

# **NORTH EAST OF SCOTLAND TRANSPORT PARTNERSHIP**

Minute of Meeting of the North East Scotland Transport Partnership Board

Aberdeen, Friday, 3 November 2017

Present: Councillor Peter Argyle (Chairperson); Dr Margaret Bochel (Vice Chairperson), Councillor Sandra Macdonald (Vice Chairperson); and Councillors Philip Bell, John Cox, Martin Ford (as substitute for Councillor David Aitchison); Alex Nicoll and Colin Pike and Eddie Anderson.

In attendance: Ross Brennan (Aberdeenshire Council), Lisa Christie (Aberdeen City Council), Kirsty Chalmers (Nestrans), Rab Dickson (Nestrans), Paul Finch (Aberdeenshire Council), David Jennings (SDPA, Adviser to the Board), Lucy Johnston (Aberdeenshire Council), Mark Masson (Clerk, Aberdeen City Council), Councillor Ian Mollison (Aberdeenshire Council), Derick Murray (Nestrans) and Ewan Wallace (Aberdeenshire Council).

Apologies: Councillors David Aitchison and Jennifer Stewart, Mr Gerry Donald, Mr George Mair (Adviser to the Board) and Eric Owens (Aberdeen City Council, Adviser to the Board).

## **MINUTE OF BOARD MEETING, 18 SEPTEMBER 2017**

1. The Board had before it the minute of its previous meeting of 18 September, 2017 for approval.

**The Board resolved:-**  
to approve the minute.

## **PRESENTATION ON ABERDEEN-INVERNESS RAIL ENHANCEMENT PROJECT - STACEY MACDONALD, NETWORK RAIL**

2. The Board received a presentation from Stacey Macdonald, Network Rail.

Ms Macdonald provided information in relation to the Aberdeen to Inverness rail enhancement project, which highlighted projected outcomes for each phase, key dates and scale of works to be undertaken which will include disruptions and probable blockades, community engagement and progress of works.

Members then asked a number of questions, and the following was noted:-

- that informal meetings could be arranged to discuss issues relating to impending works, and that members should contact Ms Macdonald in this regard;
- that work to dismantle the Forres compound was progressing this week;
- that tracks currently being re-laid at Kintore would be utilised; and

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- that there would be some evening timetable changes to the Inverness to Aberdeen route in 2018.

### **The Board resolved:-**

to thank Stacey Macdonald for her presentation.

### **DIRECTOR'S REPORT**

3. The Board had before it a report by the Director of Nestrans which provided an update on liaison with other RTP's, the Scottish Government and other organisations.

### **The report recommended:-**

that the Board note progress on liaison arrangements with RTP's, the Scottish Government and others and arrangements for future meetings.

### **The Board resolved:-**

- to approve the recommendation; and
- to note that the Director would submit feedback to the consultant in terms of the issues raised by Councillor Pike relating to the Laurencekirk Flyover exhibition.

### **STRATEGIC TRANSPORT FUND UPDATE**

4. The Board had before it a report which provided an update on matters relating to the Strategic Transport Fund guidance.

### **The report recommended:-**

that the Board –

- note the judgement of the Supreme Court; and
- instruct officers to enter into discussions with SDPA, Council officers and others on the implications of the judgement.

### **The Committee resolved:-**

- to approve the recommendations; and
- to note that the Director would write to the Planning Minister, to suggest that the Planning Bill be amended to take account of the Supreme Court's decision and emphasise the impact that this decision would have financially for the region as a whole.

### **FRASERBURGH AND PETERHEAD TO ABERDEEN STRATEGIC TRANSPORT STUDY**

5. The Board had before it a report which provided an update on progress regarding the Fraserburgh and Peterhead to Aberdeen Strategic Transport Study.

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### **The report recommended:-**

that the Board –

- (a) agree to pass the final reports for consultation to Aberdeen City and Aberdeenshire Councils; and
- (b) note that the final reports for both the road and rail studies will be made available on the Nestrans website ([www.nestrans.org.uk](http://www.nestrans.org.uk)) on 3 November 2017.

