

Item:

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Report to Partnership Meeting 20 April 2018

RESEARCH AND STRATEGY DELIVERY

Active Travel Update

Purpose of Report

To provide Members with an update on active travel projects that are being delivered through our Partnership with Sustrans Scotland / Transport Scotland.

Active Travel Budget

The table below outlines the spend from 2017/18 budget allocation from the £100,000 budget that Sustrans Scotland allocate to HITRANS from the Community Links Fund for regional activity.

Local Authority/partner	Project	Cost
NHS Highland	E bike/trike pilots for Dr surgeries in Inverness	£15,000
Moray car club	Contribution to Moray car club LEADER application, with 70% intervention rate. To provide e-bike club, including bikes and lockable shelters with power supply for recharging, within communities in Moray including lossiemouth, Forres and Elgin.	£15,000
Moray Council and Lossiemouth Community Council	Lossiemouth to Hopeman feasibility and design	£15,000
Orkney	Your Kirkwall interventions, contribution towards detailed design of strategic routes identified within the workshops. Including Haston to Kirkwall active travel route	£20,000
Orkney	Funding for detailed design of route around archaeological sites for active travel	£15,000
HITRANS/ Argyll & Bute / CNES	Linked into the SPARA project, the active travel fund is being used to purchase 2 shelters for e-bikes at Barra airport and potentially Oban Airport	£16,000

The remaining £4,000 of the budget is associated with other general funds towards active travel, including the design of the Active Travel Strategy, Hittravel brand and purchase of materials for events.

There is the opportunity to ask Sustrans for additional budget within this financial reporting year (for Sustrans this is to the end of June 2018) to carry out the following tasks:

- Inverness active travel cordon count.
- Stromness to Stenness active travel route feasibility
- Active travel count at Inverness railway station, linked to Transport Scotland pilot to capture bikes utilising train journeys.

The active travel officer has also offered to work with Council officers and advisors to develop any additional projects which could be delivered between now and the end of June.

HITRANS Community Links

In addition to our regional partnership work with Sustrans detailed above, HITRANS has also secured budget for two discrete projects through bidding to the Community Links Fund which Sustrans administer on behalf of Transport Scotland. These projects are Accessing Inverness and Active Aviemore. Updates on these projects are provided below.

Accessing Inverness

This project is now well underway, with Civic Engineers having completed several stakeholder meetings and workshops to determine outline designs for the active travel corridors to /from Inverness Railway Station, including; Academy Street, Falcon Square and the link to Inverness Bus Station and Rose St Multi-storey Car Park.

The options for outline design, and a scored matrix on the proposed interventions are currently being developed with public consultation on the preferred options taking place in May.

HITRANS support for Active Aviemore.

AECOM consultants were commissioned for this project. Work is progressing well and a series of workshops took place on the 27/28th March in Aviemore with key stakeholders. One aspect of this will focus on the placecheck tool which AECOM have used to invite a red, amber, green approach to highlighting problems and good points associated with active travel within the Aviemore area.

CNES Active Travel Strategy

HITRANS have helped with the tendering of the active travel strategy for the Western Isles. Two tenders were returned on 28th March. The Active Travel Officer was part of the panel that assessed the tenders along with colleagues from Comhairle nan Eilean Siar, with the contract awarded to Arup Consultants. The active travel officer will work closely with colleagues in Comhairle nan Eilean Siar to ensure the strategy is developed, along with a parking study focusing on Stornoway. The strategy will link into the park and stride approach to encourage active travel.

Summary

This report provides an update a number of the key projects that the Active Travel officer is currently involved in that may be of interest to the board.

Risk Register

RTS Delivery

Impact - Positive

Comment –The active travel projects link into strategic RTS priorities relating to Active Travel and Low Carbon solutions.

Policy

Impact - Positive

Comment –The work of the Active Travel Officer fits with RTS objectives particularly relating to Improving active travel and low carbon infrastructure.

Financial

Impact – Positive

Comment – Several of the projects utilise the £100,000 Sustrans grant, or have been successful in receiving funding from external sources.

Equality

Impact – Positive

Comment – HITRANS support for active travel will help improve access for pedestrians and those with reduced mobility.

Recommendation

1. Members are invited to note the report and consider projects for inclusion in 2018 / 2019 programme.

Report by:	Fiona McInally
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