

REPORT TO: ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES COMMITTEE ON 15 AUGUST 2007

SUBJECT: SECOND MORAY LOCAL TRANSPORT STRATEGY (MLTS2) - FIRST STAGE UPDATE

BY: DIRECTOR OF ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES

1. REASON FOR REPORT

- 1.1 To present the Committee with feedback regarding the First Stage of developing the Second Moray Local Transport Strategy.
- 1.2 To invite the Committee to approve the adoption of key objectives ranked by priority.
- 1.3 To seek endorsement for a series of actions to respond to issues raised through the First Stage consultation.
- 1.4 This report is submitted to Committee in terms of Section E(13) and E(18) of the Council's Administrative Scheme relating to functions as Roads Authority and to prepare Local Transport Strategy for consideration by the Full Council.

2. RECOMMENDATION

- 2.1 **The Committee is invited to note the contents of the Technical Note (APPENDIX A) on the review of the First Stage Consultation.**
- 2.2 **The Committee is requested to approve the adoption of the hierarchy of key objectives identified through the review of the First Stage Consultation. The hierarchy of key objectives (para 3.5) will be used in the preparation of a draft MLTS2.**
- 2.3 **The Committee is requested to note the clarification of particular concerns (shown at Section 3.6) and to homologate the short-term actions taken to address these concerns raised through the First Stage Consultation.**

3. **BACKGROUND**

- 3.1 It was approved at the Environmental Services Committee on 30 May 2007 (para 10 of the Minute refers) that the Second Moray Local Transport Strategy would be taken forward through three different stages. The First Stage consultation was advertised in the local press and on the Council web site. In addition to over 160 formal consultation communications a series of consultation sessions were held across Moray during June.
- 3.2 A copy of the Technical Note that has been prepared to review the consultation responses is attached at **Appendix A** to this report.
- 3.3 The First Stage Survey/Response Form set out thirteen questions and provided a framework for respondents. Question 8 asked if respondees had a priority ranking for the key objectives.
- 3.4 Table 3 from the Technical Note is copied below. This identifies the key objectives ranked by priority based on the responses to question 8. This table equates to a ranking of E (27%), D (23%), B (18%), C (17%) and A (15%).

Objective	1st	2nd	3rd	4th	5th	Total
E. Increase travel choices and enhance linkages between different means of travel to reduce the need for car use and improve health.	9	6	1			72
D. Improve accessibility to jobs, services and facilities within Moray.	3	4	1	5	5	61
B. Promote safer travel for all.	3	4	1	5	5	49
C. Maintain and manage the existing transport infrastructure effectively.	1	3	6	3	5	46
A. Support and enable economic development in a sustainable way.	1	2	5	4	6	41

- 3.5 The use of ranked key objectives, for option appraisal during the Second Stage of preparing the draft MLTS2, is likely to create a more discrete hierarchy of options and will reflect the views of the respondees. For these reasons the Committee is recommended to approve the adoption of the ranked key objectives: E (27%), D (23%), B (18%), C (17%) and A (15%).
- 3.6 There were a number of concerns raised by the respondees concerning the consultation process and specific aspects of transport in Moray that are worth some clarification and where appropriate a short term action has been undertaken. These concerns and short-term actions are set out in the following table.

Issue	Description/Clarification	Short-term Action
Communication	Keep stakeholders informed	Use TMC web site and emails to respondees and formal consultees to provide updates and alerts for each of the three stages. Transport Strategy web page created.
Integration	Ensure integration with other policies	Hitrans Regional Transport Strategy, Moray Youth Strategy, Environmental Strategy for Moray and Community Plan stakeholders to be more directly involved in the Second Stage.
Public Transport	Infrastructure (including Elgin Bus Station)	Moray Council Officers are involved with the public transport elements of the Hitrans Regional Transport Strategy. Opportunities to enhance PT infrastructure in Moray are being investigated with Hitrans.
Road Safety	Driver behaviour at School Crossing Patrols. Reports of cars failing to stop at School Crossing Patrols sent to Police.	Issue raised with Moray Road Safety Group. Supply of 'Drivers must stop for School Crossing Patrols' leaflets requested from Department for Transport.
Elgin Bypass	Plans for Elgin Bypass and other transport options for Elgin. Various Reports on transport options for Elgin have been presented to Committee to date. Elgin STAG Part 2 Report will be presented to Committee later this summer.	'Elgin Transport Options' web page created to provide easier access to reports presented to Committee concerning Elgin Bypass, Elgin Traffic Model and Elgin STAG Study.

- 3.7 The Second Stage of developing the Second Moray Local Transport Strategy involves the review of the First Stage consultation, the preparation of the Draft MLTS2 and Environmental Report and publication of the two documents. This will now be taken forward and a future report will be presented to Committee setting out these two documents in accordance with the decision of the Committee on 30 May 2007 (para 10 of the Minute refers) .

4. SUMMARY OF IMPLICATIONS

(a) Corporate Development Plan/Community Plan/Service Improvement Plan

This report contributes to:

CDP Environmental Programme 4 Transport

CDP Environmental Programme 5 Development Plan

SIP 5 Working with the community to plan for the future

(b) Policy and Legal

Moray Council is required to prepare a new three-year Local Transport Strategy. The process of developing MLTS2 is required to follow the STAG process and meet the requirements of the SEA Regulations.

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

A broad range of Council staff will be involved with the Second Stage that involves the production of a draft MLTS2. A consultant has been appointed to support with the Strategic Environmental Assessment Regulations requirements for MLTS2. This will be funded from the revenue budget allocated for transportation studies and initiatives.

(d) Consultations

The Head of Development Services, Planning & Development Manager, Corporate Policy Unit Manager, Principal Accountant, Principal Solicitor and Public Transport Unit Manager were consulted. Comments received have been incorporated in this report.

5. CONCLUSION

5.1 The First Stage consultation ran from 11 June to 06 July. The Technical Note reviews the thirty one responses that were received and will be used to assist with the preparation of the draft MLTS2.

5.2 The respondees have identified a desire to use key objectives ranked by priority. The Committee is requested to approve the use of ranked key objectives.

5.3 A number of concerns raised by the respondees concerning the consultation process and specific transport aspects have been addressed through some short-term actions. The Committee is requested to note these issues and endorse the short-term actions that have been undertaken.

Author of Report: Transportation Manager

Background Papers:

Ref: RJG/PA