

Strategy -

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

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- 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.

- 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.

- Recent Developments

The last Board meeting was held on 29 February 2016, since which the following updates are available from meetings:

- ❖ **High Speed Rail Scotland Group, Glasgow, 29 February 2016**

This meeting was cancelled and re-scheduled for 9 March 2016.

- ❖ **RTP Chairs Meeting, Barra, 2<sup>nd</sup> March 2016**

This event was attended by Cllr Peter Argyle and Derick Murray. The meeting discussed:

- ❖ Smart ticketing

The meeting noted that Bill Reeve, a Director at Transport Scotland had presented to the Lead Officers on progress towards an all Scotland, all modes smart ticket. The meeting also noted the various progress being made across the country in introducing smart cards and in some places smart cards offering integrated tickets.

There was some concern expressed about the number of 'pilot' schemes being developed across the country but as yet no real strategy for pulling these into a national card although recognising that Transport Scotland were working towards this goal.

The Chairs agreed that a letter should be sent to the Minister supporting his efforts to introduce a smart card that worked nationally and to offer RTP support, in accordance with the Develop and Deliver document agreed between RTP's and Transport Scotland, and assistance in developing and implementing the strategy that his officers were developing.

❖ Roads Collaboration

The Chairs noted the latest developments in the Roads Collaboration programme and the progress of Audit Scotland's review of progress since the last audit of Roads Maintenance.

❖ Relationship with the Minister for Transport

The Chairs agreed that it would be beneficial to ask the (new?) Minister, following the elections, to attend an RTP Chairs meeting.

❖ Transport for Regional Growth Seminar

The Chairs discussed proposals for an all RTP Transport for Regional Growth Seminar following the success of the Sustran seminar last year. It was agreed that a bi-annual seminar was most appropriate with the possibility of starting in 2016 following the Parliamentary elections. It was further agreed that best attendance was likely if the event was held in the central belt. Such a seminar should follow the Sustran model with no costs to the RTP's. It was remitted to Lead Officers to develop a proposal.

❖ Active/Sustainable Travel

There was some discussion regarding the distribution methods used for cycling and smarter choices smarter places funding. Concern was expressed about Local Authorities ability to both match fund and provide staffing to bid for, design and implement projects going forward with reducing revenues and staffing numbers. It was agreed to write to the Minister on this topic.

❖ Bus

There was some discussion (particularly for the model 1 RTP's) on the new bus registration guidance in particular to the sections where Public Transport Authorities are expected to consult with RTP's where a service is strategic. It was agreed that this needed to be clarified and that a letter should be sent to Transport Scotland.

❖ Air and Ferries

The meeting heard about progress on assessment of a scoping paper looking into air access to and within the Scottish Islands and on progress with a STAG analysis of the Northern Isles Ferry issues.

❖ Rail

High Speed Rail – no progress to report

## East Coast Main Line

A reliability study has been commissioned by the Group, paid for via Virgin East Coast.

There was some discussion regarding the Open Access proposals between Edinburgh and London. There is concern that such proposals could create competition to Virgin East Coast, reducing profitability and a focusing on the Edinburgh south sections to the detriment of the Edinburgh north sections. It was agreed that consideration should be given to a letter to the Office for Road and Rail, copied to the Department of Transport and Transport Scotland.

### ❖ Concessionary Fares

There was some discussion regarding the differences experienced by various disability groups and their companions around the country and across the modes. It was agreed to pull together a table showing the different offers across the country.

### ❖ RTP Secretariat

It was noted that SPT have offered to take on the role of the RTP Secretariat.

### ❖ **Virgin Trains East Coast**

The Chair and the Director met Virgin Trains East Coast at a business breakfast to discuss their East Coast Mainline services between Aberdeen and London.

### ❖ **Health and Transport Steering Group, Aberdeen, 8 March 2016**

The Draft Minute of the Steering Group is attached as Appendix 1 to this report.

### ❖ **High Speed Rail Scotland Group, Glasgow, 9 March 2016**

This meeting was cancelled and re-scheduled for 21 March 2016.

### ❖ **City Centre Masterplan Programme Board, Aberdeen, 22 March 2016**

Derick Murray has been invited to join this group reflecting the strategic transport nature of the transport interventions required to make the City Centre Masterplan's transport measures work.

### ❖ **High Speed Rail Scotland Group, Glasgow, 21 March 2016**

The Scottish Government Minister for Transport and the UK Government Secretary of State for Transport jointly published the study into extending High Speed Rail to central Scotland at an event in Waverley Station, Edinburgh. The Scottish Government also published its investigation into an Edinburgh to Glasgow route at this event. Nestrans did not attend this event.

