

Sub Strategy 1: The external connections strategy						® = MTS project
Strategy Strand RTS actions	Current Actions/ Progress			Future Actions/ Progress		Status
	Project/Action	Progress	Budget	To be done	Target	
<b>EC1 - Rail Links and Services</b>						
<b>EC1a:</b> Reducing journey times to	East Coast Main Line Authorities	Manifesto launched 15 July. <b>Further details in Rail Matters Report.</b>				
<b>EC2 - Strategic Roads</b>						
<b>EC2a:</b> Overcoming constraints on the network that have a direct impact on travel to/from the north east, such as the A90 through or around Dundee and dualling the A96 to Inverness.	Aberdeen Western Peripheral Route - Balmedie to Tipperty (AWPR-BT) ®	<b>Procurement of the project is almost complete with the construction of the scheme due to begin following achievement of Financial Close. Various Pre-Start works by Connect Roads will shortly commence upon the AWPR/B-T route including fencing, further environmental surveys and additional ground investigations in advance of the Main Works contract commencing. Invasive archaeological investigations and hydrological and hydrogeological monitoring activities are continuing to be delivered as advance works with property demolitions now having been substantially completed. Site preparation activities, including tree felling, has commenced at various points along the route alongside the second, and final, phase of badger sett mitigation works. Additionally, the AWPR/B-T Construction Joint Venture (part of the Connect Roads consortium) has commenced the advertisement of a number of sub-contract opportunities on the AWPR/B-T microsite of the Public Contracts Scotland procurement portal.</b>	Contract Award Autumn 2014  Completion Spring 2018	Continue to plan for packages of work to meet the programme for delivery.	Contract Award Autumn 2014  Completion Spring 2018	↑

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	A90 Access from the South study ®	Study to identify improvements and P&R site - final report published on Nestrans website spring 08. Individual capital projects are detailed separately elsewhere within this progress update. Bridge of Dee Study being undertaken in line with STAG/DMRB and full details can be viewed on ACC's website.	£160K Revenue in 14/15 Invoiced to date = £0.9K	STAG part 2 commissioned. <b>Landowner and statutory consultations ongoing. Topographical survey completed early Sept. Initial ground investigation works underway and aim to be complete by Nov. The Environmental Assessment is underway and aim to be complete by Dec.</b>		↑
	Laurencekirk Flyover	CH2M Hill appointed by Nestrans to undertake STAG/DMRB study in partnership with Transport Scotland (who contributed £100K) and Aberdeenshire Council. Angus Council and Tactran have joined client group. Project specific objectives agreed. Traffic surveys undertaken in March and May 2014.	<b>£168.5K</b> Capital Invoiced to date = <b>£66.9K</b>	<b>Option appraisal ongoing. Base Paramics traffic model built and agreed by auditors. Future year models to be prepared and option testing to take place. Further details in information bulletin.</b>		↑
	A96 Dualling	The Scottish Gov's Infrastructure and Investment Plan set out the aim to dual the A96 (T) between Aberdeen and Inverness by 2030. Traffic surveys and economic appraisal undertaken. Project included within NPF3: Proposed Framework.		<b>RTP/Local Authority officers progress meeting/workshop to be held in Perth on 22 October. Tier 1 Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) and Strategic Business Case published on Transport Scotland website. Further details in info bulletin.</b>		↑

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<b>EC4 - Connections by Sea</b>						
<b>EC4b:</b> Improved access and facilities at ports and interchange with passenger ferries.	Aberdeen Harbour	Aberdeen Harbour Board has awarded a £5.2m contract to the Westminster Dredging Company for major improvements to the port entrance and for widening and deepening the navigation channel. Works nearing completion. The £33M project to modernise the quayside in Torry is complete. AHB has commenced a major feasibility study into the potential expansion of facilities at the port and the accompanying "A case for Growth" booklet can be downloaded from their website. Proposed enhancements included within NPF3: Proposed Framework. Economic Impact report undertaken and estimated the benefit of the development to be nearly £1 billion per annum.		Planning consultants Barton Willmore have been commissioned to consult on a Development Framework that will identify and consider the relationship between the proposed Nigg Bay Harbour expansion and the development of the surrounding areas. Workshops to take place in Torry and Altens in Sept and an exhibition will be held at Union Square on 2 Oct. The study will also consider relevant planning policies and other proposals and result in a report to inform the proposed Local Development Plan, which is expected to be published in 2015.		↑
<b>EC5 - Connections by Air</b>						
<b>EC5c:</b> Ensure protection of slots for Aberdeen services at key hubs such as London	Peripheral Regions Policy Lobbying	Aviation Campaign being undertaken to protect landing slots at Heathrow. UK Gov has published it's Aviation Policy Framework. Nestrans submitted response to the Airports Commission call for evidence on aviation connectivity and the economy. A joint Scottish RTP response was also submitted.		First meeting of National Connectivity Task Force took place on 10 Sept. Further details in Director's report.		↑