to minimise insurance costs.	Head of Service	March 2022	Ayrshire Roads Alliance Monthly Insurance Report. There is good dialogue with the Risk & Insurance to ensure our work improves the number of repudiated claims. The number of claims has greatly reduced due to the implementation of the new Code of Practice.	

Action		Success Criteria/ Desired Outcome	Responsible	Timescale	Details	Progress to Date
11	Review Depots and Accommodation	Continue to review in 2021/22 from initial work was completed in 2017.	Head of Service/Designated Officer- Strategic Business Support Manager	March 2022	Joint Committee Reports of November 2016. Although initial work has been completed we continue to strive to make depot and accommodation cost savings.	
12	Review vehicle and plant costs	Continue to review in 2021/22 from initial work was completed in 2017.	Head of Service	March 2022	Joint Committee Reports of June 2016 The service continues to review fleet requirements with the most recent improvement being on the management of vehicle utilisation and	
13	Monitor and exercise Business Continuity Plans	Improved resilience. Incorporate fuel shortage scenario in this year's work.	Head of Service/Designated Officer- Strategic Business Support Manager	Review and update following relevant local and national events.	Existing East Ayrshire and South Ayrshire Council plans	Ongoing review and updating of the existing business continuity plan carrying out regular testing to ensure our plans are robust and resilient.
14	Continue to use the Roads Costing System to its full potential.	Improve service performance from both an on-site and financial perspective.	Head of Service/ Designated Officer- Strategic Business Support Manager	March 2022	Revised roads costing system was fully operational from November 2018.	Currently finalising the new specification of the mobile timesheet elect of the Roads Costing System which is due to go live Summer 2022

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					The system continues to be used to monitor performance.	
15	Support and contribute to the Ayrshire Growth Deal	Transport Summit has taken place and outcomes are included in the National Transport Strategy, Regional Transport Strategy and the Strategic Transport Projects Review.	Head of Service/Designated Officer David Manson	March 2022	The Transport Appraisal being led by Transport Scotland commenced in January 2019. We continue to engage with Transport Scotland to ensure the Ayrshire Growth Deal transportation work is included in Strategic Transport Projects Review work.	ARA have been instructed to carry out surface water drainage design for proposed phase 1 link road, Baseline Air and Noise assessments to be carried out to support design change from roundabout to traffic signals
16	Regional Transport Strategy	Successfully contribute to the preparation of this work being led by SPT. The Alliance has Board representation.	Head of Service /Designated officer -K Chalmers	March 2021	SPT documents and existing Regional Transport Strategy Work is on-going with the completion date for the RTS of early 2021.	ARA has continued to fee-in to the RTS preparation which is now scheduled to be published in spring 2022
17	Regional Transport Appraisal	Ensure the various projects identified as part of this work are included in the Strategic Transport Projects Review.	Head of Service / Designated Officer- K Chalmers	October 2021	Transport Scotland documents Work is on-going with the completion date for the STPR2 of October 2021.	The draft STPR2 was published on 20/01/22. ARA will submit a response to the draft document and report to Cabinet in March 2022.
18	National Transport Strategy	East Ayrshire and South Ayrshire Councils contribute to this process to ensure the sustainable	Head of Service / Designated Officer- K Chalmers	March 2022	In recognition of the anticipated increase in Active Travel work, it is proposed that a member of	This is being taken forward in conjunction with ARA service re-design

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		transport hierarchy and sustainable investment hierarchy are delivered.			staff is dedicated directly to this work.	
19	National Transport Strategy – review of Governance	East Ayrshire and South Ayrshire Councils contribute to this process to ensure that the outcome/output meets the needs of the road users/communities in both Council areas.	Head of Service /Designated Officer- K Chalmers	March 2021	National Transport Strategy	ARA aligns its priorities with the NTS and the NTS Delivery Plan 2020 to 2022 and will report to Joint committee/Cabinet and Partnership Panel.
20	Transport (Scotland) Bill -	East Ayrshire and South Ayrshire Councils contribute to this process to ensure the work provides the best outcome for road users in both Council areas.	Head of Service	Complete	Transport (Scotland) Bill received Royal Assent 15 November 2019.	
21	Transport (Scotland) Bill -	East Ayrshire and South Ayrshire Councils contribute to this process to ensure a pragmatic approach is taken in delivering the pavement parking ban in both Council areas.	Head of Service	March 2022	Transport (Scotland) Bill and Transport Scotland Parking Standards working group still awaiting guidance from Transport Scotland	ARA has actively participated in the 'Pavement Parking' working group. Final guidance anticipated in Spring 2022.
22	Levelling Up Fund	East Ayrshire and South Ayrshire Councils contribute to this process to ensure that the	Head of Service /Designated Officers- K	November 2021	Levelling Up Fund	LUF Active Travel – public consultation exercise from 5/2 – 4/3, concept design

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		Chalmers / D Manson/G Senior			<p>ongoing to support funding application. LUF A70 Route Improvement – Initial modelling complete, key intervention measures identified and streamlined public consultation planned for late February</p> <p>A75/A77 EIA – Key mitigation measures on A77 identified and Systra commissioned to model. Public/business survey planned for late February (D&G + MEA to provide key business list)</p> <p>Potential round 3 application projects to be identified and developed.</p>

