

Sub Strategy 1: The external connections strategy							® = MTS project
Strategy Strand RTS actions	Current Actions/ Progress			Future Actions/ Progress			
	Project/Action	Progress	Budget	To be done	Target	Status	
EC1 - Rail Links and Services							
EC1a: Reducing journey times to Edinburgh and Glasgow, and further south.	Rail Franchises	DfT took over ECML franchise on 14 Nov 09. Serco awarded contract for Caledonian Sleeper and 15 year franchise starts April 2015. Abellio to take over Scotrail franchise in April 2015 for 7-10 years. Inter City Railways, comprising Stagecoach and Virgin to be awarded the ECML franchise from Sunday 1 March 2015 for 8-9 years. Further details in Rail Matters report.		Arriva run CrossCountry to - First run Scotrail to - Abellio run Scotrail from Apr 15 to - Inter City (Virgin/ Stagecoach) run East Coast MainLine from Mar 15 to - Virgin to run West Coast franchise to -	Nov 2019 Mar 2015 Apr 2022/25 Apr 2023/24 Apr 2017	↑	
EC2 - Strategic Roads							
EC2a: 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 Tippierty (AWPR-BT) ®	Financial Close was achieved on Friday 12 December 2014 between the Contracting Authority and Aberdeen Roads Limited (ARL) (formerly referred to as Connect Roads). This is the effective date of the contract for the delivery of the project's construction, operation and maintenance. ARL are now implementing their mobilisation requirements. ARL have begun to carry out further environmental, geotechnical and topographical surveys. Planned permanent fencing works are due to commence soon. 3rd party advance works are now nearing completion in readiness for commencement of the Main Works Contract. Additionally, the AWPR/B-T Construction Joint Venture is continuing to advertise various sub-contract opportunities on the AWPR/B-T microsite of the Public Contracts Scotland procurement portal.	Contract Award late 2014	Continue to plan for packages of work to meet the programme for delivery.	Contract Award achieved. Completion Winter 2017	↑	

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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.	£210K Revenue in 14/15 Invoiced to date = £137.6K	STAG part 2 commissioned. Landowner and statutory consultations ongoing. Topographical and initial ground investigation works complete. The Environmental Assessment is ongoing.		↑
	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.	£168.5K Capital Invoiced to date = £126.9K	Public drop in event held on 21 Jan 2015. Information from event can be viewed on AC website and feedback requested by 28 Feb. Aim to complete Stag report by Spring 2015. Further details in information bulletin.		↑