

Strategy -

3a Liaison between RTPs, and with the Scottish Government and Others

- Purpose of Report

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

- Background

The following series of meetings have been agreed by the Board or have evolved through the meetings agreed by the Board:

- RTP Chairs and the Minister for Transport to meet twice yearly.
- RTP Chairs to establish an Association and to meet quarterly.
- Nestrans Liaison Sub Committees appointed for meetings with HITRANS/ ZetTrans and TACTRAN as neighbouring RTPs.
- RTP Lead Officers meeting quarterly now including Scottish Government and CoSLA.
- LABOF Steering Group meetings

- Recent Developments

Since the last Board meeting there has been the following meetings:

- ❖ **RTP Lead Officers, Edinburgh, 11 May 2011**

This meeting discussed:

- EU transport White Paper – a paper is to be prepared for the Chairs meeting of 1 June.
- Freight Facilities Grant - a paper is to be prepared for the Chairs meeting of 1 June.
- High Speed Rail – Joint RTP responses to the UK Transport Select Committee and the DfT consultation were discussed as was the Transport Futures response to the Select Committee.
- SCOTS discussions on the National Roads Maintenance Review and Shared Services were discussed
- The provisional findings of the Competition Commission's review of Local Bus Services were discussed - a paper is to be prepared for the Chairs meeting of 1 June.
- Aviation consultation is to be reported to the September Chairs meeting.

- ❖ **Nestrans/ Hitrans/ Tactran/ Zetrans**

A meeting was held between the north of Scotland RTP's to discuss common issues of importance to the north. Topics discussed included:

- Bus Policy and the Competition Commissions findings from it's Local Bus Review
- RTS refresh process

- Rail issues:
 - High Speed Rail
 - Scotland RUS
 - Stations RUS
 - Aberdeen to Inverness Sundays
 - Aberdeen to Inverness Grip 2 study
 - Highland Main Line proposals
 - Tay Estuary Rail Study
 - Rail Freight issues
- Ferry Issues:
 - Scottish Ferries Review
 - Northern Isles Ferry Services Tender
- Air issues
- Healthcare/ Transport issue
- Liaison with Cairngorms National Park
- Laurencekirk junctions
- Aberdeen to Perth long distance footpath
- The new Transport Scotland and its Board
- Tactranconnect

❖ **RTP Chairs/ CoSLA, Nairn, 1 June 2011**

Due to the timing of this meeting a verbal update will be available at the meeting. Eddie Anderson and Rab Dickson attended this meeting.

❖ **Nestrans Board/ Chief Executive of Transport Scotland, Aberdeen, 8 June 2011**

David Middleton, Chief Executive of Transport Scotland is attending this Board meeting.

● Future Programme of Meetings

❖ **Local Authority Bus Operators Forum, 9 June 2011**

❖ **Health and Transport Steering Group meeting with Transport Scotland and SG Health Directorate, Aberdeen, 14 June 2011**

❖ **RTP Lead Officers, Edinburgh, 13 July 2011**

❖ **RTP Lead Officers, Edinburgh, 17 August 2011**

● Recommendation

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

RGM/17 May 2011