

**Environment and Transport Committee
Council Chamber, Town Hall, Lerwick
Monday 2 October 2017 at 2pm**

Present:

S Coutts	S Leask
A Manson	R McGregor
D Sandison	C Smith
G Smith	R Thomson

Apologies:

P Campbell
A Priest

In Attendance (Officers):

M Sandison, Director of Infrastructure Services
D Coupe, Executive Manager - Roads
J Smith, Executive Manager – Ports and Harbours Operations
C Symons, Executive Manager – Estate Operations
P Mogridge, Transport Policy and Projects Officer
B Robb, Senior Management Accountant
B Kerr, Communications Officer
P Wishart, Solicitor
L Malcolmson, Committee Officer

Chair:

Mr Thomson, Chair of the Committee, presided.

Circular:

The circular calling the meeting was held as read.

Declarations of Interests

None

24/17 Exceptions from Contract Standing Orders:

- (1) Combined Energy, M&E and Structural Defect Surveys and**
- (2) Mechanical & Electrical and Fabric Maintenance Services to Anderson Halls of Residence, Lerwick**

The Committee considered a report by the Executive Manager - Estate Operations (EO-05-17-F) which informed the Committee of two exceptions to the Council's Contract Standing Orders.

The Director of Infrastructure Services introduced the report and provided a summary of the two occasions where it was necessary for her to apply an exemption to the Council's Contract Standing Orders.

In responding to concerns that this was work that could have been foreseen, the Director of Infrastructure Service explained that it was intended that the fabric maintenance work would be done in house but during discussions it became clear that there were resources

on site that could be utilised in order that the inhouse staff were better used across the estate. She said that this had not been considered for external tendering.

Decision

The Environment & Transport Committee NOTED the two exceptions to Shetland Islands Council Standing Orders.

25/17 Exceptions from Contract Standing Orders: Landfill Gas Pumping Trial

The Committee noted a report by the Executive Manager - Environmental Services (ES-03-17-F) that informed the Committee of a contract award and the works carried out as an exception to the Council's Contract Standing Orders by Environmental Services.

The Director of Infrastructure Services introduced the report and explained that the tendering process resulted in submissions well over budget. On taking legal and procurement advice, negotiations were entered into with the local contractor and having explained the situation to Zero Waste Scotland they agreed to provide the additional £10k to cover the tender price. She said that this grant of funds was welcome as the Council are legally required to carry out this work.

The Chair said that this was a positive outcome and he welcomed the additional funding from Zero Waste Scotland.

Decision

The Environment and Transport Committee NOTED the exception applied.

26/17 Capital Maintenance and Replacement Programme

The Committee noted a report by the Director of Infrastructure Services (ISD-06-17-F) that sought approval for projects in the Infrastructure Services Directorate's Capital Maintenance and Replacement Programme for 2018/19.

The Director of Infrastructure Services introduced the report.

During discussions the Islesburgh Community Council service lift was raised as a health and safety issue and comment was made that this should have been on the programme for replacement but it did not appear in the budget for this or next year. Concern was expressed that this community facility had no service lift to handle hot food and the only option was to use the public lift at reception. Officers were asked to look at the exact costs and consider this requirement against other projects as this was a clear safety issue. Members were advised that work had to be priorities under a reduced budget and there are other statutory work required. In providing costs associated with this particular project, Officers informed that the repair cost to replace the hydraulics on the existing service lift would be in the region of £25k and a replacement service lift would cost between £60k and £80k. The suggestion was made that this project be considered further if a project timescale slips leaving money in the budget. The Director of Infrastructure Services explained however that any budget slippage is carried over to the next year to undertake the project that had slipped. She added that there may also be other priorities throughout the year that requires the budget to be reprioritised and the programme adjusted. It was agreed that the price information relating to the service lift would be provided to Members.

The Executive Manager – Roads responded to a question on the LED Streetlight replacement programme and advised that the existing units in the Commercial Road, Scalloway Road and Church Road areas were 25-30 years old therefore the columns were

not strong enough for the weight of the new LED heads. He said that once the entire units had been replaced it would only be regular maintenance costs required. The Executive Manager – Roads advised that Officers were working with Finance Services on the contract for this work, that would be put to tender next year.

