

Road Asset Management Planning

Annual Policy Review
2017 - 2018

Falkirk Council



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Document History

Version	Status	Date	Author	Changes from Previous Version
1.0	Draft	Sep 2015	Ewan Hogg	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> First draft of the document.
2.0	Draft	May 2016	Ewan Hogg	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Section 2 – Community Expectations: further information on the last two bullet points added, Section 4 – Asset Accounting: bullet point removed. Section 5 – Budget Allocation: third bullet point added.
3.0	Draft	Oct 2016	Ewan Hogg	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Section 6 – Road Asset Management Plan: more information added to the final bullet point. Section 7 – Road Maintenance Manual: extra bullet point added.
4.0	Final	April 2017	Dot Reid	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 2017-18 update – minor date changes throughout the document.

Document Control

Version	Status	Date	Authorised for Issue by Roads Services Asset Management Team

Signed: 

Date: 14/7/17

Director of Development Services: Rhona Geisler

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Scope

This Policy applies to the creation/construction, acquisition, operation, maintenance, rehabilitation and disposal of all Council Road Assets.

Policy Objectives

This Policy guides the management of Council's road assets to ensure that:

- assets continue to deliver a service to the community at an agreed level of service
- there is clear direction for staff to make informed decisions
- legislative requirements are satisfied
- exposure to risk is limited to acceptable levels
- asset purchases or construction are only approved after whole of life costs and benefits are assessed to ensure best value
- clear allocations of responsibilities for the management of each class of asset are given

Definitions

- **Assets:** Any physical item that Council acquires or constructs which gives benefit or service to the community.
- **Asset Register:** A record of asset information considered worthy of separate identification.
- **Asset Life:** Time from acquisition to disposal.
- **Asset Management:** Activities and practices through which Council optimally manages its physical assets over their lifecycle for the purpose of achieving the organisational strategic plan.
- **Asset Management Plan:** A plan that details financial and technical treatments over the life of the asset to allow the asset to maintain an agreed level of service.
- **Level of Service:** The service standard set for an asset group/type.
- **Whole Life Costs:** Total cost of an asset over its entire life including Capital, Maintenance and Disposal Expenditure.
- **Capital Expenditure:** Any expenditure that is used to procure or construct: a new asset, upgrade the capability of an asset, make improvements to an asset, make additions to an asset or replace an asset.
- **Revenue/ Maintenance Expenditure:** Any expenditure that allows an asset to continue providing the agreed level of service until the end of life is reached.

Policy Details

1. Asset Planning

- The Council will adopt an asset management planning approach for the management of infrastructure assets including the application of life cycle cost analysis as advocated in the SCOTS Asset Management Framework.

- Prior to acceptance, proposed Capital Improvement Works projects shall be subjected to technical and life cycle cost evaluation and prioritised using predetermined criteria developed to satisfy the goals of the Corporate Plan, Service Performance Plan and the Road Asset Management Plan (RAMP).
- This will be carried out to ensure the most cost effective assets will be utilised by the Council.
- Wherever possible predictive modelling will be used to develop and implement preventative maintenance programs to ensure lowest life cycle costs.
- Asset planning allows the Council to keep an organised record of the assets and means projected costing can plan for the future.

2. Community Expectations

- All road infrastructure services will be regularly reviewed to ascertain the community level of service expectations.
- The Council will seek and value community input regarding desirable infrastructure before projects are commissioned for asset planning investigations.
- The Council will regularly review its asset inventory and identify opportunities for rationalisation in line with community requirements. This will be achieved through a mixture of monthly, quarterly and yearly inspections/surveys.
- The Council will undertake surveys on customer service and satisfaction in the community on the service provided to them.

3. Risk Assessment and Management

- The Council will maintain a programme of regular inspections of assets to minimise risk to the community.
- The Council will maintain and regularly review a Road Asset Risk Register that will identify the risks associated with the council's road infrastructure and record the controls in place to manage them.
- Maintenance and capital improvement work to assets will be allocated in line with the council's risk management policy.

