

**Remit (Part A) for Scrutiny topic no 135 – Highways Maintenance Procurement**

**Aims**

To contribute to the development and establishment of a strategic and effective highways maintenance procurement strategy in York

To understand the cost implications associated with the PFI bid and its outcome if successful.

**Objectives**

The above aims to be achieved through the following objectives:

- examining the potential efficiencies from a PFI arrangement;
- making recommendations with regard to available alternative options in the event that a PFI outcome is unsuccessful;
- looking at the cost effectiveness of those options, including improved ways of working;
- profiling expenditure over the lifespan of the PFI and any associated secondary costs.

**Scope**

1. To consult with officers, potential partners and any other relevant parties as necessary or appropriate to gain the most current information;
2. To understand what needs to be done in the event of a successful PFI outcome with a view to securing any available medium to long term efficiencies;
3. To examine available other options, including financial values to the Council, with a view to making appropriate recommendations to the Executive on those options, in the event of an unsuccessful PFI outcome.

**Officer and partner involvement**

Officers from Highways Maintenance and any relevant external bodies. Executive Member for City Strategy, if appropriate.

**Timescale**

Review to be completed by end of January 2007 to enable the findings and subsequent recommendations to assist the procurement of highways maintenance to 2010, when the outcome of the PFI bid (currently with Dti) is known.

## **Constraints**

A PFI bid has already been submitted to Dti and the outcome is awaited in January 2007. The decision to make a bid cannot therefore be influenced.

## **Resource Needs**

Scrutiny Officer and Highways Maintenance Officer support will be required for tasks and meetings associated with this review, the formal structure for which, should, as a minimum, be suggested as:

1. Initial Scoping meeting (how review is to be done; what information will be needed and when; and who will need to be seen and by when.  
(Allocate tasks)
2. Interim meeting – to discuss findings and draft report
3. Final meeting – to agree final report for submission to SMC. (29 January 2006)