Fraserburgh and Peterhead to Aberdeen Strategic Transport Study

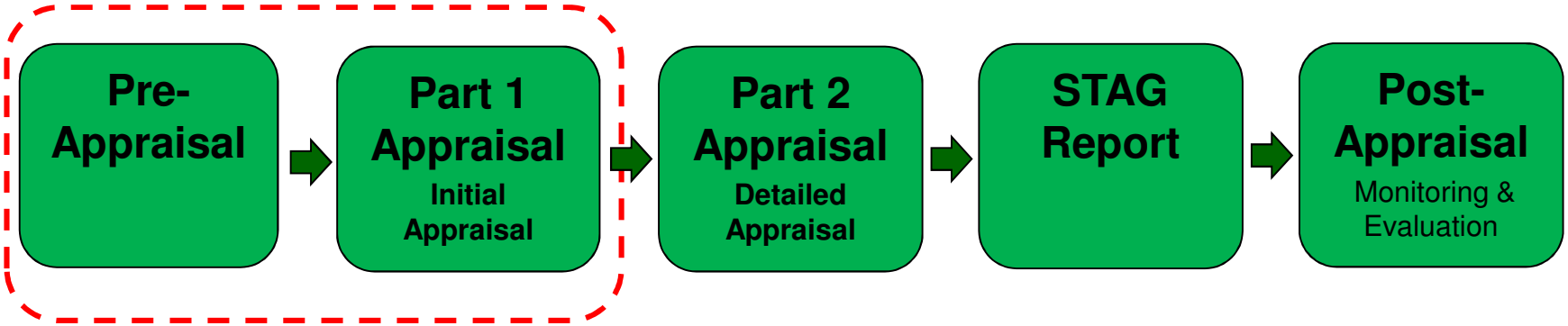
Purpose of Study

Identify and examine the options for improving strategic transport connections between Fraserburgh, Peterhead, and Aberdeen incorporating the Energetica Corridor

Scottish Transport Appraisal Guidance

Study is being undertaken in accordance with Scottish Transport Appraisal Guidance (STAG):

- Provides mechanism by which potential options to address evidence-based transport problems or opportunities are identified and appraised in a consistent manner
- Evidence, not solution-led, proportional and robust

