

Agenda Item	9
Report No	ECI/18/2021

HIGHLAND COUNCIL

Committee: **Economy and Infrastructure**

Date: **5 May 2021**

Report Title: **Inverness and Highland City-Region Deal**

Report By: **Executive Chief Officer Infrastructure and Environment**

1. Purpose/Executive Summary

- 1.1 The purpose of this report is to provide committee with an update on the Inverness and Highland City-Region Deal. Highlights of note in the last quarter include:
- 14 new affordable homes were delivered in the last quarter with tenants taking occupancy in February;
 - Tenders have been received and evaluated for the Life Sciences Innovation Centre with awarding of contract due early May;
 - West Link landscaping works near completion with full commissioning of new bridge connection due in May; and
 - A Newton Room for Inverness planning application has been submitted for the University Campus.

2. Recommendations

- 2.1 Members are asked to note progress with the City Region Deal during the final quarter of 20/21.

3. Implications

- 3.1 **Resource** - There are no resource issues arising because of this report.

- 3.2 **Legal** - It should be noted that the City-Region Deal is a signed undertaking to deliver specified projects. These cannot be changed without the express consent of the UK and Scottish Governments. There are, however, no legal implications because of this report.
- 3.3 **Community (Equality, Poverty and Rural)** - there are no community impact implications arising from this report.
- 3.4 **Climate Change / Carbon Clever** - There are no climate change or Carbon Clever related issues arising from this report.
- 3.5 **Risk** - No additional risks arise due to the content or the publication of this report.
- 3.6 **Gaelic** - There are no Gaelic implications arising from this report

4. Introduction

- 4.1 The Highland Council is the lead body for the Inverness and Highland City-Region Deal which is being implemented by a partnership between the Council, Highlands and Islands Enterprise, The University of the Highlands & Islands (UHI), and Albyn Housing Society Ltd.
- 4.2 Collectively, this £315.1m funding package (Scottish Government £135m, UK Government £53.1m, local partners £127m) is provided over a 10-year period, subject to detailed business cases, statutory processes and implementation plans. The Deal is currently in year four.

5. Project Progress Highlights

- 5.1 The projects within the City-Region Deal are shown in **Appendix 1**, which provides a description and an update on the status of each project. Progress against the projects are reported to this Committee quarterly, in a consistent format which facilitates transparency about where progress is good and where remedial action may be necessary. Highlights for the period can be found below:

5.2 West Link

Landscaped works in Torvean Park are nearing completion. Construction of final phase is underway with road and bridge alignment. Original completion was December 2020, but due to the pandemic and the 3 months cessation of construction projects, ongoing Covid disruption and final commissioning of the bridge this is now programmed for completion by the end May 2021.

5.3 Inshes Junction Project

At Inshes the 3 lanes overbridge is complete and Beechwood access contract has been awarded with a start of construction in April 2021. Since the start of the project there has been a change in the hierarchy of travel within National Transport Strategy. This has resulted in a complete review of the project and the consideration of revised scheme objectives – that will be presented to the Inverness City and Area Committee in May to enable consultations to progress.

5.4 Inverness Castle

Work continues to schedule and budget. Full planning permission and listed building consent applications were submitted in January, following their development in consultation with relevant bodies. Landscaping plans were added in mid-February.

In March a tender was issued to engage exhibition designer services for the development and presentation of the Spirit of the Highlands theme. Once appointed, work will begin to develop the stories gathered from individuals and communities across the Highlands into the interpretation within the attraction.

5.5 UHI Life Sciences Innovation Centre

Tenders for the building of the innovation centre are under evaluation with award for contract due early May. The Health Innovation Fund has undergone a limited 'soft' launch with some companies, first projects will be awarded in April/May.

5.6 Innovative Assisted Living (Fit Home)

Construction of units at Stratton Farm in Inverness is underway with completion expected in January 2022. This is a Highland Council owned site with 8 units to be purchased by AHS on completion. At the Albyn owned site Cawdor Road in Nairn, revised costings and preparation for construction tendering for 10 units is underway.

An independent evaluation of the commercialisation potential and route to market for the technology used in FIT homes has been commissioned. Discussions are ongoing with The Highland Council, local partners, the Usher Institute and Scottish Government to develop a business model to deliver the greatest long-term benefit of this work.

5.7 STEM Skills Academy

After the success of the delivery model for primary schools Maths Week, the SSA has developed a Space-themed programme that will include a STEM kit box that will be sent to every school in Highland that will contain activity sheets and science equipment, with corresponding CLPL sessions for teachers. This work has been carried out in collaboration and with additional funding from the Association of Science and Discovery Centres.

The SSA is progressing the option of a custom-built self-contained Inverness Campus Newton Room, with additional financial support from HIE, as part of a larger Inverness Campus project. At present, planning permission for the infrastructure of the campus project has been submitted and is awaiting feedback/approval.

5.8 Affordable Housing

During this quarter 14 units have been completed within Wyvern House, Academy Street, Inverness, with tenants occupying in late February.

6. Governance

6.1 The projects report to the quarterly City-Region Deal Programme Board, chaired by the Executive Chief Officer Infrastructure and Environment, and attended by the lead officers for each project, a representative from the Council's Finance Service, representatives from the business community, and both the Scottish and UK Governments. The Board reports to the Economy and Infrastructure Committee and undertakes the following roles:-

- ensures delivery of business cases and the implementation plan;
- ensures effective co-ordination between partners;
- ensures the ongoing overall alignment of the individual projects within the programme;
- resolving strategic and operational issues between projects; and
- monitoring project status and ensure project delivery; and manage risks and financial commitments.

The Board met on 19 April 2021.

6.2 A Members City Region Deal Monitoring Group also monitors progress, and this met on 21 April 2021.

6.3 Government Reporting

6.3.1 As would be expected from a programme of the scale of the Inverness and Highland City-Region Deal, accountability to the Scottish and UK governments, as the major funders, requires regular reports and programme management activities.

6.3.2 The next major milestone for government reporting is the 2020/21 Annual Report ahead of the Annual Conversation in the Autumn with Scottish and UK governments. This report will also be brought to Committee when complete.

7 Programme Level Risks

7.1 **The Covid-19 pandemic** - As previously reported some delays and issues have arisen from previous restrictions and a variety of mitigation and alternatives were successfully deployed. Whilst upcoming easing of restrictions are welcome, there remain issues around access to sites, obtaining materials and increased safety measures which may affect several projects in the programme.

7.2 **Underspend** – several projects will underspend within year due to a range of factors including Covid 19 and legal delays. Those projects are working to resolve those issues and get their projects back on schedule in most cases this will mean however some spend will need to be carried forward to 21/22.

7.1.2 **Digital** – The Digital project remains in severe delay due to the delayed signing of an agreement with the supplier. The project awaits the new plan of work to be published and has been assured of every support from the R100 project team to examine how best to execute the City Region Deal digital project. However there remains a severe risk to this project should this not be achieved.

7.1.3 **Brexit** – Several projects, particularly infrastructure related, are at risk from material and worker resource availability from the EU. It is still too early at the moment to quantify the impact but the next round of invitations to tender for projects will give an indication of the likely impact.

8. Financial Position

8.1 The Programme provides a profile for spend across the UK and Scottish Government funding; this is tracked to ensure compliance with central government accounting practices, and that spend is monitored as a way of assessing progress against project plans. Spend against profile has been improving against the early years, however Covid has impacted on the majority of projects, and consequently there will now be further delays in achieving spend.

Year (s)	Profile
Spend to Date	£12,595,353
20/21	£8,660,256
21/22	£16,771,584
22/23	£21,098,968
23/24	£13,721,622
24/25	£5,171,291
25/26	£980,926
Total	£79,000,000

QTR.	Profile	Actual
Qtr 1	£1,149,814	£699,369
Qtr 2	£1,999,308	£1,107,248
Qtr 3	£2,333,864	£638,637
Qtr 4	£3,177,270	£2,216,497

Notes: There will be no planned spend for Digital in 20/21

Designation: Executive Chief Officer Infrastructure and Environment

Date: 14 April 2021

Author: Felix McGunnigle, City-Region Deal Programme Manager

Inverness Castle

Appendix 1

1. Management Summary					
Summary:	Overall Project Status	Progress against Plan	Financials	Benefits	Risk Register
This Report	G	G	G	G	G
Last Report	G	G	G	G	G
Main Reasons for Change					

2. Executive Summary – for previous quarter

Despite the Covid-19 restrictions, the project remains on programme and on budget, with Design Development Stage (RIBA Stage 4) underway. No significant issues have been identified from the completed works or surveys during the enabling works. The enabling works contract is due to be completed in May, with the tender for the main construction contract being issued in the same month.

