

Society of Chief Officers of Transportation in Scotland



Roads Asset Management Project



SCOTS RAM Background



Roads Authorities



SCOTS



Audit Scotland



Scotland's Response



SCOTS RAM Background



In early 2007 SCOTS took on board the role of delivering a Rudimentary Road Asset Management Plan that could be used and be further developed by all the 32 local authorities in Scotland.



They appointed a champion for the Project, Christine Francis from Glasgow City Council, to deliver the project.



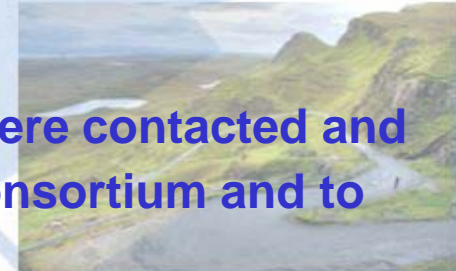
Christine appointed a Project Manager to take the project forward and subsequently a Steering a Group was set up to direct the Project.



SCOTS RAM Background



All 32 Scottish authorities' Chief Executives were contacted and legally agreed to commit to the project as a consortium and to contribute equally to fund the project.



A brief for the project was developed, agreed and approved and in late 1997 tenders were issued to approved consultants to provide professional services in connection with A Common Asset Management Framework leading to Developed Road Asset Management Plans.



In early 2008 the commission was awarded and in February 2008 the Project kicked off



SCOTS (RAM) Project Delivery Team



Chair for the project



Project Manager

Christine Francis, Glasgow City Council.



Eddie Preiss, Glasgow City Council



Steering Group

Main Consultant for the Project

Scott Wilson



Sub Consultant assisting in delivery of the project
exp consulting



SCOTS RAM - Project Aims



- To create a common framework and to otherwise support the development of Roads Asset Management Plans by all Roads Authorities across Scotland.



- To provide a single asset management protocol for all local Roads Authorities in Scotland



- To deliver the aspirations for a better road network as set down by the Scottish Parliament by ensuring that available finances are spent in the most productive manner through joint procurement, common project management, staff training and research and development work.



CONFORMING

The project is important as It will provide Authorities with the ability to respond and conform to:

- **Government's commitment to move to an "asset management plan based approach."**
- **The requirement of Audit Scotland for Local Authorities to demonstrate good asset management practice.**
- **The planned future accounting change to a new road valuation method.**

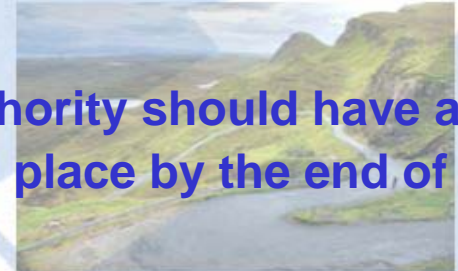
Full participation by each authority in this project is a cost effective way for them to respond to these demands



SCOTS RAM Plan Format



The project programme required that each authority should have a rudimentary Roads Asset Management plan in place by the end of year two.



The plan would be made up of a number of templates developed by the consultant to be populated / completed by each authority.



These templates consisted of spreadsheets for detailed data collection and analysis and text documents to form the structure of the RAM Plan.



SCOTS RAMP Structure



Agreed Document Structure to be used for each Authority's RAMP

RAMP Section

Required Contents

1 Introduction

An overview of the road network and outline of the purpose of preparing the RAMP.

2 Asset Description

A description of the asset including major inventory quantities (or estimates if no reliable figures exist)

3 Community Requirements

A summary of the local community requirements of the road network including reference to any relevant customer surveys.

4 Future Demands

A description of the future demands that will be placed on the asset, traffic growth, specific local pressures etc

5 Levels of Service

A description of the current and target levels of service including relevant SPI's and other indicator results and targets.

6 Lifecycle Planning

A description of the process of lifecycle planning and how this will be applied.

7 Financial Summary

Summary of historical investment, projection of future cost and a summary of the asset valuation.

