

AUDIT REPORT 19'027

CAPITAL PLAN - BRIDGES REFURBISHMENT CONTRACT

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The annual audit plan for 2018/19 provided for a contract review to be undertaken of a civil engineering works project. The contract for the refurbishment of Craigellachie Bridge was initially chosen for review, however due to a delay in the start date for the scheme, another contract was selected. The contract chosen for audit was the repair and refurbishment of Glenernie and Logie Bridges in the Forres area.

Glenernie and Logie Bridges, although separate schemes in the capital programme, had similar repair requirements that allowed the works to be awarded as one contract. The requirement for the works had been identified from a bi-annual survey inspection undertaken by the consultancy service into the condition of all council owned bridges.

The inspection identified a requirement for reinforcement and repair works to both bridges at a combined cost of approximately £250k. The contract was tendered and evaluation based on a quality price determination. The contract was awarded in competition, with the successful contractor starting the works on site at the beginning of April 2018.

The audit reviewed the contract from its award through to the completion of the works. A comparison was made between the costs detailed within the activity schedule provided by the contractor and the final outturn costs. Any additional works were verified to ensure a valid project management instruction had been issued in accordance with the Conditions of the Contract. A check was also made to ensure the contractor held and had provided evidence of appropriate insurance cover.

Detailed records had been maintained to record the final outturn costs for both Schemes. Within the tendering arrangements it was noted one of the prospective contractors proposed a different methodology for undertaking an element of the works and this resulted in all tenderers being invited to resubmit their tenders for the works. This change was positive, resulting in a small cost reduction in the schemes.

Overall, the audit found that the contract had been well administered and managed in accordance with the Conditions of Contract.