

Strategy -

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

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 28 August 2013, since which the following meetings have been held:

❖ Transport Scotland re Aviation, Edinburgh, 29 August 2013

This was a joint meeting with Hitrans. The meeting was held to keep open communication between the northern RTPs and Transport Scotland over a number of issues affecting aviation. Topics discussed included:

- Access to London, including access to Heathrow
 - EU proposals for landing slot regulations
 - RTP meetings with DfT
 - Nestrans' attempts to set up a meeting for NE MPs with the UK Minister for Aviation
 - The invitation to the EU's Head Civil Servant for Transport to visit the north of Scotland
 - Possible Transport Ministers involvement in that meeting
- The UK route development fund announced as part of the UK budget announcements
- EU state aid rules (this is discussed further at item 6b Publications and Consultations)

❖ Transport Scotland re Rail Issues, By video conference, 30 August 2013

This meeting was attended by Derick Murray. The meeting discussed;

- Nestrans' refreshed Regional Transport Strategy
 - New understanding/definition of Aberdeen Crossrail
 - Buchan Corridor Study
- Progress on Aberdeen to Inverness Rail Study
 - Link to Inverness-Montrose timetable study

- Aberdeen to Central Belt progress
- Franchise Progress
 - Sleeper services
 - ScotRail Franchise; and
 - East Coast Franchise
- Inch & Dyce stations

❖ **RTP Chairs meeting, Campbeltown, 04 September 2013**

The meeting was attended by Councillor Peter Argyle and Derick Murray and discussed:

- Presentation by Hitrans on towns regeneration development in Argyll
- Minutes of 5 June 2013 and Matters Arising
 - SG/RTPs Working Group
 - Continued development of the working group paper
 - RTP/CoSLA/Scottish Government Liaison
 - Discussion on an RTP Chair attending CoSLA's meeting with the Minister for Transport and Veterans. To comply with CoSLA's regulation, the Chair representing RTPs should also sit on CoSLA's DES Group. It was agreed that Cllrs, Collins, Dawson or Semple would therefore represent the RTPs at these meetings.
 - EU Low Carbon Transport Funding
 - A discussion on on-going work to inform the process on Strategic Interventions proposals for allocation of European Structural and Investment Funding 2014 - 2020. Templates were being developed covering 4 proposed key themes relating to low carbon economy – i.e. Low Carbon Transport Hubs; Active Travel Hubs; Intelligent Transport Systems; and National Smart Ticketing Scheme.
 - National Tourism Development Plan
 - The final Tourism Development Framework for Scotland had been published in early August, which had incorporated the majority of earlier RTP input and comments
 - Transport Futures
 - It was agreed that RTP Chairs input would meantime continue to be Cllr Dawson and Cllr Imrie, pending clarification of the future role and remit of the group.
- Bus Issues
 - Bus Stakeholder Group Update
 - The July meeting was postponed therefore a further progress update will be provided at the next RTP Chairs Meeting.
 - Bus Regulation (Scotland) Bill
 - An RTP response was discussed and agreed. It was agreed that, in the event of the current proposals progressing to the stage of a Private Members Bill, it would be appropriate to invite Iain Gray to attend a future Chairs meeting to discuss developed proposals in more detail.
 - Parliamentary Inquiry into Community Transport
 - Scottish Government advised a draft response to the Scottish Parliament Inquiry Report was with the Minister for approval. SG is intending to commission some further research, which would involve stakeholder consultations, including with RTPs and Community Transport Association. Follow-up would also include CTA doing an update of their "State of the Sector" report. Other issues to be considered included D1 licensing and associated potential demographic "time-bomb"; increasing resources for CTA

to develop an on-line database in Scotland; and linkages between Community Transport and Health and Transport. Ministers had decided that there would be no further extension of concessionary travel eligibility for CT services.

- Following the Inquiry, Transport Scotland were considering the Inquiry's suggestion for a Community Transport fund for vehicle
- The Chairs and Lead Officers welcomed the possibility of additional funding for CT delivery and commented on the need for transport authorities to be involved in the process of determining the allocation of any funding, in the interests of ensuring that community and wider public transport integration benefits of the proposed vehicle replacement fund were maximised. Cllr Collins requested that the additional funds should be channelled through RTPs and/or Local Authorities. TD agreed to take these comments back for TS consideration.
- Scottish Cities Alliance Hydrogen Buses initiative
 - Discussed at Item 8 Information Bulletin
- Roads Policing – presentation by Chief Supt. Iain Murray, Head of Roads Policing
 - Issues covered in discussion included Road Traffic Accident responses and diversionary routeing; A9 and Average Speed Cameras; Road Safety education resourcing and delivery.