Applications for full planning permission and listed building consent were submitted in January, following the development of designs in consultation with Historic Environment Scotland and The Highland Council Planning Service, with input from the Chief Architect of the Scottish Government. The landscaping plans were added to the planning application in mid-February, having been developed to enhance the accessibility of the whole Castlehill site and to maximise on the contribution and impact made to the overall visitor experience. A significant addition to the design of the new attraction is a roof terrace on the South Tower, facilitating access for all to the roof of the castle. The terrace will also provide seating and planters to continue the landscaping theme across the whole of the site. The outcome of the planning process is awaited.

Plans for the design of the infrastructure for external lighting are being developed, reflecting the potential for projection mapping and lighting to add to the visitor experience and event programming. The specification for the main construction contract will be completed using the findings of the enabling works, and is planned for issue in May, with evaluation in September, and a potential start date on site in late 2021.

In relation to content development, this part of the project has also continued to maintain momentum during the period of disruption arising from the pandemic. A tender to procure the services of exhibition designers was issued in March 2021, with a view to engaging specialist input to the development of the interpretive spaces within and around the Castle to present the Spirit of the Highlands theme to visitors. Once appointed, the designers will work with the Project’s Creative Team to develop the stories gathered from individuals and communities across the Highlands into the interpretation within the new visitor attraction.

Work has been ongoing to test the market for potential private sector interest in the project. Engagement is also ongoing with the following organisations and stakeholder groups with reference to developing partnerships or having a presence within the new visitor attraction when it opens: VisitScotland, National Galleries of Scotland, National Museums of Scotland and a range of organisations involved in trails in Inverness and across the wider Highlands.

The development of the plan for the use of the public spaces within the castle has been enhanced by consultation with industry specialists in catering, retailing and interpretation design.

Stakeholder engagement has continued as far as possible within the COVID restrictions, albeit on a much more limited scale than anticipated. Plans are being put in place to restart face to face engagement at an appropriate time and to initiate a schools’ engagement programme when pupils return after the summer break. A programme of media relations continues, with regular releases being issued to keep stakeholders up to date with project developments. Liaison with VisitScotland has been initiated to ensure that connections will be made with key markets and tour operators at the appropriate stage in the project.

The Data Curation Graduate (funded by Scotgrad) is also making good progress in co-ordinating the collation and management of the stories submitted through the database. Contact has been made with other story gathering projects across the Highlands to work in collaboration to maximise on the potential for each project to achieve its objectives to support a positive impact for tourism across the region.

Work continues to explore additional sources of funding, and to make applications where necessary. Updates on the status of current applications are listed below.

- CRD Business Case: work continues on the development of the Final Business Case, following approval by both UK and Scottish Government of the Outline Business Case.
- NCHF: the revised application – ‘Spirit:Journeys’ – submitted in December, has been partially approved, with an intent to award the funding upon satisfactory submission of supplementary information.
- Work on the application to HIE for match funding in support of the NCHF project has been initiated.
- Similarly, dialogue is ongoing with VisitScotland to provide match funding for the NCHF application.
- Private sector: discussions are ongoing with potential sponsors and investors for phase 1 of the masterplan.

3. Implementation Plan					
Ref	Milestone	Description	Original Date	New Date	Comment
1	Preparation and brief		05/04/2019	05/04/2019	Complete
2	Concept Design		20/09/2019	20/09/2019	Complete
3	Design Development		08/05/2020	08/05/2020	Complete
4	Technical Design		02/10/2019	02/10/2019	Complete
5	Tender Action		30/04/2021	30/04/2021	Complete
6	Construction		20/06/2023	21/06/2024	After concept design stage construction period changed from 2 years to 3 years
7	Handover and Close out		04/07/2023	05/07/2024	
8	Fit Out/Opening		28/09/2023	29/09/2024	

4. Benefits Realisation					
Ref	Measure	Description - <i>Impact of benefit</i>	Benefit Type	Realisation Starts	Realisation Ends
1	Visitor numbers per annum – Inverness Castle Viewpoint	2017/18: 27,825 visitors 2018/19: 29,295 visitors 2019/20: 35,119 visitors 2020/21: tbc			
2	Increased number of visitors to Inverness				
3	Increased visitor stay and spend in Inverness				
4	Increased visitors to other parts of the Highlands and Islands				

5	Generate an operating surplus				
6	Additional economic Gross Value Added (GVA) to the region				
7	Generate new FT and PT jobs				
8	Catalyst for further private sector investment in Inverness (in retail and accommodation sectors)				
9	To support the delivery of Phase 2 & Phase 3 of the masterplan				
10	Community facilities				
11	Protecting a key cultural asset and cultural benefit				
12	Enhanced national and international profile of Inverness and the Highlands and Islands				

5. Financial Profile for Life of Programme (CRD Funding only)						Funding: £ 16,362,000
2020/21	2019/20 Q4	Q 1	Q 2	Q 3	Q 4	Total
Forecast Spend @ Apr-20	£50,000	£262,045	£386,658	£386,658	£386,658	
Revised Forecast Spend (In-Year)						
Actual Spend		£232,128	£372,604			

6. Summary of key costs against budget current year				
Ref	Cost Item	Budget	Actual Spend	Explanation
1	Product feasibility studies	£	£	
2	Project management	£	£	
	Total	£	£	

Affordable Housing

7. Management Summary					
Summary:	Overall Project Status	Progress against Plan	Financials	Benefits	Risk Register
This Report	G	A	A	G	A
Last Report	G	G	A	G	A
Main Reasons for Change					

8. Executive Summary – for previous quarter
<p>The first units were completed in October 2018 at Raining stairs Inverness. The total number of units approved to date is 253 new homes. Further projects currently on site include developments in Fort William, Inverness, Evanton a total of 120 new homes. We are currently negotiating on further opportunities including 5 units in Kirkhill.</p> <p>The 14 units within Wyvern House, Inverness have been completed during quarter 4, with tenants occupying late February 2021</p> <p>The most significant risk to the project is identification of deliverable schemes given the shortage of economically deliverable sites in the Inverness area.</p>

9. Implementation Plan					
Ref	Milestone	Description	Original Date	New Date	Comment
10	Dulnain Bridge	Tender received	30/09/2020		Tender Received awaiting statutory consents
12	Academy Street Inverness	On site	30/06/2020	28/02/2021	Complete
13	Slackbuie	On site	30/06/2020	10/10/2020	On site restart
17	Netwonmore	Pre-tender	31/05/2020		Pre-tender
19	Inverness Ness side	Pre-tender	31/03/2021	30/06/2021	On site
21	Fort William, Achintore School	On site	31/03/2021	30/06/2021	On site
22	Stratton HHA	Mixed use site- council	30/12/2021	31/01/2022	On site
23	Fort William, The Blar	Phase 1 on site	31/03/2022		On site
24	Fort William, Lochaber House	High street regeneration project	30/11/2021	31/03/2022	On site
25	Inverness, Castle Street	High street regeneration project	30/07/2021	30/09/2021	On site
26	Inverness, Lomond Gardens	On site	30/09/2021	31/12/2021	On site restart
27	Avoch	On site	30/06/2021	31/10/2021	On site restart
28	Evanton, Teandallon	Contract awarded		31/05/2022	On site

Quarter 4 March 2021



29	Dornoch, Elizabeth Crescent	Contract Awarded		31/03/2022	On site
30	Union street inverness	On site		30/04/2022	On site
31	Kingussie	Contract Awarded		31/03/2022	Due to start on site May-21
32	Kincraig	Contract Awarded		31/05/2022	Due to start on site June-21
33	Inverness, Ness Castle	On site	31/05/2022		On site

10. Benefits Realisation

Ref	Measure	Description - Impact of benefit	Benefit Type	Realisation Starts	Realisation Ends

11. Financial Profile for Life of Programme (CRD Funding only)

Funding: £5,000,000

2020/21	2019/20 Q4	Q 1	Q 2	Q 3	Q 4	Total
Forecast Spend @ Apr-21		0	£276,000	£186,000	£36,000	£498,000
Revised Forecast Spend (In-Year)						
Actual Spend		0	£72,000	£48,000	£222,000	£342,000

12. Summary of key costs against budget current year

Ref	Cost Item	Budget	Actual Spend	Explanation
1	City Deal contribution to site purchase / development costs	£500,000	£342,000	Delays due to COVID.
	Total	£500,000	£342,000	

Land Remediation Longman

1. Management Summary					
Summary:	Overall Project Status	Progress against Plan	Financials	Benefits	Risk Register
This Report	A		A	G	A
Last Report	G		A	G	A
Main Reasons for Change					

