MORAY COUNCIL Highland and Moray Area Local Co-ordination Meeting SUMMARY NOTES OF MEETING Job No. File No. No. of Pages 8 Meeting held to Discuss: Various Date/Time of Meeting: Thursday, 7th March 2024 @ 0930 hrs Issue Date* 02/10/00 Author Eilidh Robertson Draft No. 1

ACTIONS

1: Introduction and Apologies:

The group was asked if anyone had objections to the meeting being recorded to assist with minute taking. There were no objections.

Colin Matheson opened the meeting and welcomed all. Welcomed MacKenzie Sutherland and Kristen MacLeod who were attending for the first time. Apologies from Andrew Maciver, Stuart Bruce, John Allan, Will Burnish, Roger Ward and Diane Anderson.

Attending / Contact Details

Highland Council

Alison MacLeod Alison.MacLeod3@highland.gov.uk

Gary Slupek gary.slupek@highland.gov.uk

Adam Lapinski Adam.Lapinski@highland.gov.uk

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Kristen MacLeod Kristen.MacLeod@highland.gov.uk

Michelle Lawrie Michelle.Lawrie@highland.gov.uk

Eric Morrison Eric.Morrison@highland.gov.uk

Moray Council

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Scottish & Southern Energy

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<u>SGN</u>

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BT Openreach

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BT 75/100 Projects

Shaun Munro shaun.munro@openreach.co.uk

Internetty (WiFi Scotland)

Rob Cowan rob.cowan@wifiscotland.co.uk

Lothian Broadband

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ESP Utilities Group

Nuala Shelley <u>Nuala.Shelley@espug.com</u> Tyri Donovan <u>Tyri.Donovan@espug.com</u>

2: Minutes of previous Highland / Moray Local Co-ordination Meeting:

a: Accuracy

Previous minutes accepted.

b: Action Tracking

No items for follow up.

3: Local Co-ordination Meeting Reports

<u>a: Review road works authorities' and undertakers' specific major projects incl:</u>

- i) Review planned surfacing works and road closures
- ii) SU major works and conflicts
- iii) Review and confirm whether any other works / remedial works can be completed
- iv) Confirm defects / defective apparatus that may be subsumed by the surfacing works

Highland Council, Roads and Transport:

Inverness:

Alistair MacLeod said he has put through works programme (**Appendix 1**). Have surfacing programme for 24/25 financial year along with surface dressing programme. Hopefully get the funding to carry out what is on the list. Any specific questions about the schemes to get in touch. Has included events (**Appendix 2**) that are happening in Inverness mostly along the riverside but not all. For more information call or email Alistair

Lochaber, Nairn, Badenoch & Strathspey:

Kirsten MacLeod did not have minutes and apologises. Lochaber surfacing/surface dressing programme was agreed at committee (Appendix 3). Looking lean as still waiting for confirmation of budget. Pretty confident urban works will be completed. Big one agreed at committee is the B8007 Salen to Camus Inas, a no diversion route, one route in one route out lifeline road. No contractors date programmed yet. Waiting on budgets.

Ross & Cromarty:

No representative present. (Programmes at **Appendix 4**)

Caithness & Sutherland:

Jonathan Gunn forwarded on programme (Appendices 5 & 6) and is like everyone else waiting for budget. List is going to change now following the last few weeks of winter weather. The priorities will change, and some new sections will be added to the list. Will pass on update when available. Will get notices on Aurora for surfacing, etc. Mentioned that the number of road closures have increased mainly from utilities wanting to close roads instead of maintaining traffic. Extra work but income for the council.

Colin asked what measures were being used in the past? Jonathan said previously these would be on the roadside with as much signage to slow traffic. Want full road closure as they can't safely manage the site. Not so bad in Caithness but in

Sutherland it is causing issues due to length of diversions. Far more lead in time, 12 weeks for road closure, more planning on their behalf. Interesting the shift.

MacKenzie Sutherland said that it may be an element of costs. Previously in Skye held utilities to stop/go boards with 2 men, but cheaper for utilities to shut the road.

Skye:

MacKenzie Sutherland asked Roads Inspector to put everything in Aurora. Apologised for not supplying the works programme, has provided all that is in Aurora. The works programme is not ready for sharing. Single track roads and surface dressing are difficult to manage. Try to get the message out early about major delays and use Radio Skye to make folks aware.

