

Item:
8



Report to Partnership Meeting 3 February 2023

RESEARCH AND STRATEGY DELIVERY

ACTIVE TRAVEL UPDATE

Purpose of Report

This Report provides Board Members with an update on Active Travel projects in which HITRANS are currently involved.

REGIONAL ACTIVE TRAVEL BUDGET (Transport Scotland)

2022-23 projects are well underway or complete and some highlights are given below:

Transport Integration

- The Citylink Website now allows travellers to reserve a space for their bike.

The screenshot shows the Citylink website interface for selecting additional hold storage. The top navigation bar includes 'Login', 'Register', and a shopping cart icon. The main content area is titled 'Additional Hold Storage' and features a 'Tailor your experience' link. A blue box contains the following information:

- Everyone in your party is allocated one **small item** (for carry on) and one **large luggage item** (to go in the hold) for free.
- A maximum of two additional items can be added per passenger.
- There may be additional charges - these will be shown when selecting.

Below this, the 'Passenger 1 - Adult' section shows a selection of 'BICYCLE X1'. The 'Additional Luggage (£5.00 per item)' is set to 0, and 'Bicycle Storage (£0.00)' is set to 1. The 'Total additional Cost + £0.00' is displayed, along with a 'Clear additional items' link and a 'Done' button. On the right, a yellow box shows the 'Journey Price' as £0.00 and the 'Additional Storage' for 'Passenger 1 - 1 Bicycle(s) - £0.00', with a 'Find Tickets' button.

Active Travel Masterplan Delivery

Construction of a new segregated cycle route in Campbeltown is underway. A storage container has been purchased for Moray Bothy, to give the Bothy a physical base in Cooper Park, Elgin. The Bothy will open officially in February.

Quiet Routes

The pilot is underway at 5 locations in Highland; 4 of these will be taken forward as Quiet Routes in Spring 2023 and the unsuitability of



the fifth as a Quiet Route will help to inform the development of future routes.

Mobility Hubs

New eBikes and docks added to the HI-BIKE system in Inverness; cycle parking will be delivered in Drumnadrochit and Kinmylies early 2023.

Active Travel Project Design

Designs underway for paths in North Islay and developing the initial proposals identified in the Tarbert Town Active Travel Study. Also some of the minor improvements recommended in the Fort William Active Travel Masterplan.

For 2023/24 financial year HTRANS has submitted a bid to Transport Scotland for £1.1M to include the following programmes:

2023-24 Programmes	Total
1. Mobility Hubs & Micro Mobility <i>Better integrate active travel with other modes by co-locating ebikes or folding bikes at transport stops and interchanges.</i>	£350,000
2. Transport Integration <i>Better integrate cycling with bus travel by enabling bikes to be carried within buses on routes in Moray and Highland.</i>	£100,000
3. Active Travel Network & Strategy Development <i>Support the development of connected active travel networks in Highland & the Western Isles.</i>	£150,000
4. AT Masterplans & 20 Min Communities <i>Support the development of 20 Minute Communities in Moray, Highland and Wester Isles, by funding active travel masterplans and placemaking interventions in key settlements.</i>	£150,000
5. Quiet Routes & NCN <i>Develop Quiet Routes as an integral part of connected active travel networks, by supporting delivery of 5 pilot routes and mapping Quiet Route networks in each of our partner Local Authorities.</i>	£150,000
6. Path Improvement <i>Improve accessibility of existing active travel routes, by funding small scale interventions and mapping.</i>	£125,000
7. Resource Support <i>Increase capacity within HTRANS to deliver projects with increased active travel budgets and support partner Local Authorities, by increasing staff resource. This will support the eHUBS Project Officer and an additional Business Support Assistant.</i>	£80,000
8. Monitoring <i>Replacing the Sustrans Partnership Fund, this will support installation of multi-modal counters at strategic locations to establish baseline data across Highland region and the Western Isles.</i>	£100,000

2023-24 Total	£1,155,000
2022-23 Total (for reference - inc Sustrans Partnership Fund)	£1,211,500

Transport Scotland has announced an additional Active Travel Transformation Fund for 2023/24, which is available to Local Authorities for delivery of projects ready for construction. HITRANS has encouraged and supported our partner Local Authorities to apply to this fund for capital works.

SUSTRANS PARTNERSHIP FUNDING

Most projects under this fund are now complete, and partners are just waiting for the installation of the multi modal counters for which funding has been agreed.

Completed projects are:

- 20 Minute Community baseline mapping tool – now available via HITRANS website
- Active Travel Masterplans for the Outer Hebrides
- Ullapool Sustainable Transport Plan
- Multi-modal counters in Nairn, Fort William, Stornoway, and Orkney.

The Sustrans Partnership will not continue in 2023/24 and the monitoring projects we would have funded through this have been incorporated into our bid to Transport Scotland.

OTHER PROJECTS

HI-BIKE INVERNESS

Oversight of the electric bike share scheme has been passed on to Chris Finlay, our new eHUBS project officer, who will manage the future development of the scheme.

The new stations installed at Culloden, Hilton and Kinmylies have been well used, with the Hilton dock now the third most used after the Railway Station & Campus.

	HEADLINE FIGURES		
	Number of Rides	Miles Travelled	Active Members
Total to end Dec 2022	7,900	24,900	1,560

Recommendation

Members are asked to note the report and direct any questions or comments to the Active Travel Officer.

Risk Register

RTS Delivery

Impact – Positive

Comment – This work supports both relevant RTS objectives and those of the Active Travel Framework.

Policy

Impact – Positive

Comment – This work supports the development of our Active Travel policies.

Financial

Impact – Positive

Comment – This work is supported by Transport Scotland’s Regional Active Travel Grant Fund and Sustrans active travel partnership funding.

Equality

Impact – Positive

Comment – HITRANS support for active travel helps eliminate the barriers to travel for all and removes a number of physical accessibility barriers.

Report by:

Vikki Trelfer

Designation:

Active Travel Officer

Date:

23rd January 2023