8 Risk Management

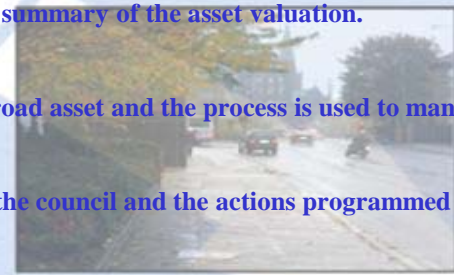
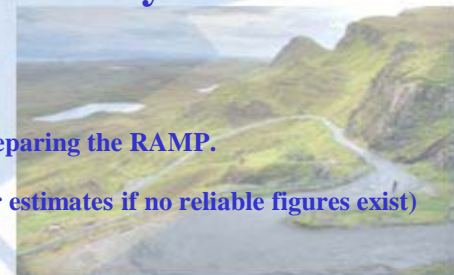
A description of the risks associated with the management of the road asset and the process is used to manage these risks.

9 Improvement Plan

Summary of the current limitations of the actions being taken by the council and the actions programmed to address them.

10 Management & Control of the Plan

A statement of how the plan is to be managed and controlled



SCOTS RAM - Year One



Year one Programme consisted of 9 workshops spread throughout year one and resulted in 8 tasks being issued.



No.	Task	Completed by (number of authorities)
1	Core Data Assessment: Carriageways & footways	32
2	Initial Asset Valuation	29
3	Practice Assessment Action Plan	19
4	Communication Plans	25
5	Lifecycle Plans carriageways and footways	5
6	Skills Assessment Matrix	5
7	Core Data Assessment: Road Lighting	7
8	Core Data Assessment: Structures	16



SCOTS RAM - Year Two



Year 2 programme consisted of:

- **5 Roads related workshops**
- **3 half day workshops for structures discipline**
- **3 half day workshops for lighting disciplines**
- **A session of 3 workdays followed by a review day.**



Roads related Workshop topics



Workshop 1 – March 2009



- RAMP Framework
- Carriageway Lifecycle Planning

Workshop 2 – May 2009



- Condition Assessment
- Pavement Management

Workshop 3 – August 2009

RAMP sections 1, 3, 4, 5, & 8
which cover

- Introduction
- Community Requirements
- Future Demands
- Levels of Service
- Risk Management

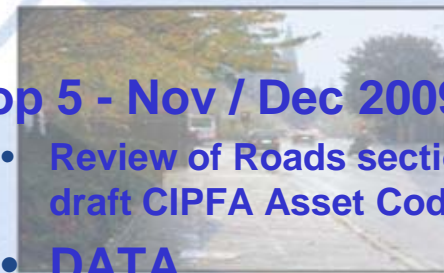


Workshop 4 - Sep. /Oct 2009

- Performance Management
- Level of Service

Workshop 5 - Nov / Dec 2009

- Review of Roads section in draft CIPFA Asset Code
- DATA

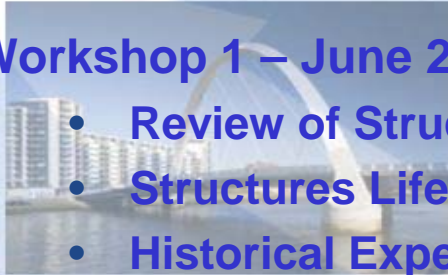


Structures Group Workshops topics



Workshop 1 – June 2009

- Review of Structures Core Data Assessment returns
- Structures Lifecycle Plans
- Historical Expenditure
- Maintenance Unit Treatment Costs



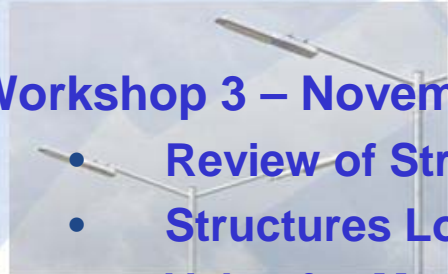
Workshop 2 – August 2009

- Long Term Cost Predictions part 1- components --
- Long Term Cost Predictions part 2 –expected life service plans



Workshop 3 – November 2009

- Review of Structures section in draft CIPFA Asset Code
- Structures Long Term Costs
- Value for Money



Lighting group Workshop topics

Workshop 1 – June 2009

- Review Core Data Assessment returns
- Lighting Lifecycle Plans
- Historical Expenditure
- Long Term Cost Predictions



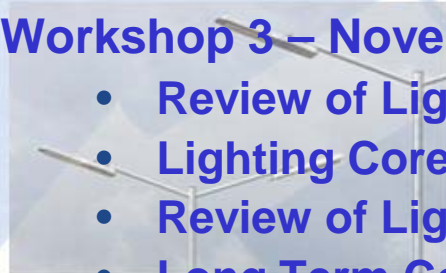
Workshop 2 - August 2009

- Lighting Asset Data
- Asset Valuation
- Historical Costs
- Long Term Cost Predictions



Workshop 3 – November 2009

- Review of Lighting section in draft CIPFA asset code
- Lighting Core Data
- Review of Lighting Historical Costs
- Long Term Cost Predictions.