At this point in the meeting Councillor Peter Argyle and Derick Murray left the meeting due to commitments in the north east that evening.

- Rail Issues
 - High Speed Rail Update
 - A report was approved and it was agreed to receive a report on a joint RTPs response to the HS2 consultation on route options from West Midlands to Leeds and Manchester at the next meeting on 4 December 2013.
 - Cllr Collins highlighted the need for WCML interests to be recognised and referred to parallel activity by East Coast groupings/interests. He agreed to feedback on related issues and developments in his capacity as Vice-Chair of the WC250 group. He also felt that the benefits of HS1 had been lost sight of and requested that the HSS group take account of these.
 - Rail Franchises Update
 - The report was approved and it was agreed to receive an update at a future meeting.
 - Cllr Collins emphasised Swestrans' concerns regarding the future operation of TransPennine and Northern Rail services.
 - ECMA
 - A letter dated 5 August confirming RTPs are now members of the ECMA group was noted and welcomed. RTPs were currently nominating lead officer contacts. ECMA was understood to be seeking contributions towards research work and it was agreed that each RTP should liaise with relevant partner Councils on this to enable a combined approach.
 - Community Rail Partnerships Update
 - The Community Rail Partnership initiative was still in the early stages of development. ACoRP officers have been appointed for

Northern and Southern Scotland. It was agreed to receive updates on further developments at future meetings.

- Aviation Issues
 - Davies Commission – Airports Commission Discussion Paper 4 on Hub Operating Models
 - An officers' response to Discussion Paper No. 4 was endorsed.
 - EU consultation on State Aid Rules
 - It was agreed that a joint RTPs response informed by on-going consultation with CoSLA and Scotland Europa would be prepared. Cllr Collins highlighted the importance of Prestwick to Swestrans and requested this be reflected in the response.
- Consultations
 - Review of Local Air Quality Management in Scotland
 - It was agreed that a joint RTPs response to the consultation would be submitted.
- Liaison Groups Update (ScotFLAG; Smart Ticketing; STEP; CAPS; Low Carbon Transport etc.) (oral updates as appropriate)
 - ScotFLAG on 13 June 2013 – included presentation on Edinburgh Ecostars with discussion on on-going financial commitment required and potential for a Scotland-wide scheme; a presentation on FTA's Logistics Carbon Reduction Scheme; updates on Hitrans timber transport and whisky rail project, Tactran Perth FCC and Dundee ENCLOSE project work, Nestrans road to rail seminar; and RFG issues with A9 dualling. There had also been discussion on a proposed Transport Scotland facilitated workshop for RTP freight officers.
 - CAPS – RTPs were now fully involved in the CAPS Delivery Forum and most had attended the Forum meeting on 29 August. RTPs had been invited to the annual Minister's Cycling Summit on 24th September and it was proposed that Hitrans would give RTP input to a series of presentations. RTPs would also be represented by Bruce Kiloh on a joint Steering Group managing the work of a Sustrans post to drive delivery of CAPS.
- CoSLA Liaison
- Health and Transport
 - SAS had confirmed that their Chair and Heather Kenney were available to attend the next meeting on 4th December, when it was hoped a draft response by SAS to the SLWG report would be available to assist joint discussion.

❖ HTAP Steering Group, Aberdeen, 13 September 2013

The minutes of the HTAP Steering Group meeting are attached as Appendix A.

❖ Sustrans, Aberdeen, 14 October 2013

This meeting was attended by Derick Murray, Rab Dickson and John Lauder, Director of Sustrans. It was intended to improve communications and increase understanding between Sustrans and the north east authorities. Discussion centred on significant progress being made in the north east on cycling issues but the apparent shortage of national funding in comparison to the north east's size and population.

Following discussion it was agreed to have a meeting between Sustrans Director, Sustrans regional case officers, Nestrans and the two local authorities to review previous work undertaken, bids made both accepted and rejected, bid criteria and timescales to

determine a different approach (by both the north east and Sustrans) where bids could be made at a level commensurate with the size and population of the north east.

It was agreed that communication could be improved and a greater understanding had of the context for north east bids. It was discussed that a post within Nestrans to assist both the local authorities and Sustrans in developing and understanding the regional/ local cycling strategies and project bids would be useful and that such a post could attract a level of funding from Sustrans. Further discussions on this issue will be held.

❖ **Transport Scotland re Energetica corridor study, Glasgow, 17 October 2013**

This meeting was attended by Derick Murray and Rab Dickson. Transport Scotland were represented by rail, road and development divisions. The meeting discussed a wide range of issues in relation to the possible scope of works. This is discussed further in the Information Bulletin.