2. Executive Summary – for previous quarter					
<p>To regenerate a redundant landfill site in Inverness to create 18 hectares of development-ready land for light industry/commercial use. Site investigations are underway with interim reports received for discussion with SEPA. Meeting held with SEPA with actions agreed seeking to get in principle agreement by March 2019. The Highland Council is working closely with Transport Scotland to co-ordinate activities and share information in relation to the Longman interchange proposals. Final report submitted to SEPA June 2019. We have received comments on the very low-level radioactive wastes (VLLRW) and further discussions are on-going with SEPA to clarify how they will interpret statements from two of their specialists (groundwater and contaminated land) that the landfill should be “safe” with regards to human health for the surrender. Further meetings have been held and we are waiting to hear from SEPA that the latest information provided will enable the Council to formally submit an application for the surrender of the licence which would enable the surrender to be released in spring 2021. Currently due to the cyberattack on their IT systems, SEPA are not processing applications unless they are business critical.</p> <p>Further discussions have been held with Transport Scotland to finalise their land requirements for new interchange. Until this is finalised, we cannot prepare the detailed business case for the remediation works as size of developable site is unknown.</p> <p>The Highland Council is also considering waste transfer station on part of the adjacent landfill site and is progressing with these proposals.</p>					

3. Implementation Plan					
Ref	Milestone	Description	Original Date	New Date	Comment
1	Intrusive Site Investigations	Investigations last a year to enable tide cycle	Complete		
2	End of initial Investigations	A further stage will be required	23/01/18	30/09/20	Because the inter-relationship between remediation activity SEPA licence and Longman Interchange site boundaries will change and further investigations will be needed
3	SEPA In principle approval		31/03/19	30/06/21	
4	Further Site investigations	for full business case	30/03/20	30/03/22	Will need to align with Longman Interchange work
5	Planning Application	Submit planning application for remediation works and site servicing masterplan. Instruct Transport Impact Assessment (TIA).	31/03/19	31/09/19	Significantly more investigative work will be needed

6	Remainder Business Case	full business plan submitted for remediation works.	31/1/21	30/9/2021	Delayed to SEPA / transport Scotland negotiations
7	Remediation works commence		30/09/21	30/09/22	Delayed to SEPA / transport Scotland negotiations
8	Site Servicing Works commence		30/04/23	30/09/23	
9	Site Marketed:	(subject to completion of Longman Interchange)	30/04/25	30/04/25	

4. Benefits Realisation					
Ref	Measure	Description - Impact of benefit	Benefit Type	Realisation Starts	Realisation Ends

5. Financial Profile for Life of Programme (CRD Funding only)							Funding: £ 10,000,000
2020/21	2019/20 Q4	Q 1	Q 2	Q 3	Q 4	Total	
Forecast Spend @ Apr-20	£28,000						
Revised Forecast Spend (In-Year)							
Actual Spend							

6. Summary of key costs against budget current year				
Ref	Cost Item	Budget	Actual Spend	Explanation
1	Further Intrusive site investigations and monitoring	£	£	Unknown at this stage pending further discussions with SEPA
	Total	£	£	

7. Project risks and Issues					
ID	Description:	Mitigation:	RAG	Date	Owner
1	SEPA refuses release of waste licence	Continued dialogue with SEPA	A		A Maguire
2	Delays due to Longman Interchange network/ land	Close working with Transport Scotland	A		A Maguire
3	Ecological issues	Work close with council's ecology team	A		A Maguire

Northern Innovation Hub

1. Management Summary					
Summary:	Overall Project Status	Progress against Plan	Financials	Benefits	Risks
This Report	A	A	A	G	A
Last Report	A	A	A	A	A
Main Reasons for Change	unchanged	unchanged	unchanged	Interim outcomes are broadly back on track. Longer term impacts to be measured ongoing and evaluated at close of programme.	unchanged

2. Executive Summary – for previous quarter
<p>Financials: The programme continues to accrue underspend. This is mainly due to ongoing COVID-19 restrictions, and delays in the Food and Drink TechHub. Spend in current quarter is £291,885 against £370,047 budgeted. Spend in the current year is £1,002,393 compared to budget of £1,386,928. CRD spend to date across the programme is £2,982,294.</p> <p>Operational: Majority of projects up and running, with the exception of the Food & Drink TechHub and Next Generation programmes. Coding Academy phase 2 and Digital Tourism programme under revision. NHS Market Ready has been renamed Business 2 Healthcare (B2Hc) and launched in March. A new contract has been awarded to Skillfluence Ltd to deliver the next phase of Pathfinder Accelerator.</p> <p>A final draft Interim Review report has been received from EKOS Consulting. Whilst no fundamental overhaul of NIH is proposed, there are a number of conclusions and recommendations to address. These include broadening the reach of programmes, governance efficiencies, increased awareness raising, and improvements to data gathering/reporting. A paper was presented to HIE Leadership Team on 22 March and a further paper will be presented to the HIE Board on 17 April 2021.</p> <p>A new contract for marketing/promotion services has been procured with Dynam, commencing March 2021 for 12 months.</p> <p>Projects:</p> <p>Tourism – the first two cohorts of the new Let’s Grow Adventure Tourism programme commenced in late September, with 28 businesses from across Lochaber and the Cairngorms participating. Ongoing recruitment will see support for at least a further 30 businesses from West Ross, East Ross and Caithness & Sutherland, to form 3 cohorts, commencing end of summer 2021 into 2022.</p> <p>Since August 2019, there have been 464 individual businesses from within the Highland Council area sign up to receive Tune into Tourism podcasts. 10 individual DMO’s receive a moderate level of support through our relationship with the Digital Tourism Think Tank. This provides access to a large and widespread online community that holds regular ‘round table’ calls and discussions, there is a host of resources available online, and a number of specialist workshops are facilitated throughout the year. From January 2021 access to this support and collaboration has been widened to SME’s within Highlands area.</p> <p>Due to ongoing lockdowns and local and international travel restrictions, the master planning process has continued to be challenging for Developing Mountain Biking in Scotland. Plans are in place to deliver 3 innovation clinics and 4 specialist workshops throughout 2021. A bike storage scheme was launched in November 2020, to support tourism businesses to provide secure facilities for cyclists.</p>

Life Sciences – An online Pathfinder alumni event took place in February with 24 past and current participants attending. Guest speakers included Màiri Macdonald, Business Growth Enabler at Royal Bank of Scotland Business & President of Highland Businesswomen; Rachel Hanretty, Founder and Director, Mademoiselle Macaron; Seonaidh MacDonald, Chairman & CEO, EOLAS Advisory Ltd; Lara Mott, CEO and Co-founder at ImproveWell

The new **Pathfinder Accelerator** will commence June 2021 with the next cohort expected to onboard in Autumn.

NEXUS collaborative space continues to operate with the majority of businesses retaining their office leases. Our series of NEXUS webinars continues to receive a good level of interest, with 3 webinars delivered this quarter, on Food & Drink/Health, Augmented Reality in Healthcare, and a showcase of Vet Referrals located on Inverness Campus.

Building on the NHS Market Ready pilot programme, **Business to Healthcare (B2Hc)** was launched in February. B2Hc will connect companies with healthcare professionals, helping to connect the company to the right people within the health and care sector, allow for customer feedback and further knowledge about potential funding streams to accelerate growth.

Food and Drink – The **Highland Food and Drink Innovation Network** has completed its first year and has engaged with over 180 businesses. The second year will ramp up activity, focussing on the international agenda, engaging with stakeholders, and the creation of an advisory board. A Logistics project (now known as HiPlan), in collaboration with The Data Lab and Robert Gordons University, continues to develop.

Plans for the **Food and Drink TechHub** continue to take shape – 55 businesses participated in a market consultation exercise and stakeholder engagement is ongoing. A revised site options appraisal is underway. A project update was provided to the CRD PMO in December 2020 and is available upon request.

Creative Industries – Taking lockdowns and the economic impact of Brexit on the sector and region into consideration, everything remains in place for ongoing delivery and we are not seeing any let up in demand for support. Across the XpoNorth suite of activities there have been 5,865 registrations for advice and workshops. Of these, 919 have been identified in the Highland Council area, of these 327 are from unique businesses. **XpoNorth Digital** has delivered 6 workshops this quarter, mainly focusing on Heritage as well as remote participation and the crowd economy. The project has also supported 14 museums to contribute to Highland Threads, exploring the history of people in northern Scotland that will showcase treasured costume from each of the museum’s collections, alongside stories of the people who made the cloth, wore the cloth and where they were produced.

Young People and Technology

IMPACT30 next cohort is currently under recruitment, with 18 applications received so far. Due to onboard in June 2021.

Technology Placements – 2 new graduate placements were approved this quarter. The total to date is 10 graduate and 2 student placements. A promotional campaign to raise awareness of the programme is ongoing. A series of podcasts is in development and due to be launched after the pre-election period.

Coding Academy – HIE is currently reviewing its approach to this project, and a working group has been established with Skills Development Scotland to ensure the project meets the needs of local businesses, adds value and avoids duplication.

General

COVID-19 restrictions mean that all activity continues to be delivered digitally. This continues to provide an opportunity to extend the geographic reach of all projects and thus maximise the impact of the NIH.