Workdays and Review day

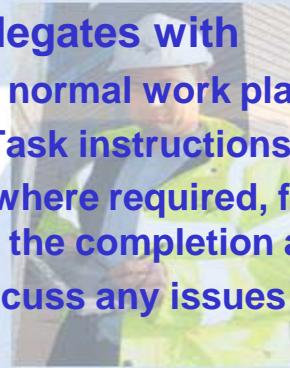


3 Workdays were held in Glasgow in February 2010 to give delegates the opportunity to complete and submit outstanding RAMP tasks.



The workdays provided delegates with

- **Time away from their normal work place in an interruption free environment.**
- **Access to all RAMP Task instructions and templates**
- **Support and advice, where required, from facilitators from exp consulting to assist in progressing the completion any of the RAMP Tasks.**
- **An opportunity to discuss any issues regarding the development of their RAMP**



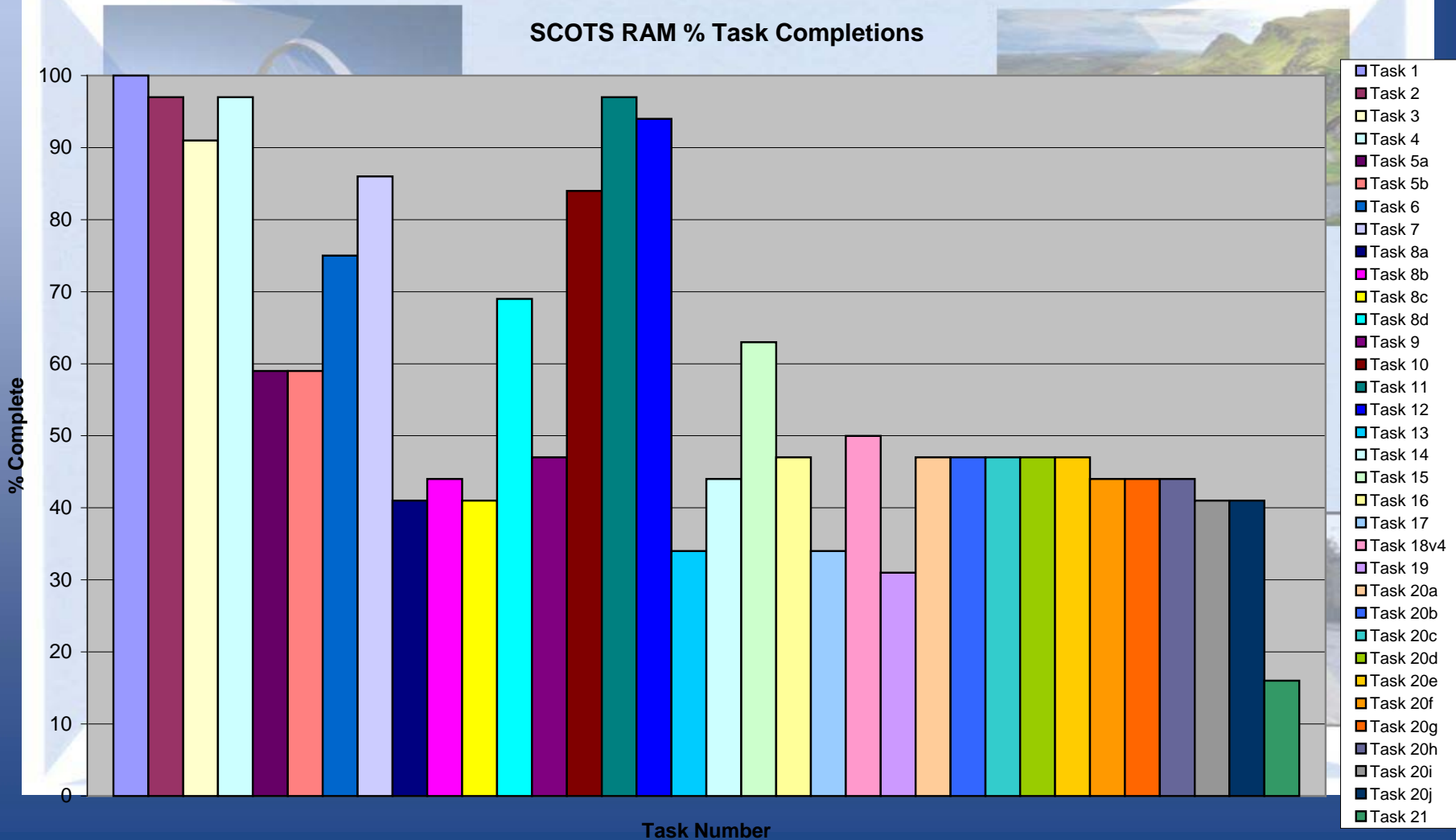
The workdays were followed by a review day where authorities had the opportunity to have their RAMP status and quality reviewed by exp who could offer advice to progress RAMPs to completion.