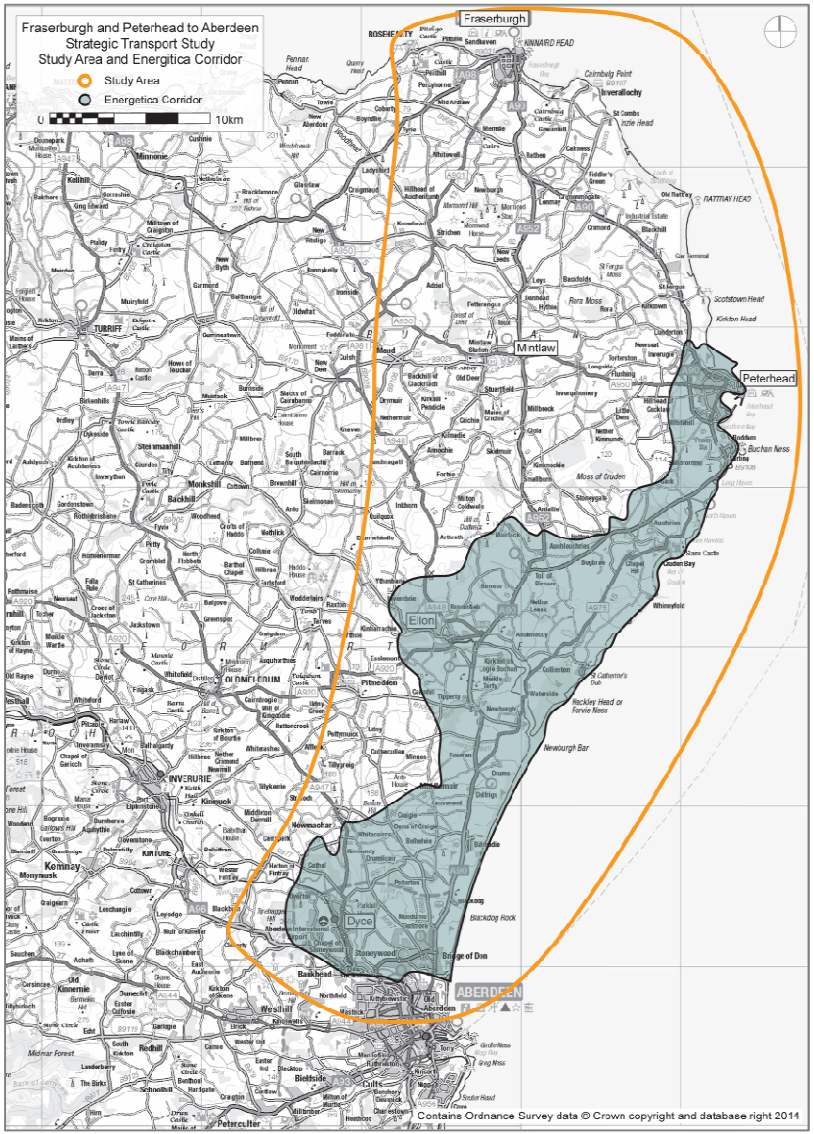


Study Area

Extends from Aberdeen City Centre to Fraserburgh

Includes:

- Fraserburgh, Peterhead, Ellon, & Mintlaw
- Dyce
- North Aberdeen & Aberdeen City centre
- Harbours at Aberdeen, Peterhead, and Fraserburgh
- Aberdeen Airport close to Dyce
- Energetica Corridor



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RTS Refresh (published 2014)
Commitment to the study after strong support (politicians) during consultation on the RTS Refresh to examine the costs and benefits of re-opening the Formartine & Buchan Railway line

- Businesses?
- Local Communities?
- Visitors?
  - Industry specific?
  - Freight?
  - Commuting?
  - Accessibility & Connectivity?

