

EAST RENFREWSHIRE COUNCILCABINET2 June 2016Report by Director of EnvironmentUPDATE ON CORPORATE ASSET MANAGEMENT ARRANGEMENTS**PURPOSE OF REPORT**

1. To update the Cabinet on progress on Asset Management arrangements across the Council.

RECOMMENDATIONS

2. The Cabinet is asked to note the continued progress made with Corporate Asset Management Planning across the Council and that all Asset Management Plans are up to date.

BACKGROUND AND REPORT

3. Asset Management Plans for each Council owned asset have previously been approved by Cabinet.

4. There are six asset management plans. These are:

- Roads
- Fleet
- Open spaces
- Property
- ICT
- HRA Assets

5. The Roads Asset Management Plan is completed through participation with the Society of Chief Officers of Transportation in Scotland (SCOTS), which is a Scotland wide project which has prepared a standardised Roads Asset Management Plan format involving Transport Scotland and all Scottish Councils.

6. All other Asset Plans are prepared in accordance with the CIPFA Guide to Asset Management and Capital Planning and Audit Scotland's Best Value toolkit.

7. It was agreed at a previous Cabinet meeting that the individual Asset Plans be reviewed on an annual basis, updated by the responsible Service, signed off by the Principal Asset and Property Management Officer (as to them meeting the requirements of an East Renfrewshire Council Asset Management Plan) and then reported to CMT. The Cabinet simply asked for an annual assurance that this process has been followed and asset plans are up to date.

8. All Asset Management Plans include timescales and SMART targets. Actions within the Asset Plans are set against a timescale and allocated to a responsible officer. Reference is also made to review arrangements and data management for each plan.

9. All Asset Management Plans have strategic objectives which clearly link with the Council's corporate objectives.

10. Performance information is used, where appropriate, to compare with other Councils across Scotland in order to benchmark and develop best practice.

FINANCE AND EFFICIENCY

11. In the current financial environment effective asset management is essential to ensure that all our assets continue to be well managed and maintained.

12. In order to ensure maximum efficiency the process by which the capital programme is compiled has recently been comprehensively reviewed. Departments that need capital funding for a project are required to complete a capital project appraisal (CPA) form. Requests for funding now require to demonstrate how the proposed capital investment links with the outcomes of the asset management plan.

CONSULTATION

13. Officers across all Services Departments have been consulted in the preparation of asset management plans and this consultation will continue on an ongoing basis as asset plans are reviewed/updated.

14. To ensure rigorous and thorough corporate scrutiny of all asset management plans it has been agreed that the recently revised Corporate Asset Management Group will assess each of the Council's asset management plans. This will be a rolling process and permits each department to effectively contribute to all of the plans thus creating a "golden thread" that unites them and links them to the Council's wider vision.

PARTNERSHIP WORKING

15. The Roads Service is involved in a number of partnership initiatives associated directly with road maintenance including the Society of Chief Officers for Transportation in Scotland. Property and Technical Services are participants in the CIPFA National Best Value Benchmarking Scheme and a member of the Association of Chief Surveyors Asset Management Group to share best practice and benchmark data. Housing participates within national benchmarking arrangements.

16. A key feature of asset management for the future will be the impact of the Community Empowerment Act particularly regarding requests by the community for asset transfers. Officers within the Council are already working with a range of community groups in order to ensure that the Council are well placed to enact this legislation in an appropriate and effective manner.

IMPLICATIONS OF THE PROPOSAL

17. There are no staffing, equalities or IT implications associated with this report.

CONCLUSIONS

18. Effective asset management arrangements which reflect best practice have been in place across the Council for a number of years. A number of refinements to these arrangements have been made in order to ensure even more effective joint working and appropriate linkages to corporate priorities.

RECOMMENDATIONS

19. The Cabinet is asked to note the continued progress made with Corporate Asset Management Planning across the Council and that all Asset Management Plans are up to date.

Director of Environment

Further information can be obtained from Phil Daws, Head of Environment (Housing and Property Services) on 0141 577 3186 or by email at phil.daws@eastrenfrewshire.gov.uk

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BACKGROUND PAPERS

Fleet, Housing, ICT, Open Space, Property and Roads Asset Management Plans

KEY WORDS

Asset Management, Revenue Programme, Capital Programme, Routine Maintenance

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