

Aberdeen City and Aberdeenshire Councils – LOCAL RAUC MEETING, 12th September 2023

TEAMS MEETING

Attendees: -

Kevin Abercrombie, ACC (KA)

Natalie Wood, ASC (NW)

Julie Greig, SGN (JG)

Emma West, SW (EW) – in for Fiona McInnes

Irvine Ellis, SSE (IE)

Mari Davies (SSE) MD

Vlad Puscalau, CityFibre (VP) – in for Owen Kendall

Katie Patullo (SGN)

Darren Pointer, SW (DP)

Ian Dalrymple, Openreach (ID).

Roddy McDonald Converged (RMCD)

Apologies:

David Murdoch, Network Rail (DM)

Fiona McInnes, SW (FMcl)

Ross Gray, SSE (RG)

Edward Johnstone, SSE (EJ)

Karyn Davidson, Vodaphone (KD)

Colin Heggie, AMEY (CH)

Michael Gray, AMEY (MG)

Allan Pryde, BT (AP)

Neil Christie, Converged (NC)

Andy McKay, Converged (AM)

Owen Kendall, CityFibre (OK)

Agenda

Introductions and Welcomes.

KA introduced the new attendees (NW, VP, MD and KP).

Minutes of Meeting, 9th May 2023.

No comments.

Aberdeen City's Upcoming Programme of Works

KA – ACC's programme of resurfacing works is ongoing at a pace, and will continue until March 24. All works noticed accordingly.

South College Street redevelopment. Works were completed end Aug 23.

King George VI bridge: complete.

City Centre Redevelopment – The proposed redevelopment of Union Street is scheduled to commence in early 2024. The centre section (between Market Street and Bridge Street) will be the first phase, and this will require major utility diversion/ upgrade works to future proof the new layout for the next 10 years. As and when dates are confirmed, these will be forwarded by the Project team. This will include the redevelopment of the Indoor Market Site (between Union Street and Hadden Street) which is due to commence in Q4 of 2023. **KA** to discuss further with **DP** to determine the potential works associated with the Merchant Quarter works.

City Centre bus gates – additional restrictions have now been introduced within the Bridge Street, market Street and Guild Street areas, which have shifted the routes for commuters onto more residential streets within the above footprint. This may impact on any planned works, but vehicle movement trends will be monitored over the next few weeks.

Beach redevelopment – due to commence Autumn 23, but dates and restrictions yet to be confirmed.

Events: Winter Festival programme of events commences with the build of the winter village on Broad Street from 5th November until the 8th January 2024. This is also the dates for the Christmas Embargo (uploaded onto Aurora). KA indicated that an issue had been highlighted with regards to certain streets not being automatically included within the Embargo area – JG commented that this had also been highlighted by other LA's.

Spectra 2024 – due to the Event's team requirements to expand the footprint due to the growing number of visitors year on year, there will be restrictions within the city centre between the 5th and 13th Feb 24.

Aberdeenshire's Upcoming Programme of works

NW updated that the Shire had no major packages of works to discuss, but everything proposed had been recorded on Aurora.

Utility Works Programme:

Vodafone: no update with regards to existing fibre roll out in Dyce area as KD not present.

CityFibre: VP advised that currently CityFibre had 4 squads working in the city centre and they were due to be working up until the start of the Christmas Embargo. KA advised that a site meeting should be convened to address likely restrictions/ access issues on Union Terrace. VP to speak to Alex McNiven accordingly.

SGN: KP advised that SGN would be finishing in Aberdeen (Bridge of Don) shortly before moving into Portlethen.

SW: DP had met Terry Macleod of ACC re the upcoming package of CCTV works and will forward tm plans shortly. DP to contact Aberdeenshire to discuss the works in the Shire. KA to pass on NW's details to DP accordingly. EW mentioned that all other works are on the register.

SSE MD advised that no update was available. KA mentioned that he was in discussions with regards to the upcoming removal of O/H HV cables in the Bridge of Don and would discuss this with them accordingly.

BT: ID has forward a list of Openreach works to both ACC and Shire.

Network Rail: not at meeting, but a list was provided in advance.

Utility Issues raised:

SGN: JG has a number of live site issues and this is being addressed internally. JG has asked for another meeting to discuss inspections and defects. KA suggested that a meeting could be convened in early November.

Ashire - NW has had feedback from Inspectors with issues regarding SW ironwork within housing sites, and the fact that only those defected were investigated or replaced, rather than all of the ironworks. EW advised that she would raise internally to see the all ironworks can be checked, rather than those which have been failed. NW also mentioned issues with Openreach works, which seem to be registered on Aurora for significant periods of time, for works that only take a couple of days. This means that the inspectors are often missing the works and cannot inspect. ID will investigate and feedback accordingly.

AOCB – no one had any further items for discussion; therefore, the meeting was brought to a close.

Date of next meeting: 16th January 2024 at 10:30. Chaired by Aberdeenshire Council.