

**REPORT TO: ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND INFRASTRUCTURE SERVICES  
COMMITTEE ON 8 MARCH 2011**

**SUBJECT: MORAY LOCAL TRANSPORT STRATEGY**

**BY: HEAD OF DIRECT SERVICES**

**1. REASON FOR REPORT**

- 1.1 This report is submitted to advise Committee of the comments and representations received to the Consultative Draft Local Transport Strategy.
- 1.2 The Report is submitted to Committee in terms of Sections G (16) of the Council's Administrative Scheme relating to the function of the Council as Roads Authority and G (22), in relation to the preparation of Local Transport Strategies.

**2. RECOMMENDATION**

- 2.1 **The Committee is recommended to:**
- a. **note the responses received to the consultation set out in Appendix 1;**
  - b. **approve the recommendations set out in Appendix 1;**
  - c. **approve the Local Transport Strategy set out in Appendix 2 (Part 1 and Part 2) for publication;**
  - d. **delegate the Head of Direct Services to arrange for the completion of the SEA (Post Adoption) Statement and to undertake the appropriate advertisement**

**3. BACKGROUND**

- 3.1 A report was submitted to the Economic Development and Infrastructure Services Committee on 20 April 2010 (Para 16 of the minute refers) inviting the Committee to consider the Consultative Draft Moray Local Transport Strategy. The consultation period lasted for eight weeks and ended on 25 June 2010.
- 3.2 In addition to documents being made available at libraries, access points and via the web site letters and emails were also issued to a range of organisations including community councils, community associations, area forums, key agencies, technical consultees; internal departments and services. Two drop-in sessions were held, Elgin Library and Keith Library, before the end of the consultation period.
- 3.3 The Strategic Environmental Assessment was submitted to the SEA Gateway and very positive responses have been received from the statutory consultees.

- 3.4 Following the example of the Scottish Government a consultation form was used that enabled respondees to clarify/select the appropriate confidentiality status for their response.
- 3.5 The responses received have been summarised and grouped, where appropriate the confidential status is identified in the respondent column. The responses and the associated recommendations are shown in the table at **Appendix 1**.
- 3.6 The recommendations set out in **Appendix 1** have been taken into account in the preparation of the Local Transport Strategy (Part 1 and Part 2) attached at **Appendix 2**. The Committee is requested to approve the Local Transport Strategy and delegate the Head of Direct Services to publicise the document via the Council web site.
- 3.7 There is a requirement under the Environmental Assessment (Scotland) Act 2005 to produce a Strategic Environmental Assessment (Post Adoption) Statement. The Committee is requested to delegate the Head of Direct Services to manage the preparation and publication of the SEA (Post Adoption) Statement in accordance with the requirements of the Act.

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

##### **(a) Single Outcome Agreement/ Service Improvement Plan**

This report contributes to:

SOA 8. Roads/Transport

SIP 2.2 Improving the Transport Infrastructure

##### **(b) Policy and Legal**

The Moray Local Transport Strategy is not a statutory document i.e. it does not require formal approval by Scottish Ministers. It has been developed in accordance with guidance published by the Scottish Government.

Under section 18 of the Environmental Assessment (Scotland) Act 2005 there is a requirement to produce a Strategic Environmental Assessment (Post Adoption) Statement.

##### **(c) Financial implications**

None at this stage. Capital and Revenue budgets are set as part of the Council's overall financial planning process and detailed budget proposals (Implementation Plans) are submitted to Committee for approval each year.

**(d) Risk Implications**

None.

**(e) Staffing Implications**

Monitoring systems are already in place covering various transportation topics such as injury accidents, road condition, road network restrictions, street light repairs. Monitoring is undertaken by various officers as part of their normal duties.

**(f) Property**

None.

**(g) Equalities**

A number of policy objectives address the needs of vulnerable groups. The Equalities Officer and organisations representing specific support groups were involved directly in the wider consultation process.

**(h) Consultations**

The Moray Local Transport Strategy has been developed through two stages of consultation, in accordance with the guidance published by the Scottish Government. A wide range of organisations have responded to the second stage consultation.

Lorraine Paisey, Principal Accountant has been consulted and her comments have been incorporated into the report.

Aileen Scott, Principal Solicitor (Commercial and Conveyancing) has been consulted and her comments have been incorporated into the report.

Gordon Sutherland, Planning and Economic Development Manager has been consulted and noted that his comments have been incorporated from previous consultations and made no further comments.

**5. CONCLUSION**

**5.1 The consultation on the Local Transport Strategy has raised a wide range of comments. The recommended response to the comments is set out in Appendix 1.**

- 5.2 The Strategic Environmental Assessment was submitted to the SEA Gateway and very positive responses have been received.**
- 5.3 The Moray Local Transport Strategy shown at Appendix 2 to this report takes account of the recommendations in Appendix 1. The document is split into two parts: Part 1 Strategy and Part 2 Supplementary.**
- 5.4 Committee is invited to approve the Moray Local Transport Strategy and delegate the Head of Direct Services to publish the document and the SEA Post Adoption Statement.**

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Background Papers:

Ref: