

Report to Partnership Meeting 3 June 2014

RESEARCH AND STRATEGY DELIVERY

Active Travel Progress Report

Purpose of the Report:

To provide an update on Active Travel projects within the HITRANS area, in particular the Community Links funding.

Community Links:

Following our last board meeting on the 4th April, which was the date of the Community Links funding announcement, the success of partners' applications within the HITRANS area was unclear. The full list of successful projects can be accessed [here](#).

In total 136 projects were funded across Scotland, with Sustrans providing £14.5 M next year in funding. Statutory bodies have to at least match 50% of the funding, but through this current round are set to contribute over £18 M. Therefore within the next year over £32M will be invested into cycling and walking facilities across the country.

Within the HITRANS area 22 projects were successful, with each local authority being successful in their largest application as outlined below:

Partner & Project Name	Grant 14/15	Grant 15/16
Argyll & Bute Council	835,000	-
Active Argyll: Project 1. Strategic Link - Scotrail	140,000	-
Active Argyll: Project 10. Local Links Kilmichael Glassary	150,000	-
Active Argyll: Project 11 Local Links Appin School	20,000	-
Active Argyll: Project 12 Local Links Kilchrenan	25,000	-
Active Argyll: Project 4 Regional Link Dunoon Active Travel Master Plan	250,000	-
Active Argyll: Project 9 Local Links South Islay Disillery Project Phase 2	250,000	-
Cairngorms National Park	115,000	-
South Aviemore Link - Speyside Way Extension	15,000	-
Spey Bank - Speyside Way Extension	100,000	-
Comhairle nan Eilean Siar (Western Isles Council)	62,500	-
Breascleite Community Pathway	50,000	-
Ness to Stornoway Feasibility Study & Design	12,500	-
Highland Council	370,669	170,000
Arisaig Safer Routes To School Project	24,700	-
Avoch - Munloch Safe Cycle Route	10,000	140,000
Beauly to Muir of Ord Cycle link	50,000	30,000
Huntly Street, Streetscape Improvements.	255,969	-
Inverness Active Travel Route 6	7,500	-
NCN Route No 1 Final link at Evanton, Ross-shire	22,500	-
HITRANS	645,000	-
Inverness Campus UHI - South Bridge	195,000	-
NCN 78 Corran Ferry to Ballachulish Bridge	450,000	-

Moray Council	470,000	245,000
Forres Urban Freedom Project	70,000	-
River Lossie Cycle Track, Elgin	400,000	245,000

Orkney Islands Council	25,000	660,000
Kirkwall Placemaking Strategy	25,000	660,000

Scottish Canals	665,000	-
SC - Highland - Dochgarroch Loop Towpath	155,000	-

When looking at 2014/15 the HITRANS area will benefit from £2,678,169, almost 18.5% of the whole community links budget for the year.

Additionally a further £1,075,000 has been committed to projects in the area for the 15/16 year, where projects are expected to take 2 years to complete.

Therefore the total Sustrans contribution (usually 50% of each project) will be £3,753,169 over the next 2 years, resulting in roughly £7.5M being spent on improved walking and cycling infrastructure.

Active Travel Audits:

HITRANS have appointed Halcrow to update the 16 Active Travel Audits for the area. The current audits have proved useful in assisting local partners with funding applications, but were starting to become out of date due to changes in cycling rates and local policies.

The update will provide an overview of current cycling levels, following the release of the 2011 census stats. Each audit will link into the local strategies and development plans, CAPS targets and aspirations for each area, and will also highlight what has been achieved between the original audits and present date. A new list of priorities for each area will also be developed.

Halcrow will be in touch with officers from each local authority as the audits take place.

Recommendation

1. Members are asked to note the report. Further progress reports will be brought to future Partnership Meetings.

Risk	Impact	Comment
RTS delivery	√	This work supports RTS objectives and the monitoring of their implementation.
Policy	√	This work supports the development of our Active Travel Policies H27a to H27d
Financial	-	
Equality	√	HITRANS support for Active Travel helps eliminate the barriers to travel for all and removes a number of physical accessibility barriers.

Report by: **Fiona McInally**
 Designation: **Active Travel Officer**
 Date: **26th May 2014**