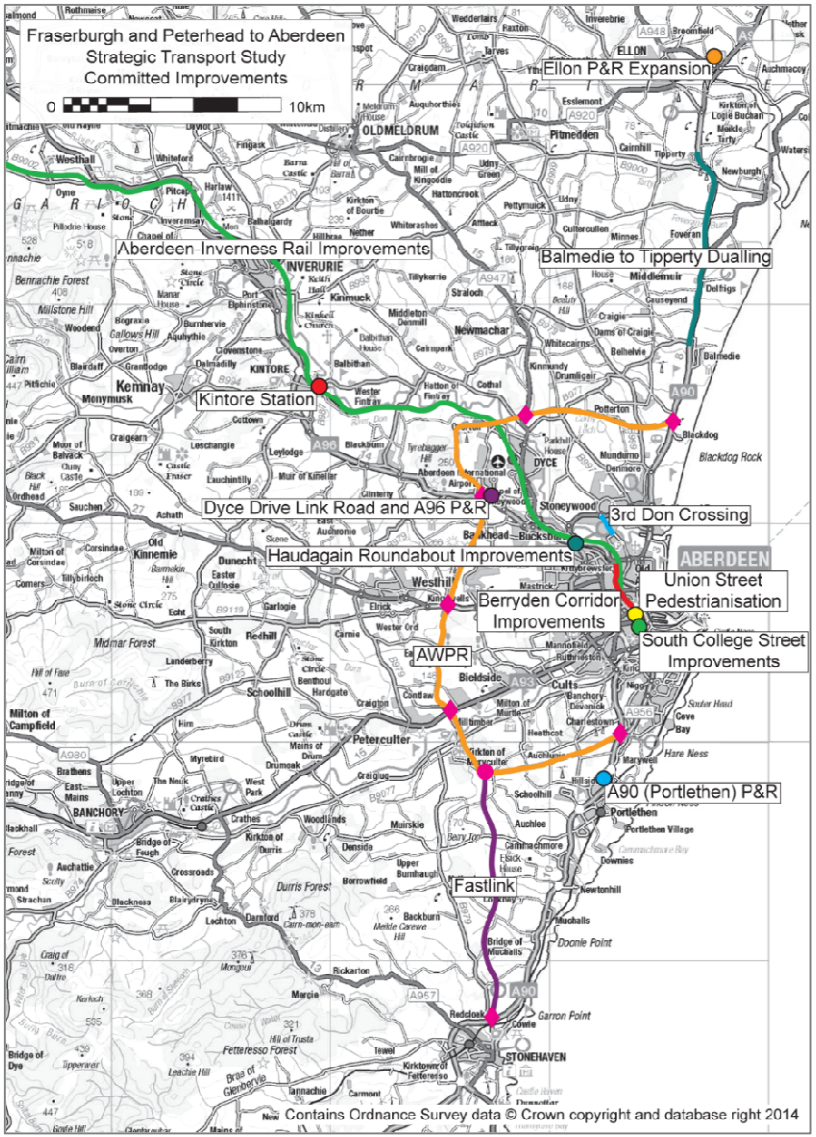
→ *Current Problems & Opportunities*

→ *Future Problems & Opportunities*

Future Transport Proposals

Current transport network problems being addressed through £1bn funding:

- AWPR & Balmedie to Tipperty Dualling
- 3rd Don Crossing
- Aberdeen to Inverness improvements and a new station at Kintore
- Park & Ride:
  - A96, A90(S), Ellon expansion
- Haudagain Roundabout improvements
- Dyce Drive link road
- South College Street/Berryden Corridor improvements
- City Centre pedestrianisation

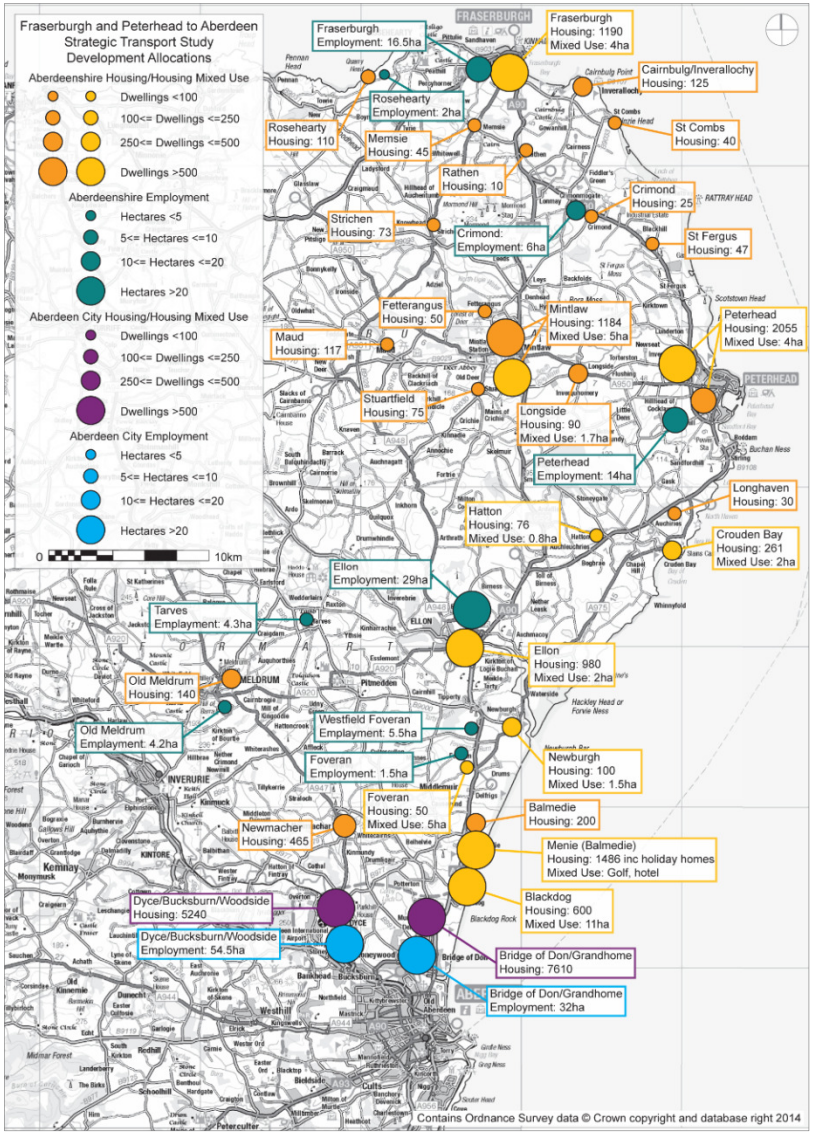


Future Development in the Study Area

Aberdeen City and Shire region expected to be fastest growing in Scotland over next 20 years