❖ **Transport Scotland re new Liaison Officer, Aberdeen, 18 October 2013**

Transport Scotland have appointed a new RTP Liaison Officer, Ewen Mulligan. Derick Murray and Rab Dickson met with Ewen and provided a brief history of Nestrans and its current priorities.

Nestrans invited Ewen back to the north east for a tour of some of the projects that we are involved in, to meet with our Council colleagues and to attend a Board meeting. This will be arranged for the new year.

❖ **Transport Scotland re A9 & A96, Perth, 23 October 2013**

❖ **East Coast Main Line Group, Perth, 23 October 2013**

❖ **LABOF Steering Group, Aberdeen, 25 October 2013**

o **Future Programme of Meetings**

❖ **RTP Lead Officers, Perth, 13 November 2013**

❖ **Scottish Parliament All Party Group on Aviation, Edinburgh, 27 November 2013**

❖ **RTP Chairs meeting, Perth, 04 December 2013**

o **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/RD 22 October 2013

HTAP Steering Group Meeting

Friday 13 September 2013

Nestrans Board Room. 29 King Street, Aberdeen

Present:

Gerry Donald; NHS Grampian [Chair]
 Derick Murray; Nestrans
 Rab Dickson; Nestrans
 Maggie Bochel; Aberdeen City Council
 Ewan Wallace, Aberdeenshire Council
 John Gallagher; NHS Grampian
 Jillian Evans; NHS Grampian

Apologies:

Heather Kenney, Scottish Ambulance Service
 Ian Donald; Scottish Ambulance Service
 Gordon Holland, Moray Council

Minutes of Meeting

Item	Note	Action
1	<p>Welcome & Apologies</p> <p>Gerry Donald welcomed all present, and apologies were noted, as above.</p>	
2	<p>Minutes of the Previous Meeting</p> <p>The Minutes of the meeting of 10 May 2013 were accepted as a true and accurate record. There were no items arising other than those which were covered on the agenda.</p>	
3	<p>Matters Arising</p> <p>a) HTAP Support Manager: The Steering Group noted the paper which had been considered by the Nestrans Board at its meeting of 28 August and heard that Ewan had managed to progress the advertisement through the auspices of Aberdeenshire Council's HR team. A total of nine applications had been received, a short list of suitable applicants invited for interview and a preferred candidate selected.</p> <p>b) Shared Service Update: Maggie indicated that she had spoken with Aberdeen City Council's Office & Building Manager, who has indicated that with 60 drop-offs per day this was too much for a single shared service. There may be scope for a joint Council/Fire/Police service with a separate NHS Grampian delivery. It was agreed that this should be investigated further, noting that Community Planning Partnerships had secured the original funding. Maggie will provide the Office & Building Manager's contact details to Gerry who will attempt to persuade him to lead on instigating a joint arrangement, with the help of the new Support Manager if necessary.</p> <p>c) Short Life Working Group: The Steering Group discussed the paper which had been circulated regarding the Government's Short Life Working Group Report on Access to Health and Social Care. There were a number of actions necessary and it was agreed that a workplan was required for the coming year, identifying priority actions for each of the partners. Gerry agreed to pick up on the need to provide accurate financial information and he will contact NHSG finance.</p>	<p>MB</p> <p>GD</p>

	<p>Ewan also circulated a review of Getabout activity over the first half of 2013 and noted that some 31 events had taken place across Aberdeen and Aberdeenshire, with over 4,000 participants.</p> <p>Rab indicated that over the coming weeks, Cycling Scotland and Aberdeen City Council would conduct the first Aberdeen Bike Ride on Sunday 15th September, there was a full week of activities planned during European Mobility Week and a major event would be held on Sunday 22nd September at Schoolhill in Aberdeen.</p>	
4.3	<p>Links between Transport and Health</p> <p>Jillian indicated that she had given thought to production of a magazine, to promote the messages under the HTAP banner. It was agreed that something would be useful and Jillian will progress by mid-October, with contributions from others and in liaison with the Support Manager.</p> <p>It was agreed that engagement/consultation should form an important element of developing HTAP2.</p>	JE
5	<p>AOCB</p> <p>Derick noted that there were currently two spaces on the Nestrans Board and that there will be an advert going public soon.</p>	
6	<p>Date of Next Meeting</p> <p>The next meeting is scheduled for 29 November, but this clashes with other meetings which both Derick and Ewan will be attending. Need to consider alternative dates near the end of November.</p>	RD

RD/Nestrans/HTAP Steering Group/Sept 2013
17 September 2013