
SBc CONTRACTS 2ND QUARTER REPORT 2022/23

Report by Chief Officer Roads

EXTERNAL SERVICES/PROVIDERS MONITORING GROUP

29 November 2022

1 PURPOSE AND SUMMARY

- 1.1 **This report proposes a public summary on the performance of SBc Contracts for the financial year 2022/23 up to 30th September.**

2 RECOMMENDATIONS

- 2.1 **I recommend that the External Services/Providers Monitoring Group note the performance of SBc Contracts for the 2nd quarter of 2022/23.**

3 WORKLOAD UPDATE

- 3.1 SBC Contracts delivers infrastructure improvements across the Council's roads and built estate. The work, which is funded from the Council's Capital budget, include:
- Road Surface Treatment including surface dressing and patching
 - Civil Engineering Works
 - Internal Building works to SBC Estate
 - Bond Coat Application
 - Traffic Management
 - Sign Manufacture
- 3.2 In regards to road surfacing activity to 30th September 2022. We have successfully completed 12 Surface Dressing Patching sites, 5 Carriageway Patching sites, 7 Screed sites, 3 Capital Resurfacing schemes and 2 contracts for private clients.
- 3.3 With specific regard to surface dressing, we have applied treatment to 124,580m² across the network. At 6 sites, deemed as high stress, we have further applied treatment with a Secure Chip application.
- 3.4 In addition to the above, our specialist bond coat operation is having a good year to date. We have successfully completed several contracts for third party clients.
- 3.5 Moving to our civil engineering teams. We have successfully completed works at Chirnside Bridge, Ross High School and Eddleston Cycleway year to date.
- 3.6 We have some contracts, which extend beyond financial years. Of note in 2022/23 we currently have 12 sites which remain active and which commenced in 2021/22 and since April 2022, we have commenced works on 62 new sites, 8 of which remain active.
- 3.7 We have continued to meet demand by balancing the use of our own staff with external contractors, which in turn helps support and sustain the local economy when it comes to civil engineering/ground works and road surfacing.
- 3.8 Our programmes of delivery have progressed well this year. The good weather this summer has particularly helped with our roads surfacing programmes and our performance on other contracts. We would like to highlight some of these successes below;-
- Completion and opening of the Inspire Academy Building at Tweedbank
 - Delivery of the 20MPH speed limit programme
 - Completion of three replacements culverts at Fernihurst, Billhope and Letham
 - New pedestrian crossings at Duns and Peebles
 - Repairs to 12 damaged bridges
 - Significant rural road relining across the Borders
 - 6 projects to repair flood damage across the Borders

- 3.9 We believe that the diversity, flexibility and proven record of delivery is a significant benefit for the Council. Our dedicated and hardworking staff and partners continue to support the Council to meet its needs in terms of roads maintenance and civil engineering whilst retaining the ability to help with emergencies should they occur.

Management Update

- 3.10 At the June meeting of this group Members requested further information about the operation of the Pothole pro within the Scottish Borders. We can advise members that for the four months to 30th September we had completed repairs work using the Pot Hole Pro on 10 sites on the A Class network repairing 522 potholes amounting to 2,064m² of asphalt.
- 3.11 We believe that the deployment of the pothole pro has helped the Council meet its obligations to repair the roads in a timely manner, and whilst the pothole pro is only one technique and approach to what is an integrated management regime, which we deploy across our roads. It is important, as the permanent nature of the repair will help make us become more efficient, and improve the road user experience, whilst also allowing us to reduce our fleet.
- 3.12 Members also previously requested at the External Services/Providers Monitoring Group, 20 September 2022 that we take steps to try to promote the career opportunities within our service, linking into known career promotion programmes with our Education colleagues. We have made the initial enquiries and whilst there are no immediate opportunities for us, we will continue to seek out opportunities to promote our services as a real career choice for our population.
- 3.13 We continue to develop our approach to succession and people management in line with Council programmes.

4 IMPLICATIONS

4.1 Financial

There are no financial implication associated with the public section of this report.

4.2 Risk and Mitigations

There are risks and mitigations associated with the financial performance of SBc Contracts and these are considered in the next report, which is to be heard in private.

4.3 Integrated Impact Assessment

An Integrated Impact assessment has been undertaken and there are no identified impacts arising from the recommendations of this report.

4.4 Sustainable Development Goals

Whilst not directly impacted by the recommendations in this report, SBc Contracts through its trading and project delivery employs wherever possible local suppliers and trades, which in turn supports the UN

Sustainable Development Goal, number 8. In addition, through use of local materials it reduces our impact on the environment because of the reduced miles the materials have to travel, which support UN SD Goal number 12.

4.5 **Climate Change**

There are no significant carbon management implications arising from this Report.

4.6 **Rural Proofing**

There are no significant rural proofing implications arising from this Report.

4.7 **Data Protection Impact Statement**

There are no personal data implications arising from the proposals contained in this report.

4.8 **Changes to Scheme of Administration or Scheme of Delegation**

No changes are required because of this Report.

5 **CONSULTATION**

- 5.1 The Director (Finance & Corporate Governance), the Monitoring Officer/Chief Legal Officer, the Chief Officer Audit and Risk, the Director (People Performance & Change), the Clerk to the Council and Corporate Communications have been consulted and comments received have been incorporated into the final report.

Approved by

Name
John Curry

Title
Director – Infrastructure & Environment

Author(s)

Name	Designation and Contact Number
Jason Hedley	Chief Officer Roads ext 8037
Mark Douglas	Commercial Manager
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Background Papers: nil

Previous Minute Reference: External Services/Providers Monitoring Group, September 20th 2022

Note – You can get this document on tape, in Braille, large print and various computer formats by contacting the address below. Jason Hedley can also give information on other language translations as well as providing additional copies.

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