(Programme of works at **Appendix 7**)

Street Lighting Issues:

Adam Lapinski stated not a lot going on due to budgeting. Most is responsive work. One project which will cause disruption to traffic, traffic signal installation Harbour Road/Seafield Road starting this coming Monday. Entire replacement of the existing installation. Any further details just give Adam a shout. Small job in Nairn 2 days' work. Once installation of traffic signals is complete will be in Grampian Road, Aviemore by the train station. Outstanding works to finish off. All else depends on budget. Mostly be responsive to any faults, etc. All works should be in Aurora except Nairn which is small job and is minor notice. Contractor to confirm availability. Programme of work has been attached. Heavily involved in PDU projects (works programme at **Appendix 8**).

Moray Council:

Roads – Paul Barron stated that 23/24 programme shared **(Appendix 9).** Any work awarded or issued will be carried forward to 24/25. Issues with workforce shotages. Still hope to complete resurfacing/patching schemes by end of financial year.

Street Lighting - Vince Woods said they are wrapping up 23/24 replacing columns in Kinloss. Focus for next year is replacing columns. Cable failure in Cullen. The whole area will have cable replaced and columns replaced also. Waiting for budget.

Consultancy – Kim McGowan said revenue works pretty much complete. Capital works on Auchriachan bridge on the B9008, full closure and big diversion route. Other is new Bishopmill bridge, not sure if full closure or one lane open but that will depend on whether the Cloddach bridge replacement goes ahead or not. Also bridge replacement at the back of Lhanbryde on sole access road to 9 properties. Shouldn't affect anyone else.

Project Design Unit:

Gary Slupek said works programme had been submitted **(Appendix 10).** Half a dozen jobs classed as major jobs that will impact utilities and/or traffic. Some will span into 24/25 or 25/26. One of concern is Tower Road junction. Any queries and Gary will put to relevant officer.

<u>Trunk Road Issues – Amey:</u>

Mike Gray said all works on register. (works programme at **Appendix 11**). Main scheme is A96 Forres bypass closure still scheduled for weekend of 22nd- 25th March. Full closure with diversion via Market Street and Nairn Road. Probably need overnight TTLs for lining from 25th-27th. Number of cat 1 defects on A95. Push to get completed. Going in overnight over the next month just to avoid any conflict with the R100 roll out. Elgin Active Travel scheme – 3 refuge island crossing points should be complete by end of March. Moycroft roundabout and traffic light crossing should be complete by end of March subject to Swarco availability. Remedial surfacing should be complete in April. Reiket Lane traffic light crossing point awaiting amended design. Looks like there is some progress in that scheme. SIDR review, all drafts are complete and have been agreed with Police Scotland, Will contact all Local Authorities to have a look over the revised plans. Any comments can have discussion. Named person to sign off the agreed routes. Looking for wet signature on letter head for each authority that agrees with revision. Will be in touch to wrap it up early April. Will send all the drafts before speaking to LAs.

Trunk Road Issues - Bear (Scotland) Ltd:

Elaine Paterson stated all works on the Scottish Roadworks Register. Hasn't anything that will impact the area at the minute.

Network Rail:

David Murdoch stated all the works are on the register. As per last meeting programme ongoing right across Scotland renewing all the old wooden railway access stairs at most of the bridges. There are ½ dozen left to do in Highland and 1 in Moray. All on the register

BT Openreach:

Allan Pryde said that all business as usual on register. Nothing else in the way of large-scale projects. Handed over to Shaun Munro for R100

BT R 100 Projects:

Shaun Munro wanted to comment on the road closures in Caithness. Different LAs wanting works done different ways some are stop go some closures. This perhaps why increase in closures. Will do better job engaging with LAs before moving into new areas. R100 small jobs in Drumchardine, Kessock, Cromarty, Dochgarroch areas. Planning department to put notices in. Bulk of the work is in Moray-Hopeman, Alves, Lossiemouth and Elgin. Taking longer than anticipated due to amount of TM being put into place. Moving in Brodie, Dunphail, Dallas and Forres. Still to be put on register. Colin wanted to thank Shaun, Openreach and Circet for the positive approach and speedy response around issues with subcontractors. Communications are very good now. Learning has been taken forward for all LAs for future.

Scotland Gas Networks (SGN):

Katie Patullo said all works should be in the register **(Appendix 12)**. The main gas replacement project will be in Elgin. All notices are in at potential. Streets that are starting on they have been moved at advanced planning. Should get everything on the programme to advance planning as soon as they can.

(Additional works details at Appendices 13, 14 & 15)

Scottish and Southern Energy (SSE):

Gary Hay said that they have major overlays in the heart of Inverness, have impact on shops, pedestrians etc. One will be coming along Post Office Avenue, across Academy Street, along Market Street to substation at bus station, back along Academy Street to the Friars pub and maybe to junction with Ironworks. Meeting with council this week to see about TM and how they are planning to do works. Early stages. Will start as soon as Alistair lets them in. Another that will have impact on traffic coming from substation at Fraser Street, along Bank Street then across Ness Bridge and to end of Young Street. Early planning stage for this one. Proceed when they get authorisation from Alistair. Has asked Alistair for all the events happening in Inverness. Try to work in between all events.