3. Implementation Plan				
Milestone	Description	Original Date	New Date	Comment
Second round of procurement	Pathfinder Accelerator, IMPACT30, Tune into Tourism, XPONorth, Coding Academy, TechHub Network re-procured.	Nov 2020 – Sep 2021	Jan 2021 – July 2022	ONGOING. Projects and dates reviewed. Skillfluence awarded 3 year contract for Pathfinder Accelerator. XpoNorth contract extended for one year. Further

				procurement subject to findings of interim review.
Digital Tourism Leaders Academy contract awarded	Contract to provide support to tourism businesses taking on advanced digital developments	December 2017	TBC	DELAYED. due to original contract being mutually concluded. In-house review currently underway. Proposal to amend original project approved by PMO.
Food and Drink TechHub design team procured	Design team to be procured and construction contract to be awarded	March 2020	March 2021	DELAYED. Review concluded. Initial Strategic Assessment approved by HIE Leadership Team. CRD / SG approval to be sought for revised project.
Contract awarded for Food and Drink Technology Centre	Technology centre capital project contract awarded	March 2018	2021	DELAYED. Review of original proposal underway
Next Generation Programme & second phase of Network	Contract awarded for Food and Drink Next Generation Programme & second phase of Network	August 2021	March 2022	DELAYED. Dependent on completion of Technology Centre
Mid-term review	Review of first 3 years of operation of NIH – looking at performance to date with regard to spend and impacts achieved. Recommendations on improvements and re-allocation of budgets	Winter 2020/21	April 2021	DELAYED. Contract awarded to EKOS Consulting. Review completed, subject to final report
NIH staff contracts extended	Approval by HIE to extend delivery staff contracts	-	Dec 2020	ACHIEVED.
Proposal to redesign remainder of programme	Approval from CRD / SG / UKG to amend programme budgets/outputs/delivery plan.	-	2021	Following interim review, develop proposal and seek approval.

4. Benefits Realisation						
Ref	Measure	Description - Impact of benefit	Benefit Type	Target	Achieved to date	Realisation Starts
1	Number of Enterprises receiving modest support to develop innovative products, services or processes (interactions)	Attend event, workshop, webinar or other light touch interaction	Socio Economic	845	1842	November 2018
2	Number of Enterprises receiving considerable support to develop innovative products, services or processes (interactions)	Participate in series of events, workshops or receive up to 3 days' specialist advice, Industry Engagement Programme or other support	Socio Economic	326	37	November 2018
3	Number of Enterprises receiving intensive support to develop innovative products, services or processes (interactions)	Participate in programme, receive over 3 days' specialist advice or other support; tenant or soft-landing; student or graduate placement	Socio Economic	625	189	November 2018
4	Total number of unique businesses supported	Number of unique businesses receiving modest, considerable or intensive support	Socio Economic	1796	1644	November 2018
5	Number of enterprises cooperating with research institutions	Cooperation to help develop new product or service, reach new markets, other	Socio Economic	30	12	November 2018

6	Number of innovative active businesses	BEIS UK definition: An enterprise is defined as Innovation Active if during the previous 3 year period it has been engaged in any of the following: 1. Introduction of a new or significantly improved product (good or service) or process 2. Engagement in innovation products not complete or abandoned; 3. New or significantly improved forms of organisation, business structures or practices, marketing concepts or strategies.	Socio Economic	30	117	November 2018
7	Number of products new to the market (ERDF target)	New, unique and innovative product, service or process developed	Socio Economic	30	59	November 2018
8	Number of products new to the market (ERDF target)	New, unique and innovative product, service or process developed	Socio Economic	60	42	November 2018

5. Financial Profile for Life of Programme (CRD Funding only)						Funding: £ 11,000,000
2020/21	2019/20 Q4	Q 1	Q 2	Q 3	Q 4	Total
Forecast Spend @ Apr-20	£385,000	£480,605	£509,598	£421,187	£540,729	£1,952,119
Revised Forecast Spend (In-Year)	£329,784	£275,520	£296,906	£368,095	£475,417	£1,415,938
Actual Spend	£329,784	£272,511	£290,735	£250,812	£291,885	

6. Summary of key costs against budget current year				
Ref	Cost Item	Budget	Actual Spend	Explanation
1	Staff, Communications and Consultancy	£1,455,276	£233,914	
2	Life Sciences	£1,363,645	£123,157	
3	Digital /Adventure Tourism	£1,077,875	£192,856	Delays with some aspects; Digital Tourism Leaders Bootcamp under review. Conference TBC
4	IMPACT30	£1,861,414	£160,499	
5	Coding Academy	£469,500	£95,051	
6	XpoNorth Digital	£1,712,000	£230,583	
7	Technology Placements (all projects)	£930,618	£6,402	Demand significantly lower than anticipated, however numbers ramping up
8	Food & Drink project	£1,968,210	£72,442	Delays with TechHub
	Total	£10,838,538	£1,114,904	

Life Sciences Innovation Centre

1. Management summary					
Summary	Overall project status	Progress against plan	Financials	Benefits	Risk register
This report	A	A	A	G	A
Last report	A	A	A	G	N/A
Main reasons for change					To reflect the unquantifiable risk on programme and construction costs until tenders return

2. Executive Summary – for previous quarter
<p>Capital project: the procurement of the building contractor is following its course. The contract award should be around the end of April 2021/early May 2021. Advice given to UHI is to not plan for occupation of the new facility until autumn 2022. Work on the legal agreements and sale of the land with Highland and Islands Enterprise is progressing. The necessary communication around these developments and programme slippage to the ERDF Managing Authority is being done through HIE.</p> <p>Revenue project: good progress on outcomes against time, except for the new companies / inward investment target. There has been a “soft” launch of the Health Innovation Fund with some companies, first projects should be awarded in April/May 2021.</p> <p>Communications and dissemination: there are plans to produce some video podcasts, some of them concerning the research and innovation work funding by City-Region Deal. A webinar series for the university’s tenth birthday is being organised, one of which will be about life sciences on 10 June 2021. This session will have input from the project team.</p>

3. Implementation plan					
Ref	Milestone	Description	Original date	New date	Comment
1	First phase legal agreements complete	Initial pre-contractual partnership agreements signed to allow design and procurement to proceed	31/08/2020	15/05/2021	Development Agreement to be completed prior to the appointment of the building contractor.
2	Final outcome of design stage and appointment of building contractor	Fully costed-out technical design delivered (RIBA 4). Appointment of building contractor complete.	06/11/2020	15/05/2021	RIBA 4 complete. ITT for building contractor published.
3	Recruitment complete	All clinical and non-clinical staff in post, including the full complement of sessional clinical appointments.	30/04/2019		This will be an ongoing task until the end of the funding period
4	Site work commences	On site work starts, including clearing land, layout and on-site logistics.	15/11/2020	15/06/2021	Delays with procurement timescale of building contractor
5	Building complete	Building commissioning completed for the UHI zone. UHI area occupied and ownership of the UHI area commences.	24/01/2022	15/08/2022	Design delays with impact on procurement timescale of building contractor

3. Implementation plan					
Ref	Milestone	Description	Original date	New date	Comment
6	First fully commercialised deliverables	First wave of commercial products and services graduate from the pre-incubator in readiness for establishing new companies or as validated healthcare improvements ready for uptake.	31/12/2021	31/12/2022	For deliverables requiring the new pre-incubation facility, there will be a delay until the new facility is complete and used

4. Benefits realisation				
Ref	Measure	Description - <i>Impact of benefit</i>	Benefit type	Realisation starts
1	Digital health and applied life sciences products and services (count: 15)	Any physical or virtual products, technologies, apps, software platforms, programmes, algorithms, databases, biobanks, or methodologies that are new to market and/or new to firm, developed with the aim of downstream commercialisation. These may be developed independently, in conjunction with any public, private, or third sector organisation, enterprise, or firm, or as part of contract research studies.	Economic, social (health improvement)	Jan 2019
2	New start companies, spin-outs, or inward investment (count: 0)	New business registrations, the siting of new or established businesses (in part or in whole) in the Highlands area, and/or inward investment (financial or otherwise) for new business ventures from public, private, or third sector organisations.	Economic, social (health improvement)	Jan 2019
3	Supported companies for product innovation (count: 8)	Any public, private, or third sector organisations, organisations and/or enterprises engaging UHI in potential collaborative research projects, partnerships, consulting, cooperative and/or contract research studies which aim to deliver local, regional, national, or international commercial relevance.	Economic, social (health improvement)	Apr 2018
4	Exportable healthcare improvements (count: 6)	Any projects that evaluate new or existing health-related technologies, products, services, and/or methodologies relevant to remote and rural communities, with the aim of subsequent adoption and/or procurement by national health agencies, boards, or trusts, healthcare providers, insurers, or other private companies.	Economic, social (health improvement), improved services	Mar 2019

