



**REPORT TO: COMMUNITY PLANNING BOARD – 7 MAY 2009**

**SUBJECT: REGIONAL TRANSPORT PARTNERSHIP REPRESENTATION  
WITHIN COMMUNITY PLANNING STRUCTURES**

**BY: COMMUNITY PLANNING OFFICER**

**1. REASON FOR REPORT**

1.1 The Community Planning Board is asked to agree the representation of the Highlands and Islands Regional Transport Partnership (HITRANS) within Moray's Community Planning structures.

**2. RECOMMENDATION**

**2.1 The Community Planning Board is asked to agree that the Council Convener represents HITRANS on the Board and a HITRANS officer sits on the Wealthier and Fairer Theme Group.**

**3. BACKGROUND**

3.1 Regional Transport Partnerships (RTPs) were set up under the Transport Scotland Act (2005) and came into being on 1 April 2006. There are seven RTPs, covering the whole of Scotland. RTPs bring together local authorities and other key regional stakeholders to take a strategic approach to transport planning in each region.

3.2 Moray falls under the area covered by the Highlands and Islands Transport Partnership (HITRANS), which also covers Highland, Western Isles, Argyll & Bute and Orkney. The majority of members of each Partnership are drawn from local authorities within each region. Around a third of the membership comes from outwith the local authority sector and appointments are subject to the Minister's approval.

3.3 An amendment was made to the Local Government in Scotland Act (2003) in Schedule 1, Section 11 of the Transport Scotland Act (2005), stating that RTPs should be statutory partners in Community Planning Partnerships.

3.4 The Council Convener, Councillor George McIntyre, is currently the Moray Council representative on the HITRANS Board. It is therefore proposed that the

Council Convener is appointed to represent HITRANS on the Community Planning Board. The HITRANS Board has already agreed to this proposal.

- 3.5 With regard to appropriate representation of HITRANS on the Community Planning Theme Groups, it is proposed that the Wealthier and Fairer Group would be most relevant, given the importance to the local economy of improved transport infrastructure. Whilst transport issues do cut across the majority of the other themes, HITRANS does not have the capacity to sit on more than one Theme Group. It is therefore proposed to invite HITRANS to nominate a representative to join the Wealthier and Fairer Group.

#### **4. SUMMARY OF IMPLICATIONS**

**(a) Community Plan / Theme Plans / Partner Plans**

The Partnership Agreement states that membership of the Board may be extended to other public or community bodies, as the existing partners deem appropriate.

**(b) Policy and Legal**

As statutory partners, Regional Transport Partnerships (RTPs) should be represented on the Community Planning Board.

**(c) Resources (Financial, Staffing and Risks)**

There are no such implications arising directly from this report.

**(d) Consultations**

The Council's Head of Direct Services, the Council's Transportation Manager and the HITRANS Partnership Director have been consulted in respect of HITRANS representation on the Community Planning Board and their comments incorporated into the report.

The Wealthier and Fairer Theme Group Lead Officer has been consulted with regard to the representation of HITRANS on that Theme Group and concurs with the recommendation.

#### **5. CONCLUSION**

- 5.1 HITRANS has been recognised as a statutory partner within Community Planning Partnerships. The Community Planning Board is asked to agree the representation of HITRANS on the Board and on the Community Planning Theme Groups.**

**Author of Report: Roy Anderson, Community Planning Officer**