

Strategy -
3c Strategic Transport Fund

- Purpose of Report

The purpose of this report is to update the Board on the implementation of the Strategic Transport Fund (STF) since the adoption of the supplementary guidance 'Delivering Identified Projects through a Strategic Transport Fund'.

- Background

The Strategic Development Planning Authority adopted the supplementary guidance in December 2011. This guidance is non-statutory supplementary guidance in support of the Aberdeen City and Shire Structure Plan 2009 and was adopted with the intention that it would be reviewed and adopted as statutory guidance as part of the new Strategic Development Plan.

- Update on the Fund

Since the last report to the Board in October 2012, contributions for two further sites have been agreed:

- A Section 75 agreement for Planning Permission in Principle has been signed for phases 2 & 3 of the Prime 4 development at Kingswells; and
- A contribution has also been agreed for a development at Riverside Business Park in Aberdeen.

In total, contributions of £1,308,000 have been agreed of which £65,000 has already been paid into the STF. This total does not yet include the contributions for Prime 4 phases 2 & 3 (as detailed above) as the planning permission in principle does not specify the use class types on which the contributions will be based. This detail will come at a later stage in the planning process when the contributions per hectare (as set out in the Section 75 agreement) will be applied to give a total contribution.

Full details of the contributions received into the fund and expenditure will be provided in the Nestrans Annual Report for 2012/13.

- Consultation on the prioritisation and review of the Supplementary Guidance

At the meeting on 9th October 2012 it was reported that there are two streams of work that are currently being taken forward in relation to the STF:

- Prioritisation of the strategic infrastructure interventions; and
- Review of the supplementary guidance (required prior to adoption as statutory supplementary guidance under the Strategic Development Plan). This provides the opportunity to review and respond to a number of points that have arisen during the early implementation.

The Board agreed to consultation on the draft prioritisation at its last meeting at which point it was hoped this could be carried out in late 2012 and reported back to the Board in December.

In parallel, a discussion paper is being prepared to consider the issues to be considered during a review of the supplementary guidance and consultation with the development industry is planned on this in early 2013. The STF group which meets regularly and consists of representatives from Nestrans, SDPA, the two Councils and Transport Scotland agreed that it would be logical to consult on the prioritisation and review of the SPG at the same time in order to deal with the inevitable cross-over of issues that are likely to be discussed. It is intended that this consultation therefore be carried out in early 2013.

- Recommendation

The Board is recommended to:

- Note the update on payments into the Strategic Transport Fund;
- Note and agree the amended timescales for consultation.

KC 30 November 2012