5. Financial Profile for Life of Programme (CRD funding only)						Funding: £9,000,000
2020/21	2019/20 Q4	Q 1	Q 2	Q 3	Q 4	Total
Forecast spend @ Apr-20		£50,000	£200,000	£500,000	£738,953	£1,488,953
Revised forecast spend (in-year)		£108,670	£122,000	£128,259	£154,861	£513,790
Actual spend		£34,897	£156,869	£89,602		

6. Summary of key costs against budget current year				
Ref	Cost Item	Budget	Actual Spend	Explanation
1	Capital project	£94,526	£24,649	Construction works have not started. Some Project Director costs paid through other funding
2	Revenue project	£323,029	£345,240	Some issues with sourcing technical support – need to implement Health Innovation Fund.
	Total	£417,555	£369,889	Actual spend to February 2021

Science Skills Academy (STEM)

1. Management Summary					
Summary:	Overall Project Status	Progress against Plan	Financials	Benefits	Risk Register
This Report	A	G	G	A	A
Last Report	A	G	G	A	A
Main Reasons for Change				Continued reduced delivery to schools due to COVID-19 restrictions and January 2021 lockdown	Risks/issues that are currently red are as a result of COVID-19 restrictions and school closures/restricted access

2. Executive Summary – for previous quarter

Response to COVID-19: As per the last report, the SSA halted all Newton Room delivery on the 16th March 2020 and due to COVID-19 restrictions placed on schools, no in-house or face to face delivery took place for over six months. This has had a significant effect on the SSA’s targets numbers as per the CRD business case. It has also slowed down infrastructure development, with regards to progressing the establishment of new Newton Rooms.

Despite the current restrictions, which are changing regularly and have resulted in the inability to deliver at Newton Rooms, the SSA is still continually reviewing options to ensure that the project can deliver a high-quality intervention to young people in the Highlands:

- The Highland Council is delivering a package of support for schools to help them **‘Build Back Better’** as a result of the coronavirus pandemic. This programme will engage pupils, staff and parents; support schools in assessing and putting in place a wholistic strategy for supporting health and wellbeing needs arising as a result of the coronavirus pandemic; be supported on an ongoing basis by the Health and Wellbeing team at the Highland Council. The goal is for Build Back Better to reach ALL PUPILS FROM EARLY YEARS TO THE SENIOR PHASE. The SSA are supporting the programme and has developed science activities that pupils can carry out at school in order to understand why it is important to clean their hands, cover their faces and adhere to a 2-meter distance. The SSA has designed printable lesson plans for teachers to use and has successfully delivered online CLPL sessions to **88 schoolteachers**. The programme will be launched with primary schools and then adapted for secondaries.
- Following on from the success of the delivery model used for Maths Week, the SSA has developed a **Space-themed programme** for primary schools that will include a **STEM kit box** that will be sent to every primary school in Highland that will contain activity sheets and science equipment, with corresponding CLPL sessions for teachers. This work has been carried out in collaboration, and with additional funding from, with the Association of Science and Discovery Centres. STEM kit boxes are currently being compiled and will be sent to **all primary schools in Highland** in the next academic term.
- The SSA has successfully worked with a master’s student from the Scottish Alliance for Geoscience, Environment and Society (SAGES) programme to develop a new activity focusing on **land-based sciences**, in particular Peatland and linking it to the climate emergency. This activity has been designed for S1/2 pupils and has the ability to be delivered in an outdoor environment, it also will be linked to COP26 – this activity is now being promoted to secondary schools in Highland and schools has shown a positive interest in this being delivered in an outdoor setting, with some sessions being booked for the next academic term.
- The SSA is in preparing to co-host a **P7 transition event** involving Lochaber High School and its associated primary schools. The transition event will be in collaboration with The Highland Council, John Muir Trust and Outward Bounds and will run in the next academic term.
- The SSA was approached by The Highland Council and asked to be involved with its **River Ness Hydro project**, involving an Archimedes’ Screw hydroelectric power turbine. The River Ness Hydro project is an example of two public bodies collaborating, via the SSA project, to bring together their expertise and strengths to create a flagship venture for the region, which will provide STEM learning opportunities for school pupils of Highland that will highlight the Archimedes Screw hydroelectric power turbine, a regionally important working project. Although the educational content for the River Ness Hydro project is still at a nascent stage, the SSA will create on-line educational materials targeted to 10-14

year olds that will be freely available to schools. It is anticipated that these will focus on electricity generation and the mechanisms of hydroelectric schemes, and how renewable energy sources such as hydroelectricity help address climate change. As well as activities for schools, the SSA will develop content for the public at the River Ness Hydro viewing gallery. The hydroelectric turbine is set to complete in Spring 2022, and educational material developed by the SSA will be available upon its launch.

- During March, the SSA was involved with the **Caithness International Science Festival**. Although usually delivered in person, the science festival went online in 2021, and the SSA offered live online lessons for P6 and P7 pupils, accompanied online by their class teacher. Sessions included a short presentation about Scotland's space industry and memorable information. Participants took part in a game called "Space Spin-Off or Spin-Not?", where pupils were presented with a range of product innovations such as Teflon and Velcro, and were asked to vote on whether they thought they were designed specifically for use in space, or not. This **Destination Space: Spin-Off or Spin-Not activity had a total of 424 pupil interactions**.

The delivery team are on stand-by, to start delivering as soon as schools are permitted to either have SEOs visit them at school (to deliver outdoor learning activities) or visit the Newton Room network. Any decisions regarding delivery will be made in association with the Highland Council and will follow health and safety guidelines.

Newton Rooms

- The Dingwall Newton Room has now been branded, the Thurso Newton Room has had some minor refurbishment improvements, and the Fort William Newton Room is waiting for some minor refurbishment improvements. All three rooms are ready to welcome back school pupils once restrictions allow.
- As per the last report: The SSA was due to commence a trial of a **Pop-Up Newton Room for the West Coast** (Portree and Plockton ASGs) in May, however this was postponed due to COVID-19. In the meantime, furniture, IT equipment and STEM equipment has been ordered and received and will be stored until the Pop-Up room can be trialled. We are in the process of ordering additional branded 'walls' for the Pop-Up Newton Room, to make it feel even more like a Newton Room. In preparation for when restrictions are eased and school pupils are allowed to visit the Pop-Up Newton Room, the SSA is also in the process of contacting suitable host venues for the Pop-Up across Skye and Lochalsh.
- The SSA is progressing the option of a custom-built self-contained Inverness Campus Newton Room, with additional financial support from HIE, as part of a larger Inverness Campus project led by HIE's Campus and Property Teams. At present, planning permission for the infrastructure of the campus project as a whole has been submitted to the Highland Council and is awaiting feedback/approval, and delays in getting planning permission are holding back the infrastructure project as whole. The SSA is in close communication with HIE's Campus and Property Teams to get regular updates. In the meantime, the SSA is signing an agreement with the University of the Highlands & Islands to use a facility on Inverness Campus to deliver Newton Module activities, once restrictions ease and schools are permitted to visit a Newton Room..

Communications

- In January the SSA was mentioned in a press release from the Highland Council focusing on their **River Ness Hydro** project, which was subsequently picked up by local press (<https://www.inverness-courier.co.uk/news/hydroelectric-turbine-project-will-provide-to-provide-learning-opportunities-for-young-people-225610/>). The SSA will be working alongside the Highland Council and will develop STEM educational, both for schools and the general public, to complement the new hydro project.
- In March the SSA sent a newsletter to school teachers in Highland that gave an overview of SSA activity: It described the current offering of Build Back Better CLPL sessions with links to resources, looked back at the success of the Maths Week Outdoor Maths kits, and promoted the upcoming Destination Space STEM Kit and a link to register the schools interest.
- The SSA are in the process of developing a new website, where individuals can learn more about the SSA project, the Highland Newton Room Network, Newton Modules being delivered, the SSA team, STEM careers and pathways, as well as other STEM activities being delivered across the region. It will also be possible for schools to book sessions via this website.

