

AYRSHIRE SHARED SERVICES JOINT COMMITTEE

Minutes of meeting in County Buildings, Wellington Square, Ayr,
on 1st April 2016 at 2.00 p.m.

- Present: Councillors Alec Clark, Peter Convery and John McDowall, South Ayrshire Council; and Councillors Bobby McDill and Maureen McKay, East Ayrshire Council.
- Chair: Councillor John McDowall, South Ayrshire Council.
- Apologies: Councillor Nan McFarlane, South Ayrshire Council; Councillor Tom Cook East Ayrshire Council; and Councillor Willie Gibson, North Ayrshire Council.
- Attending: Ralph Riddiough, Head of Legal and Democratic Services and Jill Cronin, Head of Enterprise, Development and Leisure, South Ayrshire Council; Stewart Turner, Head of Roads; Kevan Aitken, Network Manager; Kevin Braidwood, Operations Manager and Alasdair Sneddon, Programme Manager, Ayrshire Roads Alliance; and Lauren Sands, Committee Services Officer, South Ayrshire Council.

1. Declarations of Interest.

There were no declarations of interest by Members in terms of Council Standing Order No. 17 and the Councillors' Code of Conduct.

2. Minutes of previous meeting.

The Minutes of 19th February 2016 (issued) ([link attached](#)) were submitted and approved.

AYRSHIRE ROADS ALLIANCE

3. Update on Performance Scorecard.

There was submitted a report (issued) of March 2016 ([link attached](#)) by the Head of Roads - Ayrshire Roads Alliance, advising the Joint Committee regarding progress made to date against the Performance Scorecard.

A question was raised in relation to the variance in percentages under PS4.6.S for the actual 2014-16 figure compared with the target figure for 2015-16 and the Scottish Local Authority 2012-14 figure. The Head of Roads, Ayrshire Roads Alliance, advised that South Ayrshire were in the bottom quartile but that the figures were improving. The Joint Committee heard that roads in the east of Scotland were in a better condition compared to Ayrshire due to the weather. The Head of Roads, Ayrshire Roads Alliance, further advised that East Ayrshire figures were better than South Ayrshire as there were more resources in East due to better funding.

Decided:

- (1) to note the performance scorecard and performance metrics presented in the report;
- (2) to continue to receive performance scorecard and performance metrics updates; and
- (3) otherwise, to note the contents of the report.

4. Risk Report and Register.

There was submitted a report (issued) of March 2016 ([link attached](#)) by the Head of Roads – Ayrshire Roads Alliance, advising the Joint Committee on the management of risk associated with the Ayrshire Roads Alliance.

A Member of the Joint Committee highlighted the use of jargon within the Risk Register, in particular Risk 23, and proposed the wording be amended to plain English. The Head of Roads, Ayrshire Roads Alliance, agreed to take the comments on board.

Decided:

- (1) to note the risk register presented in the report;
- (2) to continue to receive quarterly updates on the progress; and
- (3) otherwise, to note the contents of the report.

5. Bridge Condition and Inspection Review.

There was submitted a report (issued) of March 2016 ([link attached](#)) by the Head of Roads – Ayrshire Roads Alliance, updating the Joint Committee

- (1) on the position regarding bridge condition and inspection, and
- (2) on the procedures in place to manage the bridge stock in the East Ayrshire and South Ayrshire Council areas.

A question was raised in relation to who inspected private bridges and the Network Manager advised that Ayrshire Roads Alliance only carried out general inspections as it was the private owners' responsibilities to inspect their bridges. He further advised that there were a number of bridges over railways and these were the responsibility of Network Rail.

Decided:

- (a) to note the progress made against the Inspection Programme and Risk Register work; and
- (b) otherwise, to note the contents of the report.

6. Roadworks Programme 2015/16

There was submitted a report (issued) of March 2016 ([link attached](#)) by the Head of Roads - Ayrshire Roads Alliance, advising the Joint Committee of the progress made with the road improvement programmes within the geographical boundaries of East Ayrshire and South Ayrshire for financial year 2015-2016.

A Member of the Joint Committee highlighted that the amount of work carried out in East Ayrshire was not compatible with the work carried out in South Ayrshire and asked the reason for this. The Operations Manager, Ayrshire Roads Alliance, advised that the reason for this was due to the level of investment from each Council. The Head of Roads, Ayrshire Roads Alliance, further advised that the nature of the road works in each area was very similar but that there were different surfacing techniques used depending on the cost of the work.

Decided:

- (1) to note the Ayrshire Roads Alliance works progress; and
- (2) otherwise, to note the contents of the report.

7. Exclusion of press and public.

The Joint Committee resolved, in terms of Section 50A(4) of the Local Government (Scotland) Act 1973, that the press and public be excluded during consideration of the remaining item of business on the grounds that it involved the likely disclosure of exempt information in terms of paragraph 1 of Part 1 of Schedule 7A of the Act.

8. Organisational Review.

There was submitted a report (issued to members only) of March 2016 by the Head of Roads – Ayrshire Roads Alliance

- (1) advising the Joint Committee on the outcome of the review of the management structure within the Ayrshire Roads Alliance; and
- (2) detailing recommendations for the future management arrangements for the service.

It was confirmed that the proposed structure should not result in any compulsory redundancies for existing staff. The future level of service provided by the Ayrshire Roads Alliance would be determined by the level of funding provided by each Council.

Councillor McKay, East Ayrshire Council, moved the recommendation as detailed in the report subject to support being sought from the Trade Unions on proposals.

She failed to find a seconder and therefore her Motion fell.

Decided: Councillor McKay dissenting,

- (a) to approve the proposed Ayrshire Roads Alliance management structure, as outlined within the report, subject to consultation with the Trade Unions;

- (b) to proceed on the basis of Option 3, as outlined in Appendix 4 of the report, as the new organisational structure for the Ayrshire Roads Alliance, subject to consultation with the Trade Unions;
- (c) to approve the indicative timetable to implement the new organisational structure, as outlined in table 3 of the report;
- (d) to agree that the organisational structure be reviewed two years after the implementation, to take stock of service requirements, business needs and age profile of the service at that juncture; and
- (e) to otherwise note the content of the report.

The meeting ended at 3.00 p.m.