

ABERDEEN CITY COUNCIL

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COMMITTEE	Enterprise, Planning & Infrastructure
DATE	4 <sup>th</sup> September 2014
DIRECTOR	GORDON MCINTOSH
TITLE OF REPORT	ADOPTIONS OF ROADS
REPORT NUMBER:	EPI/14/218
CHECKLIST RECEIVED	Yes

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1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

To resolve the anomalous position regarding the maintenance of some roads within the City.

2. RECOMMENDATION(S)

That the Committee approve the adoption of Beach Esplanade, Links Road between Urquhart Road and Beach Esplanade and Pitfodels Station Road in terms of Section 1(4) of the Roads (Scotland) Act 1984 and that these roads be added to the Council's 'List of Roads' managed and maintained by the Council.

3. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

There are no significant financial implications arising from this Report as the roads are already maintained by the Council.

4. OTHER IMPLICATIONS

There are no other significant implications arising from this Report.

5. BACKGROUND/MAIN ISSUES

**Beach Esplanade**

This road was originally laid out as part of the amenity of the beachfront and was intended to provide access for the enjoyment of the sea beach. The road was accordingly maintained by this and previous Councils, not as an adopted public road but as part of what was formerly under the umbrella of 'Links & Parks'.

In recent years, the growth of traffic particularly, from the expanding suburban developments in the Bridge of Don area, has resulted in increased volumes of traffic using the Beach Esplanade. This increase has been predominantly through traffic seeking routes between A90 at

Bridge of Don and the City, principally on the journey to and from places of work.

The volume of traffic using the road for this purpose now considerably outweighs the traffic seeking the amenity of the beach and it is thus no longer reasonable to expect this road to be managed and maintained otherwise than from the budget allocated to the adopted road network.

### **Links Road (Urquhart Road – Beach Esplanade)**

This road is effectively a continuation of the Beach Esplanade, linking it to the northern and eastern areas of the City Centre and will be in an anomalous position if it is not adopted with the Esplanade.

### **Pitfodels Station Road**

As its name suggests, this road was originally laid out by the Great North of Scotland Railway to give access to the former station and the suburban train services between Culter and the City.

Growth of traffic in the Deeside area and developments in Garthdee result in it now being used by considerably greater volumes of traffic than is generated by the residents in the immediate area.

It is considered unreasonable to expect the frontagers to bear the cost of managing and maintaining this road. The Council itself, having acquired the railway land and also the adjacent allotments, is a substantial frontager.

Grampian Regional Council took advantage of a scheme established by the former Aberdeen County Council to put the road into a category of 'surface maintenance'. This is suitable primarily for local access roads, such as where a farm steading has been developed into private housing. In an urban area it leads to administrative complications and effectively leads to the Council bearing the bulk of the costs of maintaining a road that is not adopted.

## **6. IMPACT**

**Corporate** – There are no direct links to the Community Plan, the Single Outcome Agreement, the 5 year Corporate Business Plan, and individual Service Plans.

**Public** – The members of the public who are directly interested in the effect of this report, the frontagers of the affected roads, have been notified in accordance with the procedure in terms of Section 1(4) of the Roads (Scotland) Act 1984. No representations have been received.

A notice has also been published in a local newspaper and no representations have been received.

The users of the roads will experience no change in the service offered as a result of the recommendations of this Report.

There are no Equality and Human Rights impacts arising from the recommendations of this Report.

7. MANAGEMENT OF RISK

There are no risks resulting from the recommendations of this Report.

8. BACKGROUND PAPERS

No background papers have been used in the preparation of this Report.

9. REPORT AUTHOR DETAILS

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