The findings of the studies are discussed in more detail at Item 8, the Information Bulletin.

- Future Programme of Meetings

- ❖ **Network Rail, Aberdeen, 11 & 18 April 2016**

Nestrans are meeting with Network Rail to discuss the Aberdeen to Inverness rail improvements and the local rail improvements that were recently announced. Network Rail are presenting to Council colleagues on the 18 April on these issues.

- ❖ **Transport Scotland, Dundee, 25 April 2016**

A meeting with the Client Group to discuss the Laurencekirk junctions improvement.

- ❖ **City Centre Masterplan Programme Board, Aberdeen, 26 April & 24 May 2016**

- ❖ **LABOF Steering Group, Aberdeen, 3 May 2016**

Rab Dickson will be attending this meeting.

- ❖ **RTP Lead Officers, Glasgow, 11 May 2016**

Rab Dickson will be attending this meeting.

- ❖ **HTAP Steering Group, Aberdeen, 7 June 2016**

#### 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 06 April 2016

**HTAP Steering Group  
8 March 2016  
Members Building, Woodhill House, Aberdeen**

Minute

Present

Gerry Donald (Chair), NHSG (GD)  
Derick Murray (Vice Chair), Nestrans (DM)  
Rab Dickson, Nestrans (RD)  
Joanna Murray, Aberdeen City Council (JM)  
Ewan Wallace, Aberdeenshire Council (EW)  
Euan Esslemont, Scottish Ambulance Service (EE)  
Rob Craig, ACVO (RC)  
Andrew Stewart, HTAP Programme Manager (AS)

Apologies

Adam Coldwells, Aberdeenshire Health & Social Care Partnership (AC)  
Joyce Duncan, ACVO (JD)  
Jane Russell, ACVO (JR)  
Nicola Moss, Moray Council (NM)  
Caroline Comerford, NHSG (CC)

Item		Action
<b>1.</b>	<b>Welcome and Apologies</b>	
	GD welcomed all. Attendees introduced themselves. Apologies noted as above.	
<b>2.</b>	<b>Previous Minute/Matters Arising</b>	
	<p><u>Public Representative</u> The action on NM to forward contact details of Anita Milne has been completed. AS informed meeting that two individuals have expressed interest in the role of Public Representative. Both have been issued application forms. AS will meet with both in due course.</p>	
	<p><u>Linkage of Physical Activity &amp; Young People</u> The action on CC in the previous minute regarding physical activity and young people forms a part of the ongoing development of the T&amp;PH Sub-Group mapping exercise.</p>	
	<p><u>Meeting with Professor Nelson</u> GD and DM fed back on their discussion with Professor Nelson of Aberdeen University. The meeting was advised of discussions between partners on the delayed installation of the FITS (Fully Integrated Transport Solutions) software. Professor Nelson has said that Aberdeen University wishes to continue working with partners in regard to FITS. AS asked partners to note that the dot.rural project, of which FITS was developed within, no longer exists. EW expressed the view that the issue of transport and access will move up the priorities of partners integrating health and social care as the partnerships develop.</p>	
	<p><u>Road Map</u> JM queried reference to action on her to feedback to RD. The meeting acknowledged the need for a "road map" to crystalize the vision and aims of HTAP</p>	