The Executive Manager – Roads was asked what work was required on the Sands of Sound road and he advised that this would be a complete reconstruction. He said that speed humps were not required under the current speed profile but the cost was negligible and could be done. When pushed for assurance that there was a commitment to carry out these works, the Executive Manager – Roads said that the work will be undertaken unless a major problem arose with a higher priority. Mr C Smith sought more reassurance stating that his constituents had been told that it would be carried out this financial year and he would not accept that it “may” be done as he had it in writing that it would be done in 2016/17 and it was not. The Director of Infrastructure Services stated that the Sands of Sound project was on the list to be carried out and assurance could be given that the work would be carried out if no unforeseen events occurred. She said that there had to be flexibility in the programme to do the most urgent work but every endeavour would be taken to carry out the planned for projects.

Mr C Smith expressed his disappointment and moved that the Committee approve the recommendations contained in the report with the addition that priority be given to the service lift at Islesburgh and to the road improvements at the Sands of Sound. Mr G Smith sought a change of wording to the motion “that priority be given to the Sands of Sound road improvements; and that some priority be given to providing information on the cost of repair or replacement of the service lift at Islesburgh Community Centre, with a view that the project will be placed on the Capital Maintenance and Replacement Programme as soon as possible. Mr C Smith agreed to this change of wording, and Mr G Smith seconded.

Mr Coutts moved as an amendment that a the Committee approve the recommendations in the report as it stands. Mr Sandison seconded.

Mr G Smith gave notice of a further amendment.

Following summing up voting took place with a show of hands and the results were follows:

Amendment (Mr Coutts)	2
Motion (Mr C Smith)	4

Mr G Smith withdrew his notice of further amendment.

Decision

The Environment & Transport Committee APPROVED the projects in the Infrastructure Services Directorate’s Capital Maintenance and Replacement Programme for 2018/19 with the addition that priority be given to the Sands of Sound Road improvements; and that some priority be given to providing information on the costs of repair or replacement of the service lift at Islesburgh Community Centre with a view that the project will be placed on the Capital Maintenance and Replacement Programme, as soon as possible.

The Committee noted a report by the Transport Policy and Projects Officer (DV-48-17-F) which detailed the outcome of the recent Shetland Islands Council Taximeter Tariffs review.

The Transport Policy and Projects Officer introduced the report.

Ms Manson moved that the Committee approve the recommendations contained in the report.

Concern was expressed that this report had not been presented to the Licensing Committee nor had it been consulted on the matter. The Transport Policy and Projects Officer advised that he had sought legal advice on the reporting of this review and was informed that the Licensing Committee had no decision making role in this instance. Following further discussion the Transport Policy and Projects Officer agreed to provide more information, by email, on the advice received on the role of Licensing Committee in this review.

Mr Sandison seconded the motion.

Decision

The Environment and Transport Committee **RECOMMENDED** that the Policy and Resources Committee **RESOLVE** to approve that the Shetland Islands Council Taxi Tariffs remain unchanged.

28/17 Ports & Harbours Overview

The Committee noted a report by the Acting Executive Manager – Ports and Harbours (PH-13-17-F) which informed the Committee about the current and planned work of Ports and Harbours.

The Acting Executive Manager – Ports and Harbours introduced the report and advised that it considers the background of the work undertaken by ports and harbours and the how it links with other departments of the Council and highlights the importance of these departments working together. He commented on the ongoing maintenance work at internal ferry terminals and informed the Committee that there would be a further report on capital maintenance to show the Harbour Board where the anticipated spend will be. He said that the Committee would be advised of any specific developments being considered on transport routes.

(Mr Coutts left the meeting)

In responding to questions he said that he did not have specific detail on works required in specific areas but that the work being carried out was statutorily required under the Port Marine Safety Code. He said that indepth surveys would be carried out next year on older terminals and further maintenance would be expected in Symbister at the breakwater where there are signs of corrosion. He said that there would be more detail set out in the capital maintenance plans report to be presented at the next meeting.

During further consideration of the report the Committee discussed the option of community asset transfer of smaller piers or structures. The Acting Executive Manager – Ports and Harbours said that there had been discussions with community development on this subject but caution was expressed in terms of leaving a community with an asset to be maintained that provides no benefit to the community. He said that Capital Programme Services will handle the proper method of disposal, taking legal advice on any possible

community asset transfer. The Director of Infrastructure added further reassurance that Officers would work with community groups on feasibility and ongoing costs confirming that the Council would never get rid of an asset without working with the people taking it on. She said that she would circulate the Community Ownership Model to Members to show process involved when considering asset transfers to communities.

Members welcomed the joined-up approach taken in the report.

Decision

The Environment & Transport Committee NOTED the proposed actions of the Ports & Harbours service in partnership with other Council services over the coming period.

The meeting concluded at 3.05pm.

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Chair