

## **7a 2016/17 Budget Matters**

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### **o Purpose of Report**

To provide the Board with an update on the Partnership's 2016/17 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 30 June 2016. This shows expenditure of £538,669.

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

**Appendix 2** sets out a proposed virement to accommodate the completion of the Bridge of Dee Stag Part 2. The additional costs are due to the extra consultation event that was undertaken, extra work to analyse the responses given the significant level of feedback received, undertaking of a project level habitat regulations appraisal requested by Scottish Natural Heritage due to the River Dee Special Area of Conservation (SAC) designation and additional modelling, surveys and analysis that have been required. This virement is to come from the City Centre Pedestrianisation budget due to the evolving programme for the City Centre Masterplan.

### **o Strategic Transport Fund**

There is an ongoing legal challenge, SDPA sought leave to appeal from the Court of Session against its initial judgement, but this application was refused in early July. The SDPA now has until early August to seek leave to appeal to the Supreme Court. There have been contributions of £25,645 received from developers this financial year under the old STF agreements. The Strategic Transport Fund (STF) balance is £1,742,116. Due to this challenge, the money will be held awaiting the result of the legal challenge.

### **o Recommendation**

It is recommended that the Board:

1. Note the monitoring position and forecast presented in Appendix 1.
2. Approve the proposed virements presented in Appendix 2.