4. Asset Accounting

- The Council will maintain asset registers to the level of detail required to meet the requirements of the CIPFA Transport Infrastructure Asset Code.
- Useful lives shall be determined and given to each asset group/type or component based on past experience and current benchmarked standards.
- Annual Depreciation costs will be calculated using a method set out in the transport asset valuation procedure and reported annually with gross replacement and depreciated replacement cost figures as part of an asset valuation.

5. Budget Allocation

- The Council budgets for Roads including the funding for all asset purchase, maintenance, rehabilitation and replacement shall be guided by Council's Road Asset Management Plan.
- The allocation of budgets (capital and revenue) will be reviewed annually taking into account the status of each asset and the level of service achieved in the preceding year(s) shown in the annual status and options report.
- This ensures each asset receives the necessary budget.
- A rolling 5 year programme of proposed capital works will be maintained linked to the Road Asset Management Plan and long term financial plans.

6. Road Asset Management Plan

- The Council will develop a strategic 10 Year Road Asset Management Plan covering all the Council's Road Assets including roads (carriageways), footways, street lights, structures, traffic signals and street furniture.
- The Road Asset Management Plan outlines the financial and technical treatments over the life of the asset.
- Asset Management Plans will meet the required level of service through management strategies to be adopted throughout the life cycle of the asset.
- The Road Asset Management Plan lays out an organised plan for the Council's Road assets and the required costing involved with this.
- The Asset Management Plan sets out for each asset group/type:
 - o predicted future changes in demand
 - o levels of service required
 - o the investment required in the maintenance, renewal and replacement of assets required to meet the levels of service
 - o methods of performance monitoring and appraisal
 - o financial projections
 - o the risks associated with the plan

7. Road Maintenance Manual

- The Council will maintain a manual detailing how road maintenance is carried out.
- The Road maintenance manual defines how and when we:
 - inspect
 - categorise and prioritise reactive repairs through a hierarchy system
 - assess condition
 - identify and prioritise sites for renewal or replacement
 - choose the materials used
 - prepare works programmes
 - procure and manage works

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- record and report costs
- record and respond to customer contacts

8. Reporting

- The Council will prepare an Annual Status and Options Report that summarises:-
 - o the status of each asset group in terms of its condition and the council's ability to meet its reactive repair standards
 - o the result of the previous year's investment in terms of meeting the target service standards
 - o the options available for the future in term of both short and long term predictions of levels of defects and condition that can be afforded for different budget levels
- When the annual budget is set any amendment to the service standards specified in the asset management plan will be made and an updated asset management plan published.

9. Roles And Responsibilities

Council

- to act as custodians of community assets
- to set corporate asset management policy with linkage to Council's Corporate Plan
- to set agreed Levels of Service and Levels of Acceptable Risk for each asset class
- to allocate budgets to achieve the levels set
- to ensure appropriate resources for asset management activities are made available

Chief Executive Officer /Development Services Directorship

- to provide strategic direction and leadership
- to ensure there is continuous improvement in asset management
- to review existing policies and develop new policies related to asset management.
- to implement Corporate Asset Management Strategies with agreed resources
- to monitor and review managers and staff in achieving the Asset Management Strategy
- to ensure accurate and reliable asset information is presented to Council

Managers and Staff

- to implement the Asset Management Policy and Plan with agreed resources
- to develop and implement improvement plans for individual asset groups
- to develop and implement maintenance and Capital Works Programmes in accordance with Asset Management Plan and budgets
- to deliver levels of service to agreed risk and cost standards
- to present information to the Council, Chief Executive Officer and Executive team in terms of life cycle risks and costs

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- to seek community feedback on proposed changes to service levels and willingness to pay for increased levels

Asset Management Working Group

- An Asset Management working group will be established to assist and have input with strategic asset management planning.
- Staff responsibilities for Asset Management activities shall be included in the Asset Management Plan and also be reflected in individual position descriptions.

Associated Procedures and Related Policies

Local Transport Strategy

Corporate Asset Management Strategy 2011-2014

Development Services Service Performance Plan 2015-2018

Corporate Plan 2012-2017

Data Management Plan 2017

Road Asset Management Plan 2017-2027

Financial Procedures

Review Date

1 April 2018