



THE HIGHLANDS AND ISLANDS STRATEGIC TRANSPORT PARTNERSHIP

Minute of Meeting held in the  
HITRANS Office, Inverness  
Airport, on Friday 2 June  
2006 at 9.45am.

PRESENT	Mr Charlie King (Chairman) – Highland Council Mr Robert Sclater (Vice-Chairman) – Orkney Islands Council Mr Duncan MacIntyre – Argyll and Bute Council Mrs Roma Hossack – Moray Council Mr Ronald J Mackinnon – Comhairle nan Eilean Siar Mr Donald MacNeill Ms Louise Smith Mr Wilson Metcalf
OFFICIALS IN ATTENDANCE	Mr Jeremy Baster – Orkney Islands Council Mr Sandy Ritchie – Moray Council Mr Dave Duthie – Argyll and Bute Council Mr Murdo Gray – Comhairle nan Eilean Siar Mr David Summers – HIPTF Mr Howard Brindley – HITRANS Mr Derek Mackay – Comhairle nan Eilean Siar Ms Naomi Coleman - SDG
APOLOGIES	Mr Donald Manford – Comhairle nan Eilean Siar Mr Ranald Robertson – HITRANS Mr Iain Kernohan – Scottish Executive Mr Sam MacNaughton – Highland Council Mr Frank Roach – Highland Rail Partnership

#### MINUTES

Highlands and Islands Transport Partnership	1	The Minute of Meeting of 5 May 2006 was <b>approved with the inclusion of reference to the overall £90 million improvements at item 18.</b>
Scotland's National Transport Strategy	2	With reference to item 6 of the Minute of Meeting of 5 May 2006 Mr Howard Brindley submitted a Report in relation to the Scottish Executive Consultation Document on the National Transport Strategy. The Report indicated that the National Transport Strategy would set the framework for the HITRANS Regional Transport Strategy and set the context for the Scottish Executive's Strategic Projects Review. A proposed response to the Consultation questions was detailed and Members were provided with details of the Irish Government's Transport 21 Strategy.

#### It was agreed that:

- (1) **Howard Brindley would prepare an introductory section for inclusion in the HITRANS response highlighting rural issues and emphasising the particular constraints in the Highlands and Islands;**
- (2) **Howard Brindley would report back in relation to the Irish Government's Transport 21 Strategy; and**
- (3) **The draft response to the National Transport Strategy would be considered at the July Meeting.**

Regional Transport Strategy	3	<p>With reference to item 7 of the Minute of Meeting of 5 May 2006 Mr Howard Brindley submitted a Report detailing the Regional Transport Hierarchy which defined the functions of the network at three levels:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>? The first level was that which enabled the people and businesses of the region to access and to be accessed from the key national centres or gateways. Edinburgh, Glasgow, Aberdeen and Inverness had been defined as the four gateways for the Highlands and Islands.</li> <li>? The second level was that which allowed people and businesses access to regional service centres.</li> <li>? The third tier was the local network which provided access from individual premises to local services and facilities.</li> </ul> <p>Miss Naomi Coleman, SDG addressed Members in relation to the Regional Transport Hierarchy and Members were offered the opportunity to comment on each of the items within the hierarchy.</p> <p><b>It was agreed that:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>(1) Map A would include the rail line north to Thurso and west to Fort William;</b></li> <li><b>(2) Map B would be more detailed and would include Locally Significant Roads;</b></li> <li><b>(3) Naomi Coleman would circulate revised tables taking account of the comments made by Members;</b></li> <li><b>(4) The Permanent Advisors would discuss the Regional Transport Strategy and Transport Hierarchy and the issue would be considered at the July meeting of the Board.</b></li> </ul>
Press Release	4	It was agreed that a press release would not be issued.
Date of Next Meeting	5	The next meeting will be held on Friday 7 July 2006 at 9.30am in the HITRANS Office, (there will be a pre-meeting on 6 July 2006.) Meetings would also take place on Friday 4 August 2006 and Friday 1 September 2006.