

**CABINET PORTFOLIO SUMMARY REPORT**

<b>REPORT OF</b>	<b>Councillor Harry Smith</b>
<b>CABINET PORTFOLIO FOR</b>	<b>Highways and Transportation</b>
<b>CO-ORDINATING CHIEF OFFICER</b>	<b>Strategic Director – Regeneration and Environment</b>

**EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

This report is an update from the Cabinet Portfolio Holder to Members of the Council on matters relevant to his portfolio.

**1. DELIVERY OF THE HIGHWAY SERVICES CONTRACT 2014–2018**

Procurement for a new contract for delivery of highway works and services has progressed through inviting tenders for the new contract and the evaluation processes of the three submitted bids. I presented the outcome of that procurement process to Cabinet on 7<sup>th</sup> November.

A decision was made by Cabinet to award the contract to the preferred bidder based on the price and quality criteria used, taking into account value for money analyses and reports carried out independently of the procurement to provide assurance that it had been effectively managed and that the investment decision to award the new contract was soundly based. At the time of preparing this report, the legally-required 'standstill' processes are ongoing, following which the appointment of the new contractor can be announced.

**2. HIGHWAYS WINTER SERVICE**

I had the opportunity in October to review and endorse the annual plan for the gritting and snow clearing operations, and can confirm that the Council had a full salt barn and gritters and their drivers ready from the first day of the plan at the beginning of November.

I am also pleased that a number of Members of the Regeneration and Environment Policy and Performance Committee have taken the opportunity to visit the Rock Salt Mine at Winsford in Cheshire on 11<sup>th</sup> December, to improve our own understanding of the materials and logistics essential for this service.

**3. DELIVERY OF THE STRUCTURAL MAINTENANCE PROGRAMME**

The highway maintenance part of the Council's Capital Programme – the Structural Maintenance Programme 2013/14 – was approved in January 2013, and includes a range of surface treatment and resurfacing schemes for both

footways and carriageways. I am pleased to report that approximately 95% of that programme has now been carried out.

**4. TRAFFIC SIGNAL MAINTENANCE CONTRACT 2014 - 2018**

The process to implement a new traffic signal maintenance contract is progressing and the contract will be in place by April 2014. Further updates will be provided as the tender process develops.

**5. MAJOR SCHEME SUBMISSION – DOCK BRIDGES**

A specialist consultant has been commissioned to undertake technical feasibility for bridge designs and life expiry modelling for the Dock Bridges. This work will feed into the process for commissioning the necessary Major Scheme Business Case which will be submitted to the Local Transport Body for consideration in the prioritisation of funding in December 2014.