

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	
EC1 - Rail Links and Services						
EC1c: Support for High Speed Rail connections to London, which benefit the north east.	High Speed Rail	Transport Sec approved plans for HSR route between London and Birmingham on 10 January 2012. The line from London to the West Midlands and the connection to HS1 are expected to open in 2026, followed, in 2032-33, by phase 2 onward legs to Manchester and Leeds and the connection to Heathrow. Talks to start immediately between the delivery company HS2 and S Gov on plans for the line beyond Birmingham and how to bring the service to Scotland. Scottish Partnership Group met 22 April and details in Director's Report.		Consultation on phase 2 will begin in early 2014, with a final route chosen by the end of that year. Works to start	2017	↑

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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 Dundee.	Aberdeen Western Peripheral Route - Balmedie to Tipperty (AWPR-BT) ®	<p>The Aberdeen Western Peripheral Route (AWPR) and Balmedie to Tipperty dualling are now being delivered within a single combined Non Profit Distributing NPD Project (AWPR\B-T). Following Pre-Qualification Questionnaire submissions and subsequent assessment, four economic operators have been invited to participate in Competitive Dialogue for the AWPR\B-T, namely:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Connect Roads, • Granite City Roads, • North east Roads Partnership, and • Scotia Roads Group. <p>Each of the four participants is supported by their group's respective composition of major national Contractors/Consultants. The Competitive Dialogue process is now underway.</p> <p>In addition works are continuing with the preparation and procurement of advance works, such as; invasive archaeological investigation, demolition of the former ISA, hydrological/hydrogeological monitoring investigation and other smaller works. Most recently, the demolition works associated with the former ISA are due to commence on 3 June 2013 with the bulk of the works being carried out during the summer holiday period.</p> <p>All the latest contract opportunities are published on the Public Contracts Scotland (PCS) Procurement Portal.</p>	<p>Issue Tenders Spring 2013.</p> <p>Contract Award Autumn 2014</p> <p>Completion Spring 2018</p>	<p>Continue to plan for packages of work to meet the programme for delivery.</p>	<p>Issue Tenders Spring 2013.</p> <p>Contract Award Autumn 2014</p> <p>Completion Spring 2018</p>	↑

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EC2a (contd)	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. Full details of the study and draft preliminary design drawings of the concepts being taken forward from the pre-appraisal stage can be viewed on ACC's website. Briefing given to Councillors and Nestrans Members on 11 March.	£150K Revenue in 2013/14	Economic, Traffic Modelling and Technical Assessment documents currently being finalised. Economic Activity Location Impacts Assessment (EALI) to commence late May 2013		↑
	Access from the North Study (An Integrated Transport Solution)	ACC officers to progress detailed design and delivery of package of integrated sustainable transport measures to improve access from the north with the Third Don Crossing and Berryden corridor programmes. Planning application approved for Third Don Crossing, including realignment and upgrading of roads to the south of the river and creation of a shared ped/cycle path.		Delivery Plan detailing the programme for implementation of Access from North proposals approved by ACC EP&I Cttee on 18 Jan 2010 and is to be progressed as priority and funding permits.		↑
	Laurencekirk Flyover	JMP study for S Gov, whilst stating grade separation not warranted at this time, does highlight that growth on the scale envisaged by the current structure plan will necessitate such an intervention and provides indicative layouts for grade separation at the North and South junctions. Copy received from TS of report with costing options for grade separation (range from £13.5 - £28.8M). Nestrans seeking meeting with Transport Scotland and Aberdeenshire Council to discuss recent events and how this matter can be taken forward		Nestrans and Aberdeenshire Council met with Transport Scotland on 30 April and further internal discussion to take place before next meeting. See separate Director's Report for further details.		↑

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EC2a (contd)	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. Project included within NPF3 Main Issues Report and Draft Framework that is currently being consulted upon. Transport Scotland to hold next A9 and A96 dualling meeting for Council and RTP officers on 23 Oct in Perth .		Traffic surveys and economic appraisal undertaken. Contract to be let for topographical survey. Further details in Director's report. Minister for Transport has announced outline strategy for delivery of A96 dualling by 2030 and press release can be viewed on nestrans website.		
EC4 - Connections by sea						
EC4b: 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. 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 at Aberdeen Harbour are identified as a National development within the NPF3 Main Issues Report and Draft Framework that is currently being consulted upon.		↑
EC5 - Connections by Air						
EC5a: Support expansion of direct destinations from Aberdeen and	Aberdeen International Airport Improvements	A consolidated car rental centre near the airport terminal has been opened, freeing up vital space within the main building for future development and providing a brand new facility for the 80,000 people that rent a car each year at Aberdeen International Airport.				↑

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EC5c: 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.		Nestrans to attend Airports Commision's visit to Edinburgh on 5 June.		↑