3. Implementation Plan					
Ref	Milestone	Description	Original Date	New Date	Comment
1	Monitoring & Evaluation Framework Developed	Post-event questionnaire; Interim evaluation; full impact evaluation; academic evaluation	31/03/2022		
2	Develop SSA STEM Strategy	Write SSA strategy (HIE & SSA focussed) & feed into Highlands & Islands Regional STEM Strategy	12/06/2020	30/06/2021	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - SSA Strategy written. - SSA objectives linked to Scot Gov STEM Strategy. - SSA Strategy yet to be fed into H&I Regional STEM Strategy as H&I Regional STEM Partnership has postponed writing their STEM Strategy, instead focusing on COVID-19 response.
3	Confirm Sustainable Funding Model	Develop model paper; dialogue with Scot Gov and local STEM industries; write options paper; develop funding plan	31/12/2020	30/06/2021	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Sustainable funding model paper written & presented to SSA Project and Leadership Boards - COVID-19 restrictions have significantly interrupted programme delivery since March 2020 and further dialogues with Government and industries have been delayed
4	Full Package of STEM Delivery Offered	Seven Newton Modules; SSA extracurricular events; external deliverers	31/12/2020	31/12/2021	As a result of COVID-19 related lockdown, there is no delivery taking place at Newton Rooms, so SEOs are working from home and developing four new Newton Modules (Life Science, Health Science, Aquaculture, Space). During lockdown, the SSA has participated in Maths Week events and is currently involved with the Highland Council's 'Build Back Better' programme. A Space Box with corresponding activities is also being developed, to send to every primary school in Highland. An outdoor Peatlands activity for S1/2 pupils has been developed and is being offered to schools
5	Highland Newton Room Network Established	Inverness & West Coast Pop-Up Newton Rooms established	31/12/2020	31/10/2021	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Thurso, Fort William & Dingwall Newton Rooms are fully refurbished - Pop-up Newton Room to be trialled for Portree & Plockton Schools: Pop-up infrastructure in place but delivery trial delayed due to COVID-19

					- Inverness Campus Newton room is delayed due to planning permission issues – these being addressed by HIEs Property Team. Newton Modules currently delivered in interim locations for Inverness schools
6	Annual Newton Module Delivery to 9,500 Highland School Pupils (P6-S2)	Every P6-S2 pupil in Highland Region to attend a minimum of one Newton Module per academic year	01/07/2021	01/07/2022	- All delivery at Newton Rooms was suspended from March 2020 due to COVID-19 restrictions. - A small amount of face to face delivery, <u>in the playground of schools</u> , occurred in September & October 2020 - Ten Newton Module sessions were delivered at the Dingwall Newton Room in December 2020, before all delivery was halted again due to COVID-19 restrictions
7	Project Ownership Transition	Identify potential partners for transition; test compatibility; provide partner with interim report; provide evidence of financial sustainability	01/01/2022		Discussions are ongoing with University of the Highlands and Islands and High Life Highland

4. Benefits Realisation					
Ref	Measure	Description - Impact of benefit	Benefit Type	Realisation Starts	Realisation Ends
1	Pupil interactions (Newton modules) at Thurso Newton Room [883 total since start]	Total number of school pupils (P6-S2) that undertake Newton module activities at the Thurso Newton Room	Improved services; Social	29/08/2019	31/03/2022
2	Pupil interactions (non-Newton Modules) at Thurso Newton Room [731 total since start]	Total number of children (any age) that take part in activities, that are not Newton modules, at the Thurso Newton Room	Improved services; Social	19/03/2019	31/03/2022
3	Adult interactions at Thurso Newton Room [176 total since start]	Total number of adults that take part in activities at the Thurso Newton Room	Improved services; Social	19/03/2019	31/03/2022
4	Pupil interactions (Newton modules) at Fort William Newton Room [461 total since start]	Total number of school pupils (P6-S2) that undertake Newton module activities at the Fort William Newton Room	Improved services; Social	27/08/2019	31/03/2022
5	Pupil interactions (non-Newton Modules) at Fort William Newton Room [357 total since start]	Total number of children (any age) that take part in activities, that are not Newton modules, at the Fort William Newton Room	Improved services; Social	01/04/2019	31/03/2022
6	Adult interactions at Fort William Newton Room [81 total since start]	Total number of adults that take part in activities at the Fort William Newton Room	Improved services; Social	12/03/2019	31/03/2022

7	Pupil interactions (Newton modules) at Inverness Newton Room [335 total since start]	Total number of school pupils (P6-S2) that undertake Newton module activities at the Inverness Newton Room	Improved services; Social	18/11/2019	31/03/2022
8	Pupil interactions (non-Newton Modules) at Inverness Newton Room [49 total since start]	Total number of children (any age) that take part in activities, that are not Newton modules, at the Inverness Newton Room	Improved services; Social	29/07/2019	31/03/2022
9	Adult interactions at Inverness Newton Room [19 total since start]	Total number of adults that take part in activities at the Inverness Newton Room	Improved services; Social	04/09/2019	31/03/2022
10	Pupil interactions (Newton modules) at Dingwall Newton Room [160 total since start]	Total number of school pupils (P6-S2) that undertake Newton module activities at the Dingwall Newton Room	Improved services; Social	07/12/2020	31/03/2022
11	Pupil interactions (non-Newton Modules) at Dingwall Newton Room [0]	Total number of children (any age) that take part in activities, that are not Newton modules, at the Dingwall Newton Room	Improved services; Social	Not started yet	31/03/2022
12	Adult interactions at Dingwall Newton Room [0]	Total number of adults that take part in activities at the Dingwall Newton Room	Improved services; Social	Not started yet	31/03/2022
13	Pupil interactions (Newton modules) at Pop-Up Newton Room [0]	Total number of school pupils (P6-S2) that undertake Newton module activities at the Pop-Up Newton Room	Improved services; Social	Not started yet	31/03/2022
14	Pupil interactions (non-Newton Modules) at Pop-Up Newton Room [0]	Total number of children (any age) that take part in activities, that are not Newton modules, at the Pop-Up Newton Room	Improved services; Social	Not started yet	31/03/2022
15	Adult interactions at Pop-Up Newton Room [0]	Total number of adults that take part in activities at the Pop-Up Newton Room	Improved services; Social	Not started yet	31/03/2022
16	Pupil interactions (non-Newton Modules) NOT at a Newton Room [2852 total since start]	Total number of children (any age) that take part in activities, that are not Newton modules, that are not hosted at a Newton Room	Improved services; Social	11/10/17	31/03/2022
17	Adult interactions NOT at a Newton Room [562 total since start]	Total number of adults that take part in activities that are not hosted at a Newton Room	Improved services; Social	20/05/19	31/03/2022
18	Additional financial investment secured [£46,927 total since start]	Financial investment from stakeholders/investors to supplement the Inverness and Highland City-Region Deal finding	Improved services; Social	29/08/20	31/03/2022

5. Financial Profile for Life of Programme (CRD Funding only)						Funding: £ 3,000,000
2020/21	2019/20 Q4	Q 1	Q 2	Q 3	Q 4	Total
Forecast Spend @ Apr-20 (7/5/20)	£317,020	£143,121	£216,773	£239,085	£524,121	£1,123,100
Revised Forecast Spend (In-Year) Feb 21	£250,239	£60,714	£158,593	£138,538	£186,316	£544,161
Actual Spend	£262,226	£59,599	£160,210	£137,858	£138,908	£496,575

6. Summary of key costs against budget current year				
Ref	Cost Item	Budget	Actual Spend	Explanation
1	Salaries and T&S (SSA Core Team & SEOs)	£303,793	£293,416	Still to receive costs from THC for SEO March salaries (circa £9k)
2	Marketing	£27,000	£22,000	
3	FIRST Scandinavia contract	£37,500	£48,500	
4	Evaluation	£560	£640	The SSA Interim Review has been delayed and associated costs will roll into 2021/22 financial year
5	Programme development	£39,685	£39,460	
6	Dingwall NR (refurbishment, furniture, IT)	£33,000	£30,441	
7	Inverness NR (refurbishment, furniture, IT)	£19,500	£1,495	Furniture (circa £18k) has been procured and delivered, but still waiting to receive invoice. IT is yet to be procured
8	Wester Ross Pop-up Newton Room (refurbishment, furniture, IT)	£33,500	£28,445	Branding (circa £5k), although underway, is still to be completed
9	Newton Modules	£70,000	£51,289	Unexpected delays in the ordering of a specific piece of STEM equipment (circa £16k)
10	Transportation	£0	£0	
	Total	£564,538	£515,686	

Innovative Assisted Living (Fit Home)

1. Management Summary					
Summary:	Overall Project Status	Progress against Plan	Financials	Benefits	Risk Register
This Report	A	A	R	A	A
Last Report	A	A	R	A	G
Main Reasons for Change	No change	The technology elements remain without a project plan, the construction elements continue to be affected by budgetary pressures, planning delays, reliance on third parties.	Remain the same due to the well documented challenges regarding optimum sites, progress is being made however and we will soon be in a position to identify start dates for all sites.	Awaiting guidance on the requirements of the benefits realisation plan.	Due to the passage of time and the impact of construction lead-in times and the absence of a project plan for tech this has been regraded.

