

Item:  
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## **Report to Partnership Meeting 17 September 2021**

### **RESEARCH AND STRATEGY DELIVERY**

#### **Hydrobus**

##### **Purpose of Report**

To update members on the hydrogen bus trial in Inverness.

##### **Background**

In August 2020 Protium Energy linked up with hydrogen interests in Opportunity Cromarty Firth, and in February 2021 we proposed trialling a hydrogen powered bus during COP26 in November 2021.

##### **Partners**

The partners in the demo project are Stagecoach, Element2, Protium Energy, Caetano and HITRANS.

##### **Project detail**

In October and November 2021 the Caetano hydrogen fuel cell bus will operate in Inverness. Following driver training it will enter into service on town and rural runs. The bus has a 60kW Fuel Cell and a 44kW battery pack, providing a range of 400km, with 30 km on battery alone, and has regeneration capability. Training will be carried out by Caetano.

HITRANS has funded the provision of a mobile hydrogen refueller that will be deployed at the Stagecoach Longman depot in October 2021. The refueller is provided by Element2 and is in a container on a road trailer.

Following the Inverness trial we hope to test the bus in Oban with West Coast Motors.

We are also in discussion with suppliers to operate a refuse vehicle, road sweeper and hydrogen cars at the same time.

There will be communications and a launch event to highlight the region's potential for assisting in fight against climate change.

## **RISK REGISTER**

### RTS Delivery

Impact –Hydrogen economy, transport efficiency

### Policy

Impact – Decarbonisation, mode shift.

### Financial

Impact – The trial is fully funded.

### Equality

Impact – n/a

### **Recommendation**

1. Members are asked to approve the report.

**Report by:** Frank Roach  
**Designation:** Partnership Manager  
**Date:** 2<sup>nd</sup> September 2021