

Item:

8



## Report to Partnership Meeting – 8 February 2013

### RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT

#### Research, Development and Delivery Programme for 2013/14

#### PURPOSE OF REPORT

The purpose of this report is facilitate discussion on what Research, Development and Delivery activities are to be taken forward by HITRANS in 2013/14.

#### BACKGROUND

This report follows on from previous discussion at the Partnership Advisors meeting in January 2013 where a number of avenues for development were discussed. The table below details a provisional programme but there is still scope for further projects to be included and budget allocations to be adjusted.

The Programme will be finalised within the 2013/14 Business Plan. A draft version of the Business Plan will be considered by Members at the next Partnership meeting in April 2013.

#### PROVISIONAL PROGRAMME

The provisional project programme for Research, Development and Delivery in 2013/14 is listed in the table below.

Area	Business Plan	Delivery timetable	Lead	Comments
ERDF - TransTourism	5000	April - December 13	FR	Funding to support delivery of the Interreg Project as previously agreed by the Board
ERDF - Active Travel Highland	0	Apr13 - Mar14	NM	Support for Highland Council ERDF project as previously agreed by the Board, and promotion of delivery of critical routes as identified in the Active Travel Audits on the basis of partner match funding

ERDF - Food Port	20000	Apr13 - Mar14	FR	Partner contribution to the Food Port North Sea Area Project to support delivery of "Lifting the Spirit"
ERDF / INTERREG Project Support	30000	Apr13 - Mar14		Support for possible new ERDF activity. Possible project submissions identified include the resubmission of the AFLOAT project.
Active Travel Infrastructure Delivery Programme	40000	Apr13 - Mar14	NM	Delivery of actions identified in the Active Travel Audits as critical to promotion of increased sustainable travel within communities
Road - Severe Weather Transport Information Project	10000	Apr13 - Mar14	NM	Extension to live eye cameras and severe weather alerts to points on the local road network across the region.
BRDG - Elgin to Aviemore (Perth) and Campbeltown / Glasgow	40000	Apr13 - Mar14	RR	Support to kick start bus services between Elgin and the Central Belt and second year of Campbeltown to Glasgow service.
Regionally Significant Scheme Development	25000	Apr13 - Mar14	NM/TJ	Support to develop the design of strategic improvements of regionally significant schemes.
STPR Related Project Development Support	30000	Apr13 - Mar14	FR/NM/RR	Support to develop the design of strategic projects. This could include advancing the design of schemes such as Dalcross Station.
Community and Health Transport	5000	Apr13 - Mar14	RR	Part funding to support the development of a trial Integrated Transport Hubs.

Smart Ticketing Project Support	40000	Apr13 - Mar14	RR	Trials of smart cross modal ticketing to improve customer experience in using public transport in the Highlands and Islands
ScotRail Franchise 2014 Input	10000	Apr13 - Mar14	FR	Research to support delivery of improved rail services through the 2014 Franchise
Real Time Information Development	40000	Apr13 - Mar14	RR/NM	Delivery of improved realtime information for public transport passengers
Level Crossing Train Approach Warning System Trial	20000	Apr13 - Mar14	FR/RR	Part funding of trial with Network Rail of an alert system to advise road users of train approach at open level crossings.
Development and promotion with Nestrans of case for sustainable air connectivity through London hub	5000	Apr13 - Oct13	RR	Further work to provide evidence in support of the need for the Highlands and Islands to have secure connectivity to world markets.
Local/ Regional Air Service Development Study	2000	Apr- May13	RR/NM	Study to establish and assess options for development of additional air network links that would support economic growth and community sustainability
Total Identified Project Expenditure	322000			
Current Estimated Budget	<b>309250</b>			

## RECOMMENDATIONS

Members are asked to:

1. Approve the budgetary allocation of £309,250 for Research, Development and Delivery in 2013/14.

2. Consider the provisional programme and suggest additional items or changes to the items proposed in the table.
3. Consider how HITRANS funding can best add value to local authority input in support of national transport project development to help make the strongest case for early action on our strategic networks.

<b>Risk</b>	<b>Impact</b>	<b>Comment</b>
RTS delivery	√	The aim of the Research Development and Delivery Programme is to promote delivery of the RTS
Policy		
Financial	√	The proposed budgetary allocation for the Programme can be met from the anticipated Partnership Budget for 2012/13
Equality	√	Projects within the programme positively promote improved accessibility for all public transport service users

**Report by:** Ranald Robertson  
**Designation:** Partnership Director  
**Date:** 29<sup>th</sup> January 2013