



Waterproofing and Resurfacing of Northbound Carriageway 2007 - Progress Report

27 April 2007

Purpose of Report

- 1 The purpose of this report is to advise members of progress on the resurfacing works on the main and side spans of the northbound carriageway.

Background

- 2 At its meeting in February, members approved acceptance of a £3.8m tender submitted by Tarmac to carry out waterproofing and resurfacing works to the northbound carriageway of the main and side spans.
- 3 The northbound main span was last fully waterproofed and resurfaced with mastic asphalt in 1998 whilst the 1985 "asphapol" surfacing on the side-spans was skimmed and given a thin stone mastic overlay in 1997.
- 4 As for previous resurfacing works an extensive communications plan has been employed to ensure as wide an audience as possible is aware of what is happening and what the timings and impact will be. This includes leafleting, web site, news releases, TV/Radio campaign, press advertising and for the first time Email alerts to subscribing users. Use is again being made of the Traffic Scotland variable message signs as well as fixed signs at major junctions and approach roads.
- 5 Discussions have been held with bus and rail operating companies to explore the use of additional services at weekends to encourage greater use of public transport. Meetings were also held with adjacent road authorities and Transport Scotland to ensure that any roadworks planned by them would not compromise the signed diversion routes.

Main Report

- 6 As in previous years, the resurfacing works are restricted to weekends and have been divided into two phases avoiding July and August (and the Royal Highland show during the last weekend of June). Phase 1 extends from 13 April to 18 June and Phase 2 commences 7 September till 29 October (with additional weekends required if weather causes delay).

- 7 During the first weekend, a total of 5 of the 18.1m long deck panels were completed from a total of ninety-nine. Tarmac hoped to increase the number of panels to seven on the second weekend but damp weather affected the waterproofing process resulting in completion of only 5 panels. It was necessary to temporarily infill two of the stripped panels to permit opening to traffic.
- 8 Due to the extensive publicity, traffic volumes during the first weekend were down by 29.8% over the corresponding weekend of last year. Despite this, delays to bridge users were recorded at ninety minutes. During the second weekend, traffic was down by 27.5% with similar delays experienced.

Recommendation

- 9 It is recommended that members note progress on this project.

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Appendices	None
Contact/Tel	Alastair Andrew / 0131 319 3092
Background Papers	None