

**Strategy -**

**3a Director's report on liaison between RTPs, and with the Scottish Government and Others**

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**o Purpose of Report**

The purpose of this report is to update the Board on liaison with other RTPs and with the Scottish Government and other organisations.

**o Background**

This report details meetings with other RTPs across Scotland, Transport Scotland and other national transport bodies highlighting issues of interest across Scotland. It also notes meetings of the Health and Transport Steering Group and the Local Authority Bus Operators Forum.

**o Recent Developments**

The last Board meeting was held on 9 December 2014, since which the following updates are available from meetings:

**❖ National Connectivity Task Force, London, 11 December 2014, 9 and 21 January 2015, 12 February 2015 & 4 March 2015**

These meetings were used to finalise the Task Force's report to the Airports Commission. This report was submitted, within the timetable, to the Commission on 3 February 2014. A fuller report including all the substantiating evidence researched by the Task Force will be published at a formal event on 4 March 2015.

**❖ Transport Scotland, Aberdeen, 16 December 2014**

This meeting was one of a regular series of meetings with Transport Scotland's Rail Division. Derick Murray and Rab Dickson discussed the progress on the various rail projects affecting our area.

**❖ SCDI Annual Lecture, Aberdeen, 15 January 2015 (& 3 February 2015)**

This year's annual SCDI lecture was given at a dinner by Mark Carne, the Chief Executive of Network Rail. Given the relevance of the speaker, Nestrans agreed to sponsor this dinner and had a table at the event along with a top table seat for the Chair. The lecture was well received. It concentrated on making direct comparisons between the Oil and Gas industry and the Rail industry across a range of issues.

Following this event a further meeting was arranged on 3 February for Aberdeen City Council, Nestrans and Aberdeen Harbour to meet with the Route Managing Director for Network Rail Scotland to discuss the projects in our area and their fit with the developing City Deal.

❖ **East Coast Main Line Authorities, York, 3 February 2015**

The ECMA, of which Nestrans are a member, met in York in February. This was one of a series of Consortium meetings, normally representatives from other RTPs have provided input and feedback as appropriate. This event was attended by Will Dawson, Chair of Tactran. This is discussed in item 5a Rail Matters.

❖ **Cross Party Group on aviation, Scottish Parliament, 4 February 2015**

This meeting of the cross party group discussed two issues:

- The performance of the country's airports in 2014
- Sustainable aviation

The next meeting of the group will be considering access to London with representatives from Gatwick and Heathrow.

❖ **Transport Scotland, Glasgow, 5 February 2015**

Derick Murray attended a meeting with various people within Transport Scotland to discuss a range of issues affecting the north east. These included:

- The future shape of our strategy
- City centre regeneration
- City Deal
- Transport Scotland's future forecast models
- Cycling as part of future trunk road upgrades
- Energetica study
- Cross city connections study
- Laurencekirk junctions
- Park and Ride
- Rail issues
- Aberdeen Harbour
- Aberdeen Airport

❖ **HTAP Steering Group, Aberdeen, 9 February 2015**

The minutes of this meeting will be available for the next Board meeting.

❖ **RTP Lead Officers, Edinburgh, 11 February 2015**

A verbal report will be available at the Board meeting

❖ **City Centre Masterplan, Aberdeen, 17 February 2015**

This is a continuation of the development of the city centre masterplan which Nestrans will be attending.

❖ **High Speed Rail Group, Glasgow, 18 February 2015**

This meeting will update the Scotland Group on High Speed Rail, which Nestrans sit on, on progress on development of the high speed rail programme. A verbal update will be available at the meeting.

## o **Future Programme of Meetings**

### ❖ **Abellio seminar, Aberdeen, 23 February 2015**

This event is discussed under item 5a Rail Matters

### ❖ **LABOF Steering Group, Aberdeen, 26 February 2015**

### ❖ **RTP Chairs meeting, Orkney, 4 March 2015**

Cllr Argyle will be attending this meeting.

### ❖ **Aberdeen International Airport Consultative Committee, Aberdeen, 6 March 2015**

This meeting will be attended by Eddie Anderson. Derick Murray will also be in attendance to discuss the Airports Commission consultation and the National Connectivity Task Force's response.

## **Recommendation**

The Board is recommended to note progress on liaison arrangements with other RTPs, the Scottish Government and others and arrangements for future meetings.

RGM 09 Feb 2015