

## REPORT TO INFRASTRUCTURE SERVICES – 16 JUNE 2016

### FRASERBURGH, PETERHEAD AND ELLON TO ABERDEEN STRATEGIC TRANSPORT STUDY

#### 1 Recommendation

The Committee is recommended to:

- 1.1 Consider and approve the comments from Banff and Buchan and Buchan Area Committees as set out in Appendix 1 for submission to Nestrans.

#### 2 Background/Discussion

- 2.1 Infrastructure Services Committee of 12 May 2016 (Item 7, Page 68) considered a report setting out the key findings of the initial study in to options along the Fraserburgh, Peterhead and Ellon to Aberdeen corridor.
- 2.2 As per the decision at that meeting of this Committee the details of the work and the proposed approach for the next stage of the transport appraisal were referred to Area Committee for consideration and comment.
- 2.3 The matter was considered by Banff and Buchan Area Committee on 24 May (Item 9), Buchan Area Committee on 31 May (Item 9) and Formartine Area Committee on 7 June (Item 6). Comments from Formartine Area Committee will be tabled at the meeting of this Committee.
- 2.4 The Head of Finance and Monitoring Officer within Business Services have been consulted in the preparation of this report and are supportive of the report.
- 2.5 The Head of Commercial and Procurement Services was consulted in the preparation of this report and is supported of the report.

#### 3 Equalities, Staffing and Financial Implications

- 3.1 The immediate staffing implications of this report are for Aberdeenshire Council officers to continue to support the steering group for the study. This can be accommodated within staffing existing resource. Funding requirements for any further study work would be obtained from the Nestrans budget, which has £200,000 in its budget for 2016/17 for the next stage of appraisal work.

- 3.2 No EqIA has been undertaken at the current stage of the appraisal work, due to the current broad nature of options being considered at this stage of the appraisal. It is anticipated that EqIA's would be prepared to support the more detailed Part 2 appraisal work.

**Stephen Archer**  
**Director of Infrastructure Services**

Report prepared by Ewan Wallace/Paul Finch  
Date 23 May 2016

## **Appendix 1**

### **Banff and Buchan Area Committee – 24 May 2016**

#### Comments:

- a) consideration should be given to delivering distribution hubs at both ends of the route to enable efficient transport and distribution of goods as part of a wider transport strategy on this route, and
- b) no further comments until further updates with more detail have been received

### **Buchan Area Committee – 31 May 2016**

#### Agreed to make following comments to ISC –

- (1) that 'Options 1 & 2 – Road' be taken forward as the preferred options, and that in particular Option 1 be further explored,
- (2) in recognising that the current infrastructure is not fit for purpose and that there is a need to connect the rest of the country to Buchan, that the Business Case will need to include a mix of road, rail and bus to ensure that the future infrastructure allows for a long-term view in terms of business, industry and tourism,
- (3) to request that when consideration is being given to acquiring land to extend the dual carriageway, that at that time consideration also be given to acquiring land for a new railway to allow the railway to run parallel to the dual carriageway,
- (4) in considering public safety, to highlight the need for an improved junction at the Toll of Burness as a priority, and
- 5) given that large housing developments are proposed in Mintlaw and Fraserburgh in the near future, to highlight the need for improvements on the A952 with the need for consideration being given to providing a by-pass via Mintlaw.

