

Item:

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## Report to Partnership Meeting – 5<sup>th</sup> February 2010

### RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT

#### Research, Strategy and Delivery Programme for 2010/11

#### 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 2010/11.

#### BACKGROUND

This report follows on from previous discussion at Partnership Advisors meetings in November 2009 and January 2010 and includes a number of suggestions that have subsequently been submitted. 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 STPR project development support budget lacks detail and will require particular guidance from Partnership Advisors and Members. It is anticipated this will be allocated to similar projects as per the 2009/10 budget which has supported Highland Council and Moray Council in taking forward design and feasibility work for important intervention supported in the STPR.

#### PROVISIONAL PROGRAMME

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

Area	Funding	Delivery Timescale	Lead	Comments
Key settlement active travel audits	40000	04/10 to 03/11	FR	Continue Active Travel Regional Audits of key settlements to include Inverness, Rothesay, Campbeltown and Lochgilphead
ERDF – TransTourism (STIR Project)	30000	04/10 to 03/11	FR	Web based timetable/itineraries for visitors with year 1 funding of 3 year programme with years 2 and 3 declining to £20k then £10k.
ERDF - Cearcaill na Gaidhlig	15000	04/10 to 03/11	RR	Continued support of the Cearcaill na Gaidhlig travel and tourism project.

ERDF - I Ferry	20000	04/10 to 03/11	DD	Potential North Sea Area ERDF project aimed at improving the availability of information through electronic signs and the web on ferry services in Orkney and the Hebrides.
ERDF - START Project	15000	04/10 to 03/11	RR	Contribution to cover associated costs incurred in the management and delivery of the START project.
TSB - CHRONOS	5000	04/10 to 03/11	RR	Trial of solar powered multi-modal signs, providing real time train (and bus) information, using GPRS communications. 10 rail sites have been selected for roll out of the trial – Aviemore (x2), Crianlarich, Fearn, Forres, Invergordon (x2) Lairg, Strathcarron, and Thurso. Partnership funding with ScotRail is being sought.
Digital Gateway	20000	04/10 to 03/11	RR	Part funding to work with local authorities to deliver multi modal travel and information touch screen kiosks at major transport hubs.
BRDG - Elgin to Aviemore (Perth)	20000	04/10 to 03/11	RR	Part funding to work with Moray Council and Highland Council towards the development of a kick start project to establish a direct bus link from Elgin to Aviemore to connect with trains and coaches to the central belt.
Inverness - Amsterdam PSO Development	20000	04/10 to 03/11	DD	Promotion of the case for a PSO air service between Inverness and Amsterdam as suggested in the H+I Air Services Review. Joint work with HIE
Security Arrangements at Airports	10000	04/10 to 03/11	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.

Rail Forecasting Refresh	20000	04/10 to 03/11	FR	Revisit Room 4 Growth 2007 forecasts work taking into account actual passenger growth and enhanced services
Rail Timber Trailer Development	5000	04/10 to 03/11	FR	Intermodal timber unit development
Lorry Parking Strategy	10000	04/10 to 03/11	FR	Work to identify locations and arrangements for overnight lorry parking across the Highlands and Islands.
Getting About Website / Tourism by Public Transport	5000	04/10 to 03/11	FR	Build on rail connections and ferry connections work
Community and Health Transport Strategy	20000	04/10 to 03/11	DD/RR	Work dependant on match funding from NHS for progression. The purpose would be to establish an action plan for improved integration and partnership working in the delivery of healthcare transport functions across the HITRANS area.
Sustainable Travel Match Funding	15000	04/10 to 03/11	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.
STPR Support	101000	04/10 to 03/11	All PAs	Support for local authority development of STPR programmes.
<b>Total</b>	<b>371000</b>			

## RECOMMENDATIONS

Members are asked to:

1. Approve the overall budgetary allocation of £371,000 for Research, Development and Delivery in 2010/11.
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 STPR project development to help make the strongest case for early action on our strategic network.

**Report by:** Ranald Robertson  
**Designation:** Partnership Manager  
**Date:** 26<sup>th</sup> January 2010