### **The Board resolved:-**

- (i) to approve the recommendations; and
- (ii) to note that copies of the Executive Summary and Infographic images could be circulated to members if requested and were also contained on the Nestrans website.

## **NORTH EAST ROAD CASUALTY REDUCTION PARTNERSHIP**

6. The Board had before it a report in relation to the ongoing work to establish a North East Casualty Reduction Partnership and sought endorsement of a Casualty Reduction Strategy, which had been developed in partnership.

### **The report recommended:-**

that the Board –

- (a) endorse the refreshed North East Scotland Road Casualty Reduction Strategy; and
- (b) agree to annual updates on the activities set out in the Strategy.

### **The Board resolved:-**

to approve the recommendations.

## **PROGRESS REPORT**

7. The Board had it before it the progress report which outlined the status of various activities of the Regional Transport Strategy.

### **The Board resolved:-**

to note the contents of the report.

## **CONSULTATIONS**

8. The Board had before it a report which provided an update of recent publications and consultation papers of interest and sought to agree a response where appropriate.

### **The report recommended:-**

that the Board –

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- (a) consider the draft response to the Scottish Government's consultation on Local Bus Services and approve the attached Appendix A as Nestrans' response;
- (b) consider the draft response to the Scottish Government's consultation on Smart Ticketing and approve the attached Appendix B as Nestrans' response;
- (c) consider the draft response to the Scottish Government's consultation on Free Bus Travel and approve the attached Appendix C as Nestrans' response;
- (d) consider the draft response to the Scottish Government's consultation on Low Emission Zones and approve the attached Appendix D as Nestrans' response;
- (e) consider the draft response to the Scottish Government's consultation on the Greenferns consultation and approve the attached Appendix E as Nestrans' response; and
- (f) note Nestrans' response to the Roadworks consultation in Appendix F.

**The Board resolved:-**

to approve the recommendations, subject to adding to the response at (c) an alternative approach of a small charge for concessionary travel.

### STATUTORY CLIMATE CHANGE INDICATORS 2016/17

9. The Board had before it a report on the responsibilities being placed on Nestrans as a public body in respect of their duties in relation to the Climate Change Act (Scotland) 2009.

**The report recommended:-**

that the Board note the report and the requirement for Nestrans to report on its activities and policies in respect of Climate Change duties.

**The Board resolved:-**

to approve the recommendation.

### 2017/18 BUDGET MATTERS

10. The Board had before it a report by the Treasurer which provided an update on the Partnership's 2017/18 monitoring and forecast outturn position and to consider any budget or monitoring issues that may arise.

**The report recommended:-**

that the Board –

- (a) note the monitoring position and forecast presented in Appendix 1;
- (b) approve the virements presented in Appendix 2; and
- (c) note the decision of the Supreme Court in relation to the Strategic Transport Fund.

**The Board resolved:-**

to approve the recommendations.

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### INFORMATION BULLETIN

11. The Board had before it a report which provided information and updates on a number of matters not requiring decisions.

**The report recommended:-**

that the Board note the contents of the report.

**The Board resolved:-**

to approve the recommendation.

### CONFERENCES AND PRESENTATIONS

12. The Board had before it a list of recent and forthcoming conferences of interest to Nestrans.

**The Board resolved:-**

to note the content of the list.

### PENDING BUSINESS AND REPORTS FOR FUTURE MEETINGS

13. The Board had before it a report which (1) advised members on pending business requested by the Board and major reports scheduled for forthcoming Board meetings; and (2) provided the opportunity for the Board to add to or amend the scheduling.

**The report recommended:-**

that the Board note the report on pending business and agree the provisional scheduling of major reports to future Board meetings.

**The Board resolved:-**

- (i) to approve the recommendation; and
- (ii) to request that the Director report back on A947 and A96 road developments.