2. Executive Summary – for previous quarter
<p>Key update: Albyn Board Approval in June 2020 has enabled the CRD project to recommence.</p> <p>Key progress AHS Board has agreed to re-start its development programme following the easing of restrictions on construction sites and is continuing to monitor Covid 19 issues</p> <p>Project definition:</p> <p>We have been conducting a mid-project review to refresh and refine the project aims and objectives. The outcomes of this will be communicated to Highland Council when finalised.</p> <p>Construction:</p> <p>Albyn has now resumed development and is subject to Board agreement, critical actions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dingwall, Castle Park - 11 units - Albyn owned site, construction underway, completion due February 2022 • Nairn, Cawdor Road - 10 units – Albyn owned site – planning consent granted on appeal December 2020 – revised costings and preparation for construction tendering underway • Inverness, Stratton Farm - 8 units – Highland Council owned site - construction underway, completion expected January 2022 – units to be purchased on completion • Lairg - 4 units - LDCI owned site – planning consent in place for total 8 homes. Development costs have been reappraised in line with the planning consent: still higher than average due to necessary site infrastructure works. Additional routes for funding being explored. • Tongue - 4 units: Wildlands to report back on discussions with Highland Council and NHS <p>Independent evaluation of commercialisation potential and route being carried out.</p> <p>Technology</p> <p>Continued progress with sensor development and focus on machine learning for deployment. Retrofit focus finalised and included in report.</p> <p>Sensor development/testbed: RGU continuing to refine approach. Next 6 months is around developing machine learning (ML) for sensor implementation. New sensors for stakeholders being identified.</p> <p>5G test case agreed with Glasgow University and RGU to run for 3 months – awaiting access when Covid restriction lifts for access.</p> <p>Retrofit plan finalised.</p> <p>Meetings with NHS, HC and SPS have begun re homelessness and young adults leaving care.</p> <p>Interface Phase 2: 1st meetings with end users being arranged to establish requirements and set out development plan and costs</p>

Data and Governance - Working with NHS to ensure Information Governance standards adhered to. Internal data agreements being developed.

HomeHub: options for Samsung replacement being looked at

Resource to cover IoT requirements and tenant engagement work to be identified in budget.

Business Development and Options Appraisal consultant work on-going.

Ongoing PhD focused on extracting more granular data, event identification (eg dressing) and machine learning (ML) capability of sensor deployment

Social Enterprise & Commercialisation

Independent evaluation of commercialisation potential and route to market has been commissioned. Options appraisal complete. Business planning on-going. Discussions on-going with Usher Institute and Scottish Government. The City Deal connection between Albyn and Edinburgh University is continuing to be developed

Independent evaluation of business opportunities and options appraisal currently on-going

Continued interest from areas outside Highland in being part of test bed (in Glasgow, Edinburgh and South Lanarkshire).

3. Implementation Plan					
Ref	Milestone	Description	Original Date	New Date	Comment
1	Castle Park, Dingwall: Construction	Castle Park now mobilised completion April 2022 (11 units)	01/9/2020	01/04/2022	
2	Lairg: development programme	Site owner, LDIC, and AHS working to agree development programme for site as a partnership	1/4/2021		Range of funding routes to be explored: site enabling works expensive
3	Stratton (Inverness): development	Acquisition negotiations recommenced with THC to acquire 8 units on completion.	Q1 2022		Construction has commenced: FIT homes are portion of a larger development site
4	Nairn: construction programme	Project team being mobilised to set programme and finalise costs	1/4/2021		Technically 2 conditions to be met before construction can commence. Site commencement prior to July 2021.
5	Tongue: strategic agreement on way forward	Wildland to agree strategic way forward with THC and NHS	2022	tba	
6	Retro-Fit Testing	5G test for replacement of battery sensors commencing when Covid allows. Retrofit plan finalised.	-	30/6/2021	Retrofit plan attached.
7	RGU PhD: refine research focus	Sensor development/testbed: RGU continuing to refine approach. Next 6 months is around developing machine learning (ML) for sensor implementation. New sensors for stakeholders being identified.	30/09/2020	30/9/2021	Ongoing PhD focused on extracting more granular data, event identification (eg dressing) and machine learning (ML) capability of sensor deployment
8	Independent review of technology & commercialisation potential	Business Development and Options Appraisal consultant work on-going.	30/09/2020	30/4/2021	Business Development and Options Appraisal consultant work on-going
9	Data and Governance	Working with NHS to ensure Information Governance standards adhered to. Developing data sharing agreement with partners.	17/12/2020	30/6/2021	Further work ongoing around governance with NHS

4. Benefits Realisation					
Ref	Measure	Description - Impact of benefit	Benefit Type	Realisation Starts	Realisation Ends
1	People able to remain in their own homes longer following significant changes in health or mobility and as they near end of life.	Work in progress – frailty measures being developed through retrofit programme. This should be running by July 2021 – covid dependent.	Increased efficiencies	2021	2027
2	Better health and care outcomes from predictive health technology	Work in progress – falls prediction tested through retrofit programme. This should be running by July 2021 – covid dependent.	Increased efficiencies	2021	2027
3	More efficient and cost-effective health and care services which produce better outcomes.	Work in progress – proof of concept being developed through retrofit alongside institutional care partners. This should be running by the end of 2021.	Increased efficiencies	2025	2027
4	Commercialisation of infrastructure and technology products.	Work in progress – Options appraisal and commercialisation route being investigated.	Net Revenue Generation	2023	2027
5	Boost the Highland economy	Work in progress	Net Revenue Generation	2022	2027
6	Recognition for research and development work	Work in progress. 1 st research papers published. Attached.	Reputational Value	2022	2024

5. Financial Profile for Life of Programme (CRD Funding only)							Funding: £ 3,000,000
2020/21	2019/20 Q4	Q 1	Q 2	Q 3	Q 4	Total	
Forecast Spend @ Apr-20	£729,897	£44,438	£58,4393	£62,6295	£563,167	£1,818,293	
Revised Forecast Spend (In-Year)	£729,897	£45,085	£11,892	£204,608	£303,601	£565,186	
Actual Spend	£729,897	£45,085	£11,892	£204,608	£116,806	£378,391	

6. Summary of key costs against budget current year				
Ref	Cost Item	Budget	Actual Spend	Explanation
1	Build Programme	£439,744	£290,755	Castlepark Dingwall on site
2	Technology Development	£30,879	£41,654	Opportunity to accelerate sensor acquisition in Q4
3	Project Management	£8,805	£4,021	Project assurance and management support. Increased spend expected Q4.
4	Staff Costs	£85,758	£41,961	NHS & other project staff costs. No PM in place
	Total	£565,186	£378,391	

Digital

1. Management Summary					
Summary:	Overall Project Status	Progress against Plan	Financials	Benefits	Risk Register
This Report	R	R	R	R	
Last Report	R	R	R	R	R
Main Reasons for Change					

8. Executive Summary – for previous quarter
The R100 North Lot contract was signed in December 2020. The contract is being amended to bring the intervention area up to date. Once this has been completed and BT has determined its “core” coverage, then the additional coverage from the City-Region Deal funds can be assessed and negotiated with BT. This is not expected to start until “summer” – thought to be August 2021.

2. Implementation Plan					
Ref	Milestone	Description	Original Date	New Date	Comment
1	Confirm a City-Region Deal Intervention Area at a premises level.	Determine premises not being served by R100 rollout.	Q4 2020/2021	Q2 2020/2021	Extent of R100 core coverage expected to be known during Q2 2021/2022
2	Reach mutually acceptable plan for use of funding	Decide the proportion of the funding going into R100	30/09/2020	31/06/2021	Working with UK and Scottish City Deal Teams and R100 Project Team to agree a mutually acceptable way forward.

3. Benefits Realisation					
Ref	Measure	Description - Impact of benefit	Benefit Type	Realisation Starts	Realisation Ends
1	Business premises capable of receiving with improved broadband				
2	Residential premises capable of receiving with improved broadband				

4. Financial Profile for Life of Programme (CRD Funding only)						Funding: £ 20,000,000
2020/21	2019/20 Q4	Q 1	Q 2	Q 3	Q 4	Total
Forecast Spend @ Apr-20		£0	£0	£0	£0	£0
Revised Forecast Spend (In-Year)						
Actual Spend		£0	£0	£0	£0	£0

5. Summary of key costs against budget current year				
Ref	Cost Item	Budget	Actual Spend	Explanation
	Total			

Air Access

1. Management Summary					
Summary:	Overall Project Status	Progress against Plan	Financials	Benefits	Risk Register
This Report	G		G	G	G
Last Report	G		G	G	G
Main Reasons for Change					

2. Executive Summary – for previous quarter
<p>The Highland Air Access Group has set out the following as the areas it will seek to work on and promote:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Connectivity of the region should recognise not just direct destination links with the region but is also a capacity, frequency and onward connections at destination airports; Reduce entry barriers for new routes; Partner with airlines and airports on route development; Ensure State Aid rules are fully understood; Ensure aviation facilities are fit to purpose; Work to ensure that any connectivity benefit is spread more widely across the region; Work to ensure that the direct, indirect, induced and catalytic benefits of aviation are optimised; Support Net Zero from Aviation Highlands and Islands by 2040 Ambition

