

Item:  
**9**



**Report to Partnership Meeting - 4<sup>th</sup> February 2011**

**RESEARCH AND STRATEGY DELIVERY**

**Research/Strategy Development Programme 2010/11**

**Final Quarter Review**

**SUMMARY**

The Report provides the Board with an update on progress on the Research/Strategy Development programme and seeks approval of amendments to the programme to reflect changing priorities and adjustments to spending profiles which have arisen since the December Board Meeting.

**DETAIL**

The Partnership at its meeting of 3 December agreed to revisions to the HITRANS Research/Strategy Development Programme 2010/11 in support of development, implementation and delivery of the HITRANS Transport Strategy.

Work continues to progress well on the content of the Programme, however circumstances have changed in the last 2 months on specific items and the Board are asked to agree to the amended 2010/11 Programme as included in an Appendix to this report . A brief update on each Item is in addition included in the Appendix for Members information and scrutiny.

**RECOMMENDATIONS**

The Partnership is asked to

1. Note continuing progress on delivery of the Research/Strategy Development Programme for 2010/11
2. Approve the amendment to the Research/Strategy Development Programme 2010/11 as detailed in the Appendix to the Report

**Report by:** Dave Duthie  
**Designation:** Partnership Director  
**Date:** 24 January 2011

## Appendix A - 2010-11 Research and Development Programme

Area	Apr 10 Budget	3rd Quarter Review	Final Quarter Review	Delivery Timescale	Lead Officer/s	Comments
Key settlement active travel audits	40000	55000	65000	April 10-March 11	FR	Continue Active Travel Regional Audits of key settlements to include Inverness, Rothesay, Campbeltown and Lochgilphead. Wick has been added to this year's Programme thus completing audits of all the key settlements identified in the RTS.
TransTourism	30000	15000	15000	Jan - Mar 11	FR	Slippage in expenditure following delay in project start to facilitate engagement of additional European partners in the overall Interreg project.
Cearcaill na Gaidhlig	15000	5000	5000	April 10-March 11	RR	Continued support of the Cearcaill na Gaidhlig travel and tourism project, currently without European support.
I Ferry	20000	7000	7000	Dec 10-Mar 11	DD/RR	Project supporting improvements in ferry passenger information systems. Part funding has been provided to Calmac to develop SMS, iPhone App and other Smart Phone Apps.
ERDF - START Project	15000	16000	16000	April 10-March 11	RR	Contribution to cover associated costs incurred in the management and delivery of the START project. This funding is being used to further develop the information systems aspect of the project by supporting delivery of Real Time Bus Information in Lochaber.
TSB - CHRONOS	5000	5000	5000	April 10-March 11	RR	Trial of solar powered multi-modal signs, providing real time train (and bus) information, using GPRS communications. On Programme.
Digital Gateway	20000	15000	15000	April 10-March 11	RR	Part funding provided for RTI displays at Medical Centres and Retail Sites in Moray and at Rail Stations across the region.

BRDG - Elgin to Aviemore (Perth), revised to support Campbeltown/ Glasgow	20000				RR	Part funding to work with local authorities to kick start new bus services. Approval has been granted to work with Moray Council and Highland Council on developing a new link from Elgin to Aviemore and with Argyll and Bute Council on an enhanced Glasgow to Campbeltown service. Project held to fit with 2011/12 implementation opportunities.
Inverness - Amsterdam Development	20000	50000	50000	Feb-March 11	DD/RR	Promotion of the case for a PSO air service between Inverness and Amsterdam as suggested in the H+I Air Services Review. HIAL are continuing to work with potential operators to realise a daily commercial service to a European hub, with discussions now at an advanced stage.
Security Arrangements at Airports	10000				DD	Review the level of security that could be required in a fit for purpose scenario considering CAA guidance, as recommended in the H+I Air Services Review. No announcement has been forthcoming from the UK Government on this matter and as a result this project has been shelved.
Rail Forecasting Refresh	20000	20000	20000	Jan-March 11	FR	A revisit of previous work taking into account actual passenger growth since the original forecasting which has been higher than previously forecasted, This could lead to a stronger case for investment in other rail projects.
Rail Timber Trailer Development	5000	5000	5000	Jan - Mar 11	FR	Proposed funding of £5,000 to assist the development of the case for moving biomass fuel on the rail network
Lorry Parking Strategy	10000	15000	15000	Nov 10- Mar 11	FR	Work to identify locations and arrangements for overnight lorry parking across the Highlands and Islands.
Getting About Website	5000				FR/RR	This project will now not be developed following final clearance by the EC of the TransTour Project
Community and Health Transport Strategy	20000	5000	5000	Jan - Mar 11	DS/RR	With part funding from the residual HIPTF budget an evaluation exercise to capture the value of community transport projects which will help make the

						case for a shared approach to funding.
Travel Plan Development / Workplace Travel Facilities - Plus Active Travel project grant aid funding	15000	40000	40000	April 10- Mar 11	RR/FR	Match funding to work with business and local authorities to support implementation of workplace travel plan actions and projects identified in the Active Travel Audits. Opportunity taken to expand funding to cover support for delivery of Active Travel Audit outcomes including support of Highland Council ERDF project.
Fixed Links - Renewable Energy Development	5000				DD	Part fund investigation into viability of fixed links through energy generation with interested Councils and Crown Estate. Awaiting lead agency action by Orkney Islands Council, funding carried forward to 2011/12
HITCOG Regional Bus Timetable and Information Database		20000	20000	Jan - Mar 11	RR/DS	Provision of Bus Transport information system for the 5 Member Councils which will enable them to provide a more effective updated bus timetable information for Traveline and consistent and high quality bus timetable information across the region
STPR Support	96000				All PAs	Support for local authority development of STPR programmes. No specific actions other than A82 Loch Lomond side study identified to date.
A82 Lomondside corridor		20000			DD/SMCN	Promotion of A82 Loch Lomond Corridor study with SPT and National Park, lead by Member Councils, postponed pending review of route strategy by Transport Scotland and the National Park.
Whisky logistics		15000	15000	Jan- Mar 11	FR	Study to establish optimum transport requirements of the whisky industry within the H&I on road rail and sea infrastructure
Rail Timber connections		20000	20000	Dec 10 - Mar 11	FR	Funding further feasibility work and ground surveys for a low cost timber to rail access scheme
Moray Taskforce - Economics Input		10000	10000	Dec 10 - Feb11	GH/DD	Assessment of transport options which by short term actions will achieve long term economic benefit for the Moray area

Website Redevelopment			5000		RR	HITRANS corporate website needs to be redeveloped and this is being funded through the publicity budget but this additional allocation will fund content and procurement work.
RTS Monitoring			4000	Apr 10 - Feb 11	DD	Further development of the Transport Indicators for use as interim measures for success in delivering the RTS.
Ferry hull design study					MG	To inform ferry hull configuration on major routes from a desk top study of options for the Minch. Work to initially draw on previous research and identify gaps. Extent of necessary work still to be identified and therefore expenditure, though not project development, can be delayed to 2011/12.
East Coast/ Scottish inter city rail, and Inverness-London air link economic study		15000	15000	Jan - Mar 11	FR	Study to consider the region's needs and demand for rail services to Central Scotland, and direct cross border service. Further consideration of the air link element postponed until the impact of the potential new European hub service is apparent.
<b>Total Estimated Expenditure</b>	<b>371000</b>	<b>353000</b>	<b>352000</b>			
<b>Current Budget</b>	<b>352566</b>	<b>352566</b>	<b>352566</b>			