Works in Nairn and Aviemore, will speak to relevant parties and have site visits. Will be ongoing for next few years.

Andrew Ewing says all works on the system any questions just get in touch and will approach project managers.

(works programme at Appendix 16).

Scottish Water:

Emma West said that SW100 nothing major planned. All active stuff on the register as normal. (works programme at **Appendix 17**)

Darren Point said that Works ongoing at Newtonmore on Main Street comes under Bear. Then on to side roads after Main Street is done. Probably need site meeting for reinstatement issues with Bear. Burn Road is ongoing in Inverness. Had meeting with marathon people week before last. New route for ½ marathon due to the works due to no safe access. Greig Street in Inverness ongoing, meeting today for reinstatements. Remedial works in Wick starting on11/03 for the failed core. Occumster and Thurso are ongoing. Question for MacKenzie on B8083/A887 by Skye Bridge Hotel. Asking whether the rest of the road is being resurfaced? MacKenzie will check for Darren. Clarified location. MacKenzie explained why the road wasn't completed. Stopped at abandoned vehicle. Not on programmed list. If they get additional funding, they will hope to complete it. SW will be going into the part of road that has been resurfaced. MacKenzie believes there is a blocked culvert. Will try to coordinate work. Will chat offline. Perhaps meet up next time Darren is up.

Alistair asked about a B9006 Sunnyside, Westhill wondered if he and Darren should chat about these works. CWA project. Alistair and Darren to have a chat offline.

Alison MacLead asking Darren and Gary one of PDU not getting response to C2 C3 enquiries. Looking for input but not forthcoming. Darren said it has not been raised. Usually, design goes through Darren. CWA do a lot of things on their own. An example is Wick Bridge Street/High Street streetscape design been waiting since June last year. Any change to teams? Can he suggest who to escalate to. Emma will take it on and pass it along to Fiona.

City Fibre Project:

No representative present.

Internetty (WiFi) Scotland

Rob Cowan working on where next they are going to be. Nothing to put on register at the moment.

Vodafone

No representative present.

Lothian Broadband

John Walker said they have quite a lot on the register. Lot of work up towards Helmsdale and covering the Black Isle. Works continuing in the area heading towards Drumnadrochit and Fort Augustus and down to Tullibody. Have the summer embargo so trying to pull works forward, will update the register and LAs and try and limit the disruption as much as they can.

b: Sample Inspection performance and management:

All circulated (Highland – Appendix 18 and Moray - Appendix 19). No comments

c: Disputes and or Improvement Notices:

Nothing

d: Wider issues raised:

Nothing

4: Matters arising from previous RAUCs:

Nothing.

5: SRWC Report and Performance Management:

As agreed in previous meeting this will be skipped over in this Forum as covered in North area meetings.

a: Performance dashboard:

b): Management report:

c: SRWR report:

6: Working Group Reports – consultations and any feedback:

Nothing

7: Health and Safety:

a: List of plant protection systems:

Up to date.

b: Emergency contact details:

Any changes just email Alistair MacLeod.

8: AOCB:

SW – slow response to C3/C4 designs, Significant delays being reported – Emma West will take on and get back to Alison.

BT - Alison wanted to raise query about MBE and MBD and wanted to clarify if that was the Vault. Allan Pryde will come back to confirm. Further discussions around contact details for BT and overland cabling and the legalities. Allan Pryde will get details for Michelle and will contact MacKenzie regarding cabling also after the meeting. Allan says there is a programme to get the cables buried to depth. He is happy to discuss.

Further discussion on late payment of invoices and purchase order issues. Alison has provided an updated contact list for Colin to distribute and to pass on to others as necessary. Andrew and Gary have offered to assist with POs.

Alsison submitted area contact details for Highland Council for circulation amongst the group (Appendix 20).

Colin provided an update on North Street, Elgin. The street has been closed for 6 years whilst a dangerous building was rebuilt. Scaffolding will be coming down in next couple of weeks. Reinstatement work to be done to road and footway but will be open in the next few weeks. Will relieve some of the sensitivity to other work in the centre of Elgin. Should be well and truly open by the time of the next meeting.

9: Date of next meeting and venue:

Agreed that the next meeting will take place on Thursday, 6th June 2024 at 0930hrs–MS Teams. Colin thanked everyone and closed the meeting.