

General -

6b Publications and Consultations

- Purpose of Report

The purpose of this report is to inform members of a number of recent publications and consultation papers and to seek approval of draft responses as appropriate.

- Network Rail RUS: Alternative Solutions

On 28 September 2012, Network Rail published on its website a consultation document entitled “Alternative Solutions – Draft for Consultation”. The draft is only available electronically and can be accessed at :

<http://www.networkrail.co.uk/browseDirectory.aspx?root=&dir=%5cRUS%20Documents%5cRoute%20Utilisation%20Strategies%5cNetwork%5cWorking%20Group%205%20-%20Alternative%20Solutions> and responses are required by 28 November 2012.

The document considers whether tram and tram/train technologies can deliver savings and improve the offering for passengers, whether there are cheaper ways of moving from diesel to electric powered traction, and to what extent can the further development of community rail initiatives provide locally applicable opportunities for adding value to railway operations.

The draft for consultation examines areas in which different ways of working may help the rail industry achieve its objectives and has been developed following feedback on an earlier stage of consultation.

Nestrans previously considered a report at its meeting on 20 June 2012, but decided that there were no issues directly concerning the north east. The Board is therefore recommended to note the publication.

- Maiden Craig Masterplan and Loirston Development Framework

The City Council has undertaken a consultation on the Maiden Craig South East (OP43) and Maiden Craig North East Masterplan and also the Development Framework for the development at Loirston (OP77). Nestrans submitted a response by the required deadline of Monday 10th December and a copy of this response is provided in Appendix A.

- Recommendation

It is recommended that the Board:

- a) note the content of this report and the documents referred to above.

RD/KC 29 November 2012

26th November 2012

Appendix A
Our Ref: KM/N14/1

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Dear Laura

Consultation on OP77 Loirston Development Framework and Consultation on OP43 Maidencraig South East and OP44 Maidencraig North East Masterplan

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the above Development Framework and Masterplan. We have no specific comments regarding the detail of either of these documents. We do however welcome the references made in each to the requirement for developments to contribute to the Strategic Transport Fund as this is something that should be raised with developers at the earliest opportunity.

In addition I would like to make you aware that the Regional Transport Strategy is currently undergoing a re-fresh. Although this is unlikely to significantly change the strategic direction for the development of the transport network in the North East, some policies will be updated and amended and new policies introduced. A main issues report is currently being consulted upon and can be found on the Nestrans website at:

<http://www.nestrans.org.uk/regional-transport-strategy-refresh-1.html>

A further document that may be of relevance to you in finalising these documents is the North East's Regional Parking Strategy which can also be found on the Nestrans website at <http://www.nestrans.org.uk/regional-transport-strategy.html>

Although strategic in nature, both these strategies contain a range of policies that we would wish to see supported through in developments across the region.

Yours sincerely



Kirsty Morrison
Transport Executive (Strategy & Delivery)