

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 other organisations.

- 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 on 05 October 2011, the following meetings have been held:

- ❖ **RTP Lead Officers, 19 October 2011, Edinburgh**

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

- The Chairs meeting actions from 7 September
- Developer contributions for a strategic transport fund – Nestrans proposals
- Scottish Government budget proposals
- Freight facilities grant
- Climate Change Duties
- Strategic transport liaison with CoSLA and Scottish Government
- Chairs meeting 7 December
 - CPT liaison
 - Minister for Transport meeting
 - MSP's briefing

- ❖ **Health and Transport Steering Group meeting with Transport Scotland and SG Health Directorate, Aberdeen, 1 November 2011**

Unfortunately, due to personal circumstances, the Scottish Government attendees were unable to attend. This however allowed a more detailed discussion of the areas

response to the Audit Scotland report and a proposal to create an “Information Hub” for access to healthcare.

The meeting discussed the approvals sought and given by the various bodies involved in access to healthcare including Nestrans, Community Planning Partnerships, Councils and the NHS.

The more detailed discussion on the Audit Scotland report and information hub proposal resulted in a proposed series of actions:

- 1) Set up a meeting with the Chief Executive of the Scottish Ambulance Service (subsequently arranged for early January)
- 2) Pull together a list of resources across the area used in the provision of access to healthcare (budget, people, resources i.e. buses etc.)
- 3) Develop a “roadmap” showing the strategic approach to delivering the improved services identified by the audit Scotland report

The information hub proposal will be discussed further when the roadmap and resources questions have been addressed along with consideration of the Scottish Ambulance Service’s views.

❖ **National Roads Maintenance Review, 2 November 2011, Edinburgh**

This meeting was attended by Ian Yuill and Derick Murray. It was called to invite a wide participation in the development of options for improving roads maintenance. Transport Scotland, SCOTS, CoSLA, SOLACE and the Office of the Scottish Roadworks Commissioner have been developing options for improvement as requested by the Minister for Transport to address issues relating road and winter maintenance.

A meeting in summer 2011 had considered the wide ranging issues relating to roads maintenance and was used as a workshop to develop up a number of options for consideration. These options have been assessed and were presented at this meeting showing progress and requesting input to the suggestions and further work to be undertaken. This phase 2 report can be accessed at <http://www.transportscotland.gov.uk/strategy-and-research/publications-and-consultations/j203384-00.htm>

The meeting was addressed by the Minister for Transport and the President of CoSLA. It subsequently heard details of the work so far undertaken and the process involved in reducing the number of options to a currently proposed series of 30 options grouped into options for implementation, options where further research is required and options requiring further economic appraisal.

The discussion centred on the economic benefits of roads maintenance (an economic value of £1.50 return for £1 spent has been calculated), the maintenance backlog, key performance indicators and maintenance standards.

❖ **RTP Lead Officers, 16 November 2011, Edinburgh**

This meeting was attended by Rab Dickson. The meeting discussed:

- Agenda and matters for discussion at the meeting with CPT on 7 December 2011
 - Congestion/reliability and BPIPS
 - Bus Service Operators Grants (BSOG, down 23%)

- Other funding issues
- Integrated Ticketing
- Access to Healthcare
- Freight matters, including grants and ScotFlag report on lorry parking
- SCOTS Liaison and the need for RTPs to audit transport appraisal tools
- Strategic Transport Liaison with CoSLA and Scottish Government
- Agenda and items for the Chairs meeting 7 December 2011
 - Rail consultation
 - CoSLA/RTP liaison
 - Minister for Transport meeting
- Details for MSPs briefing session 7 December 2011
- Secretariat function likely to be taken over by Tactran from April 2012

❖ **LABOF Steering Group – Special meeting on access to Union Square, 17 November 2011, Aberdeen**

This was a special meeting of LABOF called to review what has been done to improve access to Union Square to reduce congestion for buses and to try and identify any further improvements that could be considered. It was attended by Rab Dickson, Kirsty Morrison and Jenny Anderson for Nestrans. Full details of this meeting are provided in the Information Bulletin for this Board meeting.

❖ **Rail franchise consultation, 28 November 2011, Aberdeen**

This meeting was arranged by Nestrans at the request of Transport Scotland. It consisted of two parts, a technical session in the morning attended by Nestrans, the two Councils and ACSEF and an invited session in the afternoon where NETCF members were invited. The purpose of the meetings was to allow Transport Scotland to consult on views regarding the renewal of the rail franchise in 2014. This is discussed further at Item 6b.

❖ **LABOF Steering Group, 5 December 2011, Aberdeen**

A verbal update will be available at the meeting.

❖ **HTAP Steering Group, 6 December 2011, Aberdeen**

A verbal update will be available at the meeting.

❖ **RTP Chairs, Edinburgh, 7 December 2011 (including meeting with the Minister for Transport and a meeting with CPT) + MSP briefing**

Meeting with the Minister for Transport

Meeting with CPT

MSP's briefing

❖ **Attendance at other groups**

The Director has been asked to participate in other officer forums. These include:

- ACSEF Management Team
- SCOTS: Executive Committee and Communication group

● Future Programme of Meetings

❖ **Transport Scotland Rail Directorate, Glasgow, 15 December 2011**

This meeting will be attended by Ian Yuill and Derick Murray.

❖ **Meeting dates still to be set:**

RTP Lead Officers
RTP Chairs
LABOF Steering Group
HTAP Steering Group

● 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 29 Nov 2011