

2015/16 Budget Matters

o Purpose of Report

To provide the Board with an update on the Partnership's 2015/16 monitoring and forecast outturn position and to consider any budget or monitoring issues that may arise.

o Background

The Board has requested that a general budget report be submitted to each meeting, monitoring expenditure, identifying any potential budget issues, and reporting on any particular expenditure requests. The reports are prepared jointly by the Nestrans office and Finance officers from Aberdeenshire Council.

o Current Revenue & Capital Budget

Appendix 1 to this report sets out a summary budget monitoring statement of expenditure to 31 May 2015. This shows expenditure of £85,438.

It is early in the financial year and while little by way of expenditure has taken place work programmes are progressing and forecast for the year remains at the budgeted level.

There have been a number of developments on some of the projects which would best be managed by way of a number of virements between the different budget heads. The proposed virements are set out in **Appendix 2**, together with explanatory notes.

The Board is also asked to consider a number of additional projects which will be funded from the balance of unspent partner contributions.

o Strategic Transport Fund

There have been no additional contributions received from developers so far for this financial year. The Strategic Transport Fund (STF) balance remains at £1,482,240. Contributions will be retained in the Fund in the Balance Sheet and will not be shown as income in the accounts until works associated with STF projects begins. The Fund will release monies to match the level of expenditure as it is incurred.

o Recommendation

It is recommended that the Board:

1. Note the monitoring position and forecast presented in Appendix 1.
2. Approve the budget virements as detailed in appendix 2
3. Agree to the additional projects identified in appendix 2 being progressed and funded from balance of partner contributions.

SUMMARY OF INCOME & EXPENDITURE

Description	2015/16 Budget	Actual to 31/05/2015	2015/16 Outturn	Budget v Actual %
Expenditure				
Core Costs				
Partnership Office	375,000	57,230	375,000	15%
Partner Support costs	86,140	14,357	86,140	17%
Board Members Expenses	2,000	0	2,000	0%
Other Associated Costs	36,200	380	36,200	1%
Rechargeable Costs	0	0	0	*
	499,340	71,966	499,340	14%
Regional Transport Strategy				
Health & Transport Action Plan	28,500	(0)	28,500	0%
Bus Action Plan	63,510	0	63,510	0%
Rail Action Plan	10,000	0	10,000	0%
Freight Action Plan	0	0	0	*
General	130,000	3,100	130,000	2%
Project Feasibility & Monitoring	185,000	(0)	185,000	0%
Contingency	5,000	0	5,000	0%
Travel Planning	105,000	9,430	105,000	9%
Rechargeable Costs	0	0	0	*
	527,010	12,530	527,010	2%
Coordination & Project Development	1,026,350	84,497	1,026,350	8%
Rail	0	0	0	*
Strategic Roads				
Capacity	195,000	0	195,000	0%
Safety	310,000	806	310,000	0%
Maintenance	466,750	0	466,750	0%
Bus Improvements				
Energetica Corridor	394,000	0	394,000	0%
General Corridors	384,250	(0)	384,250	0%
Walking and Cycling				
Energetica Corridor	659,500	0	659,500	0%
Strategic Corridors	255,500	135	255,500	0%
Freight	5,000	0	5,000	0%
Various	80,000	(0)	80,000	0%
Strategic Investment Programme	2,750,000	941	2,750,000	0%
Total Expenditure	3,776,350	85,438	3,776,350	2%
Income				
Partner Contributions				
Aberdeen City Council	122,175	20,363	122,175	17%
Aberdeenshire Council	122,175	20,363	122,175	17%
Scottish Government - Core costs	782,000	65,000	782,000	8%
Capital Grant & Use of Balances	2,750,000	0	2,750,000	0%
Investment Interest	0	704	10,000	*
Other Income	0	0	0	*
Total Income	3,776,350	106,429	3,786,350	3%
Operating (Surplus)/Deficit	0	(20,991)	(10,000)	

Budget Head	Current Budget	Proposed Virement	Use of Balances	Revised Budget	Comments
Project Feasibility & Monitoring					
Kintore Railway Station			60,000	60,000	Funding for design and business case development to prepare a Stations Fund bid
Bridge of Dee Stag Part 2	130,000	(60,000)		70,000	Aberdeen City Council contributing to study through use of Bus Lane Enforcement monies
Contribution to feasibility and design of locking in the benefits (incl signing)	25,000	90,000	40,000	155,000	Inventory of existing road signs to inform discussions on signage changes for AWPR and appraisal and development of measures to lock in the benefits
Strategic Roads - Maintenance					
A947 Resurfacing	17,750		51,000	68,750	Additional contribution towards resurfacing
Bus Action Plan					
Bus Action Plan	23,510	7,000		30,510	Additional budget to contribute to promotion of multi-operator Grasshopper tickets
Park & Ride Operation and Infrastructure Study	30,000	(30,000)		0	Work to be undertaken in-house by Labof
Rail Action Plan					
East Coast Mainline Regional Forum	10,000	(7,000)		3,000	Group membership contributions reduced
Walking and Cycling					
Cycle Racks	0		20,000	20,000	Installation of cycle racks in various Aberdeenshire towns
Various					
Fraserburgh - Peterhead to Aberdeen Strategic Transport Study			110,000	110,000	Continuation of all modes study for the Aberdeen - Buchan corridor to consider the feasibility, costs and benefits of options, including new rail lines
		0	281,000		