

ABERDEEN CITY COUNCIL

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COMMITTEE : **Housing & Environment**      DATE: 11th January 2010

CORPORATE DIRECTOR: Pete Leonard

TITLE OF REPORT: Update on the Implementation of the LAMS (Land Audit Management System) performance management system for grounds maintenance.

REPORT No. H&E /09/138

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1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

To provide the Committee with an update of progress in the implementation of The LAMS (Land Audit Management System) performance management system for grounds maintenance.

2. RECOMMENDATION(S)

That the Committee:

- (i) notes the progress made to date on the implementation of LAMS;
- (ii) authorises the Director of Housing & Environment Services to approach Aberdeenshire Council with a view to setting up an inter-Authority auditing agreement for the purpose of the LAM system; and
- (iii) instructs the Director of Housing & Environment Services to report back with a further progress report at its meeting on 13th April 2010.

3. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

The introduction of LAMS will not incur any extra financial costs as the information can be recorded on using current software.

4. SERVICE & COMMUNITY IMPACT

This report supports the Community Plan's vision for land use and the environment, namely, for Aberdeen to be a City that protects, enhances and values its environment. It also links generally to the Council's policy statement,

Vibrant, Dynamic and Forward Looking, in terms of its declared intention to be an efficient Council.

## 5. OTHER IMPLICATIONS

Failure to introduce LAMS as a programme of monitoring the performance of grounds maintenance both locally and nationally via established KPIS and SPIs would be detrimental to the ability of Environmental Services to show continuous improvement and best value.

## 6. REPORT

### 6.1 LAMS Implementation

Environmental Services staff are still familiarizing themselves with the methodology and training staff in its use.

Early results show that the pilot exercise in the City went well, with the Area Supervisor for the Duthie Park/ City Centre monitoring, recording and analysing the data. The system of having Area Supervisors monitor, record and analyse the data from a colleague's area is intended to enhance objectivity. This Pilot data, transferred onto the scoring system indicates a range of values which Members will be able to view in detail within the performance report at the 11<sup>th</sup> January 2010 Housing and Environment Committee

The Pilot will be rolled out to all areas of the City, starting on 18th January 2010 and, although Supervisors will be the primary collators of the information, it is envisaged that the information gathering will be cascaded to Charge hand level as is the practice in other Local Authorities within Scotland.

It is suggested, in due course and with the Committee's approval, to offer Aberdeenshire Council the facility for Aberdeen City Council Staff to act as Authority inspectors, carry out any test samples on LAMS required and for Aberdeenshire Council to provide a similar service for the City. This will show complete transparency and is recommended by the founders of the LAMS system.

LAMS will be reported on a 4 weekly cycle and to Committee along the same current reporting frequencies as PAC and LEAMS and based on the same citywide score and individual neighbourhood breakdown.

**As an update- Informal discussions have now taken place with the Environment Manager for Aberdeenshire Council who has indicated that**

**Landscape Services within Aberdeenshire Council would be willing to participate in inter-authority co-operation in relation to LAMS and would welcome a presentation from Aberdeen City Council Officers to progress the Audit Management System within the Authority.**

#### 7. REPORT AUTHOR DETAILS

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#### 7 BACKGROUND PAPERS

Report to the Housing And Environment Committee 19<sup>th</sup> November 2009:  
Implementation of the LAMS (Land Audit Management System) performance  
management system for grounds maintenance