5a Health & Transport Action Plan

o Purpose of Report

The purpose of this report is to provide an update for members on the Health & Transport Action Plan (HTAP) and to agree to extending the post of a Programme Manager.

o Background

The Regional Transport Strategy identifies the need for more detailed sub-strategies, one of which is in relation to Health & Transport. A Health & Transport Action Plan refresh was agreed by the Nestrans Board in 2014 and is available on the Nestrans' website at: http://www.nestrans.org.uk/db_docs/HTAP_refresh_final.pdf

An HTAP Steering Group consisting of representatives of each of the seven partners (Nestrans, NHS Grampian, three local authorities, Scottish Ambulance Service and Community Transport Association) along with representatives from the Third Sector and on behalf of patients, oversees delivery of HTAP initiatives and is supported by a full-time Programme Manager.

o Programme Manager Post

In support of the HTAP, the Steering Group has appointed a full-time Programme Manager, initially on a two-year fixed-term contract. This post is funded jointly by contributions from Nestrans and NHS Grampian, with management and Personnel support, as well as office space, IT, etc., provided by Aberdeenshire Council. The two-year period comes to an end in October and there is a need to consider extending the post or otherwise reviewing the ongoing work of HTAP.

The partners believe that there is an ongoing requirement for a Programme Manager to support the development and delivery of HTAP. Details regarding appointment and implications of employment will be considered by Aberdeenshire Council's Personnel Department.

The Board are therefore asked to approve extending the Programme Manager post for a further two years. This will mean allocating £22,500 from the budget in each of the next two years in advance of consideration of those budgets. Nestrans has not yet confirmed future budgets and there is therefore a risk that this commitment cannot be fulfilled. This risk is considered to be minimal to negligible.

o Recommendation

It is recommended that the Board:

a) Note the contents of this report and endorse the appointment of a Programme Manager to support HTAP for a further two years.