



THE HIGHLANDS AND ISLANDS STRATEGIC TRANSPORT PARTNERSHIP

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Minute of Meeting held in the
HITRANS Office, Inverness
Airport on Friday 31 March
2006 at 9.45am.

PRESENT Mr Charlie King, Highland Council (Chairman)
Mr Robert Sclater, Orkney Island Council (Vice-Chairman)
Mr Duncan MacIntyre, Argyll and Bute Council
Mr Donald Manford, Comhairle nan Eilean Siar
Mrs Roma Hossack, Moray Council

OFFICIALS IN ATTENDANCE Mr Dave Duthie, Argyll and Bute Council
Mr Murdo Gray, Comhairle nan Eilean Siar
Mr Sam MacNaughton, Highland Council
Mr George Borthwick, Moray Council
Mr Jeremy Baster, Orkney Islands Council
Mr Donald Macneil, Highlands and Islands Enterprise
Mr David Summers, Highlands and Islands Passenger Transport Forum
Mr Frank Roach, Highlands Rail Partnership

APOLOGIES Mr Sandy Ritchie, Moray Council

MINUTES

Highlands and Islands Transport Partnership 1 The Minute of Meeting of 17 February 2006 was **approved**.

Arising out of consideration of this item it was agreed:

- (1) to note that the May meeting would be held in Inverness at the HITRANS Office and the July meeting would be held in the Western Isles;
- (2) to note that revenue contributions of £200K from partner organisations had been received and match funding would be drawn down from the Scottish Executive;
- (3) to note that the HITRANS Capital Programme had been agreed by the Transport Minister; and
- (4) to note progress with the proposed improvements to radar cover at Inverness Airport and that 20% of the project costs would be met by HITRANS.

REGIONAL TRANSPORT

Regional Transport Strategy Stage 3 2 Mr Howard Brindley submitted a Report detailing the Stage 3 Strategy Work Programme which had been previously agreed by the Partnership. The Report stated that a proposal for completion of Stage 3 had been received from Steer Davies Gleave and had been considered by the Permanent Advisors.

It was agreed to accept the proposal from Steer Davies Gleave to undertake Stage 3 of the development of a Regional Transport Strategy as detailed in their letter dated 8 March 2006 with the exception of the prioritisation section which would be subject to further discussions between the Permanent Advisors and Steer Davies Gleave.

Regional Transport Strategy Stage 2	3	<p>The Partnership considered a Report from Steer Davies Gleave detailing progress with the development of the new Regional Transport Strategy. The Report detailed the issues and objectives pertinent to the Strategy, the Strategic Environmental Assessment that had been undertaken to scoping stage, progress towards the first Assurance/Progress Report required by the Scottish Executive guidance on the preparation of Regional Strategies and the process of generating and sifting potential options/interventions for inclusion in the Strategy.</p> <p>It was agreed to note the Report.</p>
Governance of the Partnership	4	<p>Mr Howard Brindley indicated that draft Standing Orders and associated Governance Documents had been received from CDU and would be considered by the Permanent Advisors at their April meeting. The Partnership were further informed that the appointments of Proper Officer, Secretary and Treasurer would end on 31 March 2006.</p> <p>It was agreed:</p> <p>(1) to note that a Report on the Governance Documents for the Partnership would be submitted to the next meeting; and</p> <p>(2) that the current appointments of Proper Officer, Treasurer and Secretary would be extended until 31 March 2007.</p>
Occasional Meetings with Neighbouring Partnerships	5	<p>Mr Howard Brindley addressed the meeting and highlighted the importance of meeting with neighbouring Transport Partnerships in order to discuss cross boundary strategic issues. Mr Brindley indicated that the Chairman would meet with the Chairs of Nestrans and Tactrans in order to discuss progress with the Inverness and Aberdeen to Edinburgh rail links. Members were informed that the Transport Minister would be holding quarterly meetings with the Chairmen of all Regional Transport Partnerships.</p> <p>It was agreed:</p> <p>(1) to note the Report; and</p> <p>(2) that the Chairman would make representations to the Transport Minister seeking an update on progress with the A96 and the A82 Studies.</p>
Scottish Transport Awards 2006	6	<p>Mr Howard Brindley indicated that nominations were being sought for suitable projects for consideration for a Scottish Transport Award for 2006. Members were invited to put forward suitable schemes for consideration.</p> <p>It was agreed that Howard Brindley would make arrangements to nominate the Glasgow – Campbeltown Real Time Information Project under the category of Innovative Transport.</p>
AOCB	7	<p>The Partnership was informed that an invitation to give evidence to the Local Government and Transport Committee Inquiry on freight on 18 April 2006 had been received. Mr Howard Brindley indicated that he would circulate details of the induction training for Transport Partnership Members which would be held on 11 May 2006. Mr Brindley further indicated that the National Transport Strategy Conference would be held on 30 May 2006.</p> <p>It was agreed that Mr Robert Sclater and Mr Howard Brindley would give evidence on behalf of the Partnership to the Local Government and Transport Committee Inquiry on Freight.</p>