East Ayrshire Council Strategic Priorities

Action		Success Criteria/ Desired Outcome	Responsible	Timescale	Details	Progress To Date
1	Progress and complete the New Cumnock Flood Protection Project	Complete the flood prevention projects at the Leggate and beside the Afton Water.	Head of Service/Designated Officers-Alerland / D McPherson	November 2022	East Ayrshire Council and Scottish Government funding. The Leggate stage of the works was completed in August 2018 with the Afton Water phase expected to commence May 2021 with an 18 month contract duration	On programme.
2	Develop Projects approved from the Flood Risk Management Plan	Progress relevant studies and inform the developing list of schemes for cycle two of the national protection schemes to be delivered from 2022.	Head of Service/Designated Officers-Alerland / D McPherson	September 2021	East Ayrshire Council and Scottish Government Funding. Continue with work on studies for the Irvine Valley, Dalrymple, Catrine and Dalmellington through the financial year.	Completed the studies – River Doon and Ayr Flood Studies will be completed in June / July 2022
3	Support and contribute to the Ayrshire Growth Deal	Stimulate economic growth and address inclusive growth concerns. Contribute to infrastructure projects which are being developed through the Regional Transport Appraisal work being led by Transport Scotland.	Head of Service	March 2022	The all Ayrshire Transport Appraisal being led by Transport Scotland commenced in January 2019. We will continue to engage with Transport Scotland to ensure the Ayrshire Growth Deal transportation work is included in Strategic Transport Projects Review work.	

Action		Success Criteria/ Desired Outcome	Responsible	Timescale	Details	Progress To Date
4	Transformation Strategy 2	Continue to provide a high quality roads service within decreasing available budgets. Includes service re-design work.	Head of Service	March 2022	East Ayrshire Council reports to various Committees. Work has commenced and will be complete by March 2022	Service re-design approved with realignment of posts, early retirement and revised structure ongoing.
5	Active Travel Strategy	Develop active strategy for travel across South Ayrshire Network	Head of Service/Designated Officers-K Chalmers / G Senior	October 2021	A full review of active travel provision in East Ayrshire is being undertaken at present and this will be presented to the relevant East Ayrshire Council Committee	
6	EV Strategy	Develop EV strategy for across East Ayrshire Network	Head of Service/Designated Officer Strategic Transport Manager	October 2021	A full review of EV provision in East Ayrshire is being undertaken at present and this will be presented to the relevant East Ayrshire Council Committee	

South Ayrshire Council Strategic Priorities

Action		Success Criteria/ Desired Outcome	Responsible	Timescale	Details	Progress To Date
1	Implementation of car parking strategy for South Ayrshire.	Complete this work with improved parking provision and management.	Head of Service/Designated Officer-B McDonnell	Complete	A full review of car parking provision in South Ayrshire is being undertaken at present and this will be presented to the relevant South Ayrshire Council Committee.	To be presented to Leadership Panel of new Council.
2	Develop Projects approved from the Flood Risk Management Plan	Progress relevant studies and inform the developing list of schemes for cycle two of the national protection schemes to be delivered from 2022.	Head of Service-S Greig/ D McPherson	September 2021	Flood study work in the Girvan area is progressing and a report will be presented to the relevant South Ayrshire Council Committee.	Purpose of the report is to advise members of the Leadership Panel of the consultation proposals of the draft flood risk management strategies and plans. Submitted on 27 th April 2021.
3	Support and contribute to the Ayrshire Growth Deal	Stimulate economic growth and address inclusive growth concerns. Contribute to infrastructure projects which are being developed through the Regional Transport Appraisal work being led by Transport Scotland.	Head of Service	March 2022	The all Ayrshire Transport Appraisal being led by Transport Scotland commenced in January 2019. We will continue to engage with Transport Scotland to ensure the Ayrshire Growth Deal transportation work is included in Strategic Transport Projects Review work.	Regular reports provided to AGD team updating milestones.

Action		Success Criteria/ Desired Outcome	Responsible	Timescale	Details	Progress To Date
4	20mph speed restrictions in villages	Progress with the 20mph speed restrictions in all villages. Maintain engagement with the local communities.	Head of Service/ Designated officer-G Senior	June 2022	Complete project work.	11 schemes complete. 3 further schemes at design to be completed Feb 2022 and consultation with members and CC's
5	Anticipated Budget Reductions in 2020/21	Continue to provide a high quality roads service within decreasing available budgets. Includes service re-design work.	Head of Service	March 2022	South Ayrshire Council reports to various Committees.	Service Redesign to be completed by March 2022
6	Active Travel Strategy	Develop active strategy for travel across South Ayrshire Network	Head of Service /Designated officers-K Chalmers G Senior	June 2021	A full review of active travel provision in South Ayrshire is being undertaken at present and this will be presented to the relevant South Ayrshire Council Committee	To be presented to Leadership March 2022
7	EV Charging Strategy	Develop EV strategy for across South Ayrshire Network	Head of Service	October 2021	A full review of EV provision in South Ayrshire is being undertaken at present and this will be presented to the relevant South Ayrshire Council Committee	Meetings arranged with SAC Service Lead to implement fleet charging points.