Overview of progress on completion of RAMPs at the end of Year 2



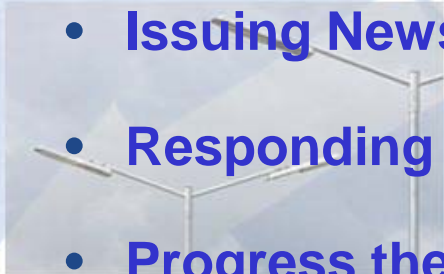
Chart shows percentage of tasks complete per task.



Other Actions

Other actions during year 2 included:

- Individual visits to each authority by the sub consultant to assess Ramp progress, give advice on progressing the Ramp and report on Status to corresponding Heads of Service on the outcomes of the visit.
- Set up a Performance sub-group to look at Performance Measures and develop Performance Indicators.
- Issuing News letters
- Responding to CIPFA draft code consultation.
- Progress the SCOTS Financial Model



Year Three Programme

The programme for Year 3 of the project will consist of:

➤ **4 Roads related workshops**

June 2010

September 2010

November 2010

Jan / Feb 2010

➤ **2 half day workshops for Structures**

September 2010

February 2011

➤ **2 half day workshops for Street Lighting**

September 2010

February 2011



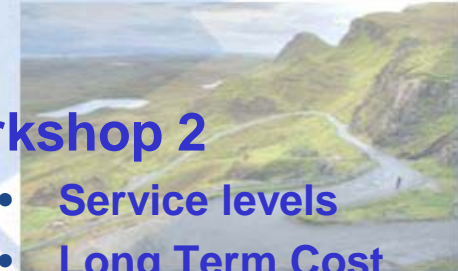
Year 3 Roads related Workshop topics

Workshop 1



- **Additional assets consisting of:**
 - Drainage
 - Signs
 - Lines
 - Traffic calming
 - Footway condition

Workshop 2



- Service levels
- Long Term Cost Predictions.

Workshop 3



- Customer Surveys
- Finance

Workshop 4



- Finance



Structures and Lighting Workshops



Two Specialist Groups, a Structures and a Lighting group have been set up to set the Agendas for each respective Group.



These groups consist of

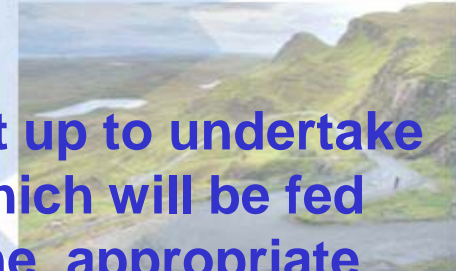
- **The Chair of the project**
- **A representative from the consultant / sub consultant**
- **For each discipline, up to 4 delegates from a selection of authorities to include one from the SCOTS Group covering the appropriate discipline.**



Additional Focus Groups



Additional Focus Groups have been set up to undertake investigatory and development work which will be fed back to the Steering Group for use in the appropriate year 3 Workshops.




The groups formed are:


- **Footway Condition Group**
- **User Information / Survey Group**
- **Finance Group**



Finance



The current financial position of the project is healthy with anticipated costs for year 3 being well covered.



There will be a surplus at the end of year three and, depending on the year 4 programme, it is anticipated that if there is any further contribution required then it will not be substantial.



The project has recently been advised that it has been successful in its application to Transport Scotland for a grant of £50,000 to develop reporting tools.