In study area:

- Aberdeen (north):
  - Over 12,500 houses
  - Over 85ha employment land
- Aberdeenshire:
  - Over 9,000 houses
  - Over 100ha employment/mixed use land



Baseline Data

- Policy Review
- Economic & Social
- Roads
- Public Transport (Bus & Rail)
- Active Travel
- Environment
- Future Transport and Development Proposals

Engagement Programme

Workshops	Transport & Land-use	Economic & Enterprise					
Transport Industry	Bus	Ports	Freight	Rail	Transport Scotland		
Business & Tourism	Business Survey	Tourism	Fishing Industry	Oil & Gas Industry			
Environment	Local Authority	Aberdeen Bat Group	Historic Scotland	RSPB	Scottish Government	SNH	Scottish Badgers
	Forestry Commission	Marine Scotland	Scottish Rights of Way	SEPA	Visit Scotland	Biological Records Centre	
Elected and Community	MPs, MSPs & Councillors	Community Council & Public	Community Transport				
Active Travel	Sustrans	Cycling Scotland	Active Travel Officers	Ramblers Association	British Horse Society	Paths for All	
	Local Jog Scotland Clubs	Local Horse-riding clubs	Local Walking Groups	Local Cycling clubs			
Emergency Services	Scottish Ambulance Service	Scottish Fire and Rescue	Police Scotland				
Equality	Aberdeen Council Equalities Team	Aberdeenshire Council Equalities Team					
Other	HMP & Court Service	Universities	North-East College	NHS	Aberdeen Airport	Association of Public Transport	Rail Future (Scotland)

Key Themes

Improved strategic transport connections needed to:

- Support general desire for existing business growth in the study area
    - Support local businesses to stay in Fraserburgh, Peterhead and Ellon and retain local employment opportunities
- Strategic & Local Development Plan aspirations
    - Unlock the housing market
    - Attract new business to the region
- Energetica
    - Unlock potential for business investment, providing a catalyst to unlock the housing market and allow Energetica to succeed
- Support development plans at Peterhead Port and Fraserburgh Harbour

Key Themes

Improved strategic transport connections needed to:

- Increase accessibility to a wider labour supply pool
- Increase the accessibility of a wider range of job opportunities
- Increase the accessibility of regional services (education, health and social) in Aberdeen
- Reduce feelings of peripherality
- Increase travel choice
- Encourage modal shift to public transport

Key Transport Problems Identified

Road:

- Long journey times
- Unreliable journey times
- Unpredictable journey times
- Safety
    - A90(T)
    - A952
    - Toll of Birness
- Heavy reliance on the car

Bus:

- Long journey times
    - Limited express services
    - Limited direct routes
    - Lack of orbital services in Aberdeen
- Unreliable journey times
- Unpredictable journey times
- Perceived high fares
- Under utilisation of Bridge of Don Park & Ride site

Further Considerations

Road issues affect car and bus travel – major problem is lack of alternative options

- Passenger Rail service removed as part of Beeching cuts
  - Development constraint
  - Lack of travel choice
- New railway line:
  - Unlikely to be heavy utilised for freight transport
  - Capacity Issues (Dyce to Aberdeen)

Potential Options

Options still being developed

In general:

- Public:
  - Very pro-rail reinstatement
  - Keen for dualling of A90(T) and also safety improvements (Toll of Birness etc.)
- Business community:
  - Very pro-road improvements (through survey and engagement)
  - Feel railway line would benefit commuters but not business operations
  - General feeling that railway line would not benefit movement of freight

Next Steps

Consolidate all engagement programme feedback

Link identified problems to evidence base

Define objectives

Full develop options and recommendations for appraisal

Pre-Appraisal Report:	July 2015
Public ‘drop-in’ sessions:	Autumn 2015
Part 1 Appraisal (high level appraisal) Report:	December 2015

Report to Areas / Nestrans / ISC – early 2016

Subsequent detailed appraisal of most promising options/packages

Get in touch

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