

7a 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 Income & Expenditure

Appendix 1 to this report sets out a summary budget monitoring statement of expenditure to 31 August 2015. This shows expenditure of £797,562.

Additional funding was received in the month of £25,000 from Transport Scotland towards the Fraserburgh/Peterhead to Aberdeen Strategic Transport Study. Transport Scotland is part of the steering group for this project and had agreed to contribute in advance of the study being commissioned last year. The increased budget for the project, amounting to £135,000, is fully expected to be spent. The forecasted outturn expenditure has been increased by £25,000.

Discussions with Aberdeen City Council and Aberdeenshire Council indicate at present that there is only one project anticipated to overspend by £40,000 within Strategic Road Maintenance. This is not considered a high risk at this stage as it is anticipated that there will be slippage elsewhere across the programme that will offset this. A meeting has been called to discuss all projects with the two councils with a view to presenting any budget virements required at the next board meeting.

o Strategic Transport Fund

There have been contributions of £205,406 received from developers this financial year. The Strategic Transport Fund (STF) balance now stands at £1,678,569. 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.

Alan Wood
Treasurer
29 September 2015

Report prepared by Ruth Taylor