	<p>and better assist partners to develop the work plans of the two sub-groups. DM highlighted the need to learn lessons from both the Lothian Hub model and the, now defunct Lochaber Pilot.</p> <p><b>ACTION:</b> AS to draft a road map and circulate to partners for input.</p> <p><b>ACTION:</b> All partners to provide input to the Road Map.</p>	AS All
	<p><u>NHS Taxi Spend</u></p> <p>DM advised the meeting he has spoken with Transport Scotland of the accounting issue of NHS taxi spend and a need for this to be addressed nationally.</p>	
	<p><u>Traveline Scotland Development</u></p> <p>DM confirmed inclusion of GP practices within the Traveline Scotland app is expected by the end of March.</p>	
<b>3.</b>	<b>Programme Manager Update</b>	
	AS summarised his update report circulated with papers highlighting meetings with partners, progress and barriers to partnership working.	
<b>4.</b>	<b>Transport &amp; Public Health</b>	
	RD spoke on behalf of CC giving a summary of her report making reference to the RAG indicators in the accompanying work plan.	
	The mapping document produced by T&PH sub-group members was noted. The next sub-group, on 17 March, will validate the document and discuss potential opportunities assisting HTAP aims. The meeting acknowledged the high level of demand on officer time generated by Smarter Choices Smarter Places projects and also the opportunity for joint proposals. DM advised the meeting that Nestrans may be able to assist with match funding from existing budgets. EW raised the need to consider within the mapping exercise the issue of revenue funding.	
<b>5.</b>	<b>Access to Health &amp; Social Care</b>	
	<p><u>Sub-Group</u></p> <p>RD summarised his report on the progress of the sub-group and referred the meeting to the RAG indicators within the work plan circulated.</p>	
	<p>JM raised with the group the role of NHSG to develop projects within the NHSG Travel Plan and participate in partnership projects. AS raised with the meeting a need for improved communication between NHSG and partners on Travel Planning.</p> <p><b>ACTION:</b> GD to arrange a meeting with AS and NHSG Estates colleagues to discuss links with NHSG Travel Plans and partners.</p> <p>RD advised group that AS and CC are members of the NHS Transport Overview Group (TOG) and the new Travel Planning Executive at Nestrans will take up the post on 4 April and will wish to engage NHSG.</p> <p>AS flagged up the difficulty progressing the action focused on auditing spending and a previous action on AC.</p> <p><b>ACTION:</b> GD to speak with AC about agreed delegation regarding financial audit.</p>	GD  GD
	<p><u>Evaluation of THInC 2016</u></p> <p>AS summarised the content of the evaluation report, including progress made working with partners, such as ACVO and Buchan Dial A Community Bus to pilot a booking element within THInC. AS highlighted that the pilot has been a welcome</p>	

	<p>addition to the development process but greater engagement is needed to develop a sustainable hub model of integrated transport. The recommendations were noted by the meeting. An evaluation focusing on the impacts of the THInC: Transport in the City pilot is being carried out by ACVO. RC advised the meeting that the deadline for this has been extended to May. RC drew attention to the question of two “brands” used to promote THInC and THInC: In The City. AS advised partners that the issue referred to in the report concerned visual style of posters and had not impacted on communicating to users the service. AS explained that partners developed communication materials to introduce the pilot in a very short timescale. GD clarified that HTAP partners had delivered the pilot with ACVO and Buchan Dial A Community Bus under the THInC name. DM confirmed the aim of extending booking systems to all partners.</p> <p>GD felt the report was helpful, while noting the relatively low number of users, the vulnerability of those using the services of THInC was clear from the case studies shown. EW highlighted the £120 average cost of each missed health appointment. The meeting agreed that a summarised version of the report should be circulated to local councillors across the region.</p> <p>All noted the difficulty of promoting the project with so much information circulating and staff turnover.</p> <p><b>ACTION:</b> AS to summarise the report and forward to partners for circulation to councillors. Also, for the summary report to be attached to the Annual Report.</p> <p><b>ACTION:</b> RC to circulate the ACVO led assessment of impacts from the THInC: In The City pilot.</p>	<p>AS</p> <p>RC</p>
	<p><u>AADP Concessionary Travel Pilot</u></p> <p>The meeting discussed the proposal to hold conversation café stakeholder events focused on the transport/access issues of people using recovery services. The meeting requested AS clarify with AADP what action they wish partners to address. While noting the benefit of the pilot DM asked AS to clarify with Transport Scotland why the approach is not being adopted nationally.</p> <p><b>ACTION:</b> AS to request written request from AADP and to speak with Transport Scotland.</p>	<p>AS</p>
<b>6.</b>	<b>Annual Report/Collective Review of Progress</b>	
	<p>The meeting agreed to repeat the format for the latest annual report with the addition of a few paragraphs from GD.</p> <p><b>ACTION:</b> AS to draft Annual Report.</p> <p>The meeting discussed overall progress. GD noted that the Steering Group is in a better place. GD asked the meeting if there was enough progress. RD felt there had been significant progress. JM spoke about evolving opportunities with a growing network of Travel Planning Officers and noted the progress on the mapping exercise by the T&amp;PH sub-group. DM said there is progress but that HTAP needs to be reinforced as being part of the day job for partners. EW shared the view that work on delivering HTAP activity is part of the day job but also acknowledged that organisations work within the limitations of what is feasible.</p>	<p>AS</p>
<b>7.</b>	<b>AOCB</b>	
	None.	
<b>8.</b>	<b>Future Meetings</b>	
	7 <sup>th</sup> June, Summerfield House, Aberdeen (1400), 13 <sup>th</sup> September, Elgin (1030), 8 <sup>th</sup> December, Marischal College, Aberdeen (1400)	

Minute by AS.