

## **8 Information Bulletin**

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### **Purpose of Report**

The purpose of this report is to provide information and updates for the Board on a number of matters not requiring decision.

#### **o Nestrans Press Releases**

Since the last meeting of the Board, Nestrans has issued the following press releases (please click on the heading to access the full press release and details from the Nestrans' website).

30 May 2016      [£1.3million cycling boost for North East](#): Nestrans welcomes Sustrans' match funding through Community Links programme

7 July 2016      [Funding Bid for Kintore Station Submitted](#): Aberdeenshire Council and Nestrans have jointly submitted a detailed funding bid to Network Rail's Scottish Stations Fund.

25 July 2016      [Vacancy for Cycling Development Officer](#): Cycling development officer required to help pedal projects forward

25 July 2016      [Vacancy for Transport Officer](#) : Nestrans, the Regional Transport Partnership for Aberdeen City & Shire, are offering the right candidate the chance to get involved in delivering transport changes across the region.

#### **o Marketing and Public Relations Update**

Nestrans' marketing and PR activities are attached in the form of an infographic as **Appendix 1** to this report, which also includes an update on activity in relation to the Getabout campaign.

#### **o Recommendation**

It is recommended that the Board note the contents of this report.

RD/ DMcK /25 July 2016

# Nestrans Communications Report

June – July 2016

## o Social Media

As of 19 July 2016, the @Nestrans Twitter account has a total of 469 followers, up from 452 at the end of May 2016.

June - July – Twitter activity included:

- Announcement of Sustrans Scotland funding through Community Links programme
- Details of the public consultation on options for Broad Street
- Information about exhibitions about Draft Masterplans for Integrated Travel Towns
- Attendance at GetAbout events
- Details about the funding application for Kintore Station



## o Nestrans Media Releases & Statements Issued

Date	Type	Details
30/05/2016	Release	£1.3million cycling boost for North East – Sustrans Community Links funding
30/05/2016	Interview	Original FM and Waves FM interviews with Derick Murray about Community Links funding
30/07/2016	Release	Applications open for Grampian Volunteer Transport Awards.
7/07/2016	Release	Scottish Stations Fund application for Kintore station submitted.



## o News Coverage

Date	Media	Details
31/05/16	Evening Express	<b>Cycling and walking projects £1.3million funding boost backed</b> - An investment of £1.3 million in cycling and walking projects has been welcomed. Sustainable transport charity Sustrans announced match funding for projects in the region committed by Aberdeen City Council, Aberdeenshire Council and Nestrans to the value of £669,000 through its community links programme.
01/06/16	Press & Journal	<b>US road and rail links a model for A90 corridor</b> - An Aberdeenshire Councillor (Alan Gardiner) has claimed that transport chiefs should look to the United States when planning new links in the north-east and build a dual carriageway and railroad side by side.
02/06/16	Evening Express	<b>Plea over road and rail links</b> - A councillor has claimed transport chiefs should look to the United States when planning new links and build a dual carriageway and railroad side by side. Buchan councillors discussed multi-million pound plans to modernise road and rail links north of Aberdeen along the A90 corridor.
03/06/16	Fraserburgh Herald Huntly Express	<b>Funding for travel town</b> - Aberdeenshire Council has secured £185,000 for their travel project which aims to make every day journeys attainable by foot or bike.
08/06/16	Press & Journal	<b>Plans to tackle traffic issues move up a gear</b> - Multimillion-pound plans to end the north-east's traffic woes through improved road and rail links have progressed to the next stage. Aberdeenshire Council's Formartine Area Committee backed part of an appraisal for the Fraserburgh, Peterhead and Ellon to Aberdeen strategic transport study.
09/06/16	Evening Express	<b>Logical first step for road and rail links</b> - Multi-million pound plans to end the North-east's traffic woes through improved road and rail links have progressed to the next stage.
09/06/16	Ellon Times	<b>Councillors welcome transport study</b> - Councillors at the Formartine Area Committee welcomed progress on the Fraserburgh, Peterhead and Ellon to Aberdeen strategic transport study.
11/06/16	Ellon Times	<b>Council commitment to new Kintore station</b> - Aberdeenshire councillors on the Policy and Resources Committee agreed to make the significant investment towards the project to build a new station at Kintore.
15/06/16	Evening Express	<b>Train service on track</b> - ScotRail plans to start new local train services between Inverurie and Montrose, calling at all stations in between, from May 2019.

16/06/16	Ellon Times Inverurie Herald	<b>Council commitment to new Kintore station</b> - Over a million pounds is being spent to support a brand new railway station at Kintore. Aberdeenshire Councillors on the Policy and Resources Committee agreed to make the significant investment towards the project to build a new station.
22/06/16	Evening Express	<b>Consultation on new Dee bridge proposal attracts 1,000 people</b> - A month-long discussion on improving traffic around the Bridge of Dee has ended with around 1,000 people giving their thoughts on a trio of designs.
04/07/16	Evening Express	<b>Pupils pay visit to AWPR for safety</b> - Pupils from Dyce, Dunnottar and Stonehaven primary schools paid a visit to the main site offices of the Aberdeen Western Peripheral Route/Balmedie to Tippetty (AWPR/B-T) to find out about the project and learn about the dangers of construction sites before the summer holidays start.
05/07/16	Press & Journal	<b>'Dualling should go all the way'</b> - A petition calling for the dualling of the A90 all the way to Fraserburgh has attracted thousands of signatures. Transport body Nestrans has discussed a number of ideas to improve links to the port, including the reinstatement of the Formartine and Buchan railway.
07/07/16	Evening Express	<b>Petition heads to Holyrood</b> - Thousands of people have signed a petition calling for the dualling of the A90 all the way to Fraserburgh.
08/07/16	Evening Express	<b>Kintore station</b> – A funding application for a new rail station at Kintore has been submitted.
09/07/16	Press & Journal	<b>Funds bid for railway station</b> - An application to secure funding for a new Aberdeenshire railway station has been submitted by the local authority in a bid to move the building process forward. To secure the cash for the proposed new station at Kintore, Aberdeenshire Council and Nestrans have jointly submitted a detailed bid to Network Rail's Scottish Stations Fund (SSF).
14/07/16	Inverurie Herald	<b>Bid for station funding submitted</b> - Plans for a railway station at Kintore could progress following the submission of a major funding application. Aberdeenshire Council and Nestrans have jointly submitted a detailed funding bid to Network Rail's Scottish Stations Fund (SSF), which if successful would provide the funds required to allow construction of a new station at the north end of the town.
18/07/16	Evening Express	<b>Rail upgrades could see millions more using trains</b> - New forecasters have predicted the number of people using trains in Aberdeen could treble by 2043.

## o **Getabout Update**

The Getabout website project is progressing with AVC Media. Visuals have been approved and content collated. A final period of functionality testing will take place before a launch date in early August.

Discussions around promotion of the new site are underway.

## o **Social Media**

As of 19 July 2016 the @get\_about Twitter account has 524 followers, whilst the Facebook page has 437 likes.