



HITRANS ASSET MANAGEMENT PLAN



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1. Introduction

The Highlands and Islands Transport Partnership (HITRANS) is committed to ensuring the efficient management, maintenance, and development of its transport-related assets. This strategy provides a structured approach to asset management, ensuring assets are well-maintained, deliver value for money, and support economic and social objectives.

2. Objectives

The key objectives of this asset management plan are:

- To ensure the longevity and reliability of transport assets.
- To optimise the performance and sustainability of assets.
- To support economic development and accessibility in rural and island communities.
- To integrate technological advancements and innovative transport solutions.
- To align with national and regional transport policies.

3. Asset Categories

HITRANS oversees a range of assets, including:

- **Bikes and eBikes:** Assets related to the HI-Bike system, including bicycles, electric bicycles, and associated infrastructure such as docking stations.
- **IT Equipment:** Hardware and software used by HITRANS staff to manage operations, including computers, servers, and communication systems.

4. Asset Management Approach

4.1 Lifecycle Management

A whole-life approach to asset management will be adopted, considering:

- **Acquisition and Commissioning:** Ensuring assets meet required standards from the outset.
- **Operation and Maintenance:** Regular inspections, preventive maintenance, and responsive repairs.
- **Renewal and Replacement:** Timely upgrades to extend asset life and improve performance.
- **Decommissioning and Disposal:** Environmentally responsible decommissioning strategies.

4.2 Condition Assessment and Performance Monitoring

- Routine inspections and condition assessments will be conducted.
- Performance metrics such as reliability, availability, and usage will be tracked.
- Data-driven decision-making will guide asset interventions.

5. Risk Management

A risk-based approach will be taken to prioritise investment and interventions. Key risks include:

- **Climate Resilience:** Ensuring assets can withstand extreme weather conditions.
- **Funding Constraints:** Balancing budgets with maintenance and expansion needs.
- **Technological Obsolescence:** Keeping pace with evolving transport and IT technology.
- **Operational Disruptions:** Minimising service interruptions due to asset failures.



6. Investment and Funding Strategy

Funding sources will include:

- **Government Grants:** Securing funding from national and local authorities.
- **Public-Private Partnerships:** Leveraging private sector investment.
- **Revenue-Generating Initiatives:** Exploring user fees and sponsorships.
- **Efficiency Savings:** Optimising maintenance and procurement costs.

7. Sustainability and Innovation

HITRANS is committed to integrating sustainability into asset management by:

- Promoting low-carbon transport infrastructure.
- Using sustainable materials and construction methods.
- Incorporating smart technology to enhance efficiency.
- Supporting modal shift towards active and sustainable transport solutions.

8. Governance and Implementation

- Establishing an Asset Management System to oversee implementation.
- Regular reviews and updates to the Plan.
- Stakeholder engagement with partners.

9. Conclusion

This asset management strategy will ensure that HITRANS' transport assets, including the HI-Bike system and IT infrastructure, are sustainable, resilient, and capable of supporting the mobility needs of the Highlands and Islands region for the long term.



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