3. Implementation Plan					
Ref	Milestone	Description	Original Date	New Date	Comment
1	First Meeting Held	31/12/16	31/12/16	31/12/16	None
2	Second Meeting	30/06/17	30/06/17	26/11/18	Meeting delayed in hope of using session as a regional consultation by UK Government on their emerging Aviation Strategy. This process continued to be delayed and local matters required saw the meeting take place without this item on 26 th Nov 2018. Topics covered included: Air Discount Scheme Renewal; Air Departure Tax and Highlands and Islands APD Exemption; Skye Air Service development; Inverness Airport Rail Station and CAV 4 SCALE project.
3	Third Meeting	15/03/19	28/11/18	15/03/19	It was agreed at the 2018 meeting that this meeting would be held on an annual basis with additional meetings by exception. An exceptional meeting took place on 15 March 2019 when the HITRANS, HIE, HIAL and the CRD jointly hosted a

					regional engagement event on the DUK Government Department for Transport Green Paper – Aviation 2050.
4	Fourth Meeting	February / March 2020	15/03/19	N/A	The scheduled annual meeting of the Highland Air Access Group was planned for March / April 2020. Due to the restrictions on travel and face to face meetings this was shelved. Instead a number of more informal engagements took place with the primary focus being the aviation response to the unprecedented impact of the pandemic.
5	Short Term Priority	Post Covid-19 Impacts			<p>It is difficult to determine the likely short term let alone long-term impacts of Covid-19 on intra-Scotland air services. With all forms of travel being impacted by varying degrees of restriction for the foreseeable future, public sector support is likely to be required to maintain even a basic level of service on many routes.</p> <p>It is already clear that the longer-term impacts on all operators will be significant and will require all levels of government and the industry to work together to identify how air services can best be sustained and supported in the future. This uncertainty should provide an opportunity for all stakeholders to collaborate to shape the domestic air network and how it is provided so that air services can best support the economies of each region within the Highlands and Islands</p> <p>A short-term focus is securing a sustainable air service for Wick and the CRD could offer a vehicle to develop and implement plans for a PSO to Aberdeen and Edinburgh following the failure of the two commercial routes. If there is appetite in looking at CRD budgets to be redirected to this or new funds sourced to secure the reinstatement of air connectivity to Caithness post pandemic this could be looked at by partners. Scottish Government has already confirmed funds for the PSO and UK Government has indicated a</p>

					preparedness to match this. Presently the planning is for this to take place outside CRD processes.
6	Short / Medium Term Activity	Net Zero Aviation Region			<p>Positive steps are being implemented on the path to the Highlands and Islands becoming a net zero carbon aviation system by 2045. These include involvement by HITRANS, HIE, HIAL and UHI in the Innovate UK Future Flight Challenge programme securing support for the SATE project.</p> <p>HITRANS are working with HIAL on three Horizon 2020 Green Airport project opportunities that offer the potential to secure budget for Inverness as a Follower Airport on the implementation of low carbon / net zero airport developments. The programme would see HITRANS and HIAL receive 100% funding for any costs incurred in participation and project development.</p>

• Benefits Realisation					
Ref	Measure	Description - Impact of benefit	Benefit Type	Realisation Starts	Realisation Ends
	Post Covid-19 Impacts	Support for aviation system has been key to maintaining essential lifeline services. This will need to feature in future strategies to rebuild networks back to 2019 levels and CRD partners should continue to engage with Governments to ensure any changes to support mechanisms are appropriate in the Highland context.	Supporting the Economy	-	-

Employability and Skills

1. Management Summary					
Summary:	Overall Project Status	Progress against Plan	Financials	Benefits	Risk Register
This Report	A	A	n/a	A	n/a
Last Report	A	A	n/a	A	n/a
Main Reasons for Change					

2. Executive Summary – for previous quarter					
<p>Work has progressed in seeking to develop an integrated client focused service across all providers at the same time as developing a co-ordinated approach to the labour market challenges presented by the COVID-19 pandemic. This work has included DWP/JC+, SDS, UHI/Colleges, NHS Highland, Developing the Young Workforce/Chambers of Commerce and Federation of Small Businesses. Partners are working with The Improvement Service on a partnership readiness survey which will assist partnership arrangements to formalise the Highland Local Employability Partnership and associated action plans, local area collaboratives.</p> <p>Key focus across partners is a co-ordinated approach to youth employment, and PACE approach support for employees who have lost their jobs.</p>					

3. Implementation Plan					
Ref	Milestone	Description	Original Date	New Date	Comment
1	Local Employability Partnership (LEP) Self-Assessment Checklist	Self-Assessment Checklist Survey completed independently by employability partners to determine “state of readiness”.	Apr 2021		
2	2021/22 Employability Grant Offer Letter and Activity Template	Notification of funding award including No One Left Behind, Young Person’s Guarantee, Parental Employability Support Fund and Partnership Action for Continuing Employment.	Apr 2021		
3	LEP Action Plan	LEP Action Plan developed in response to agreed priorities, funding allocation and survey results.	May 2021		
4	LEP Delivery Plan	Commence work on NOLB Delivery Plan.	July 2021		
5	Employability Framework providers appointed	Procurement Exercise completed to establish new Employability Support Services Framework.	Sept 2021		

Transport Infrastructure - Longman Junction (Transport Scotland)

A9/A96 Inshes to Smithton Scheme

1. Management Summary					
Summary:	Overall Project Status	Progress against Plan	Financials	Benefits	Risk Register
This Report	G				
Last Report	G				
Main Reasons for Change					

2. Executive Summary – for previous quarter

As part of the Scottish Government’s commitment within the Inverness and Highland City-Region Deal, Transport Scotland is taking forward plans for a single carriageway road connecting Inshes and Smithton.

Following completion of route option assessment work (Design Manual for Roads and Bridges (DMRB) Stage 2 assessment) and further design development and assessment of the preferred option (DMRB Stage 3 Assessment) for the A9/A96 Inshes to Smithton Scheme, Transport Scotland published draft Orders and an Environmental Impact Assessment Report (EIAR) for the scheme on 13 September 2019.

The scheme will provide a new link road connecting between Culloden Road and Smithton Junction and will include new junctions at Ashton Farm and Cradlehall, a new link to the Inverness Retail and Business Park and a bridge over the Highland Main Line railway. Additional lanes will also be added across the A9 at Culloden Road, providing two lanes of traffic in either direction, along with an additional lane on the A9 southbound to improve the operation of the Trunk Road. The scheme will provide over 7Km of enhanced facilities for cyclists and pedestrians, including a 3-metre shared surface on both sides of the carriageway and a dedicated cycleway and separate footway linking to Inverness Retail and Business Park. The cycling and pedestrian facilities will also connect into the existing core path, local path and national cycle networks.

As part of Transport Scotland’s on-going engagement programme, public exhibitions were held in Raigmore and Smithton on 25 and 26 September respectively to give members of the public and other stakeholders an opportunity to see further details of the proposals, the EIAR and draft Orders. The material presented at the Public Exhibitions, copies of the draft Orders and the EIAR are available from Transport Scotland’s website at the link below.

<https://www.transport.gov.scot/projects/a9a96-inshes-to-smithton>

The formal consultation period is now concluded and Transport Scotland is currently considering the representations made and is working to resolve objections where possible. Progress on delivery of the scheme will depend on the whether a Public Local Inquiry will be required to consider objections made and not withdrawn. Construction of the scheme itself can only commence if the scheme is approved under the relevant statutory procedures and thereafter a timetable for its progress can be set.

The A9/A96 Inshes to Smithton Link Road scheme is located in the vicinity of the East Inverness development area, in which The Highland Council has significant interest. The scheme is also dependent on both Inshes Junction Improvements – Phase 2 which is being progressed by The Highland Council, and also the A96 Dualling Inverness to Nairn (including Nairn Bypass) scheme which is being progressed separately by Transport Scotland. Transport Scotland has been working closely with the Highland Council throughout the development of the scheme and will continue to do so.

A9/A82 Longman Junction Improvement

1. Management Summary					
Summary:	Overall Project Status	Progress against Plan	Financials	Benefits	Risk Register
This Report	G				
Last Report	G				
Main Reasons for Change					

2. Executive Summary – for previous quarter
<p>Building on the work being progressed on the A9/A96 Inshes to Smithton Link Road, design work on the grade separation of the A9/A82 Longman Roundabout is progressing well. Transport Scotland appointed a consultant in August 2017 to look at options for improving this well-known traffic bottleneck in Inverness, and the route option assessment work as part of the DMRB Stage 2 assessment has now been concluded. The preferred option was announced by Transport Scotland at Public Exhibitions held in Inverness on 25 and 26 June 2019. The preferred option (Option 1) comprises a grade separated junction with the A9 passing over the A82. The junction slip roads will form a diamond layout ending at an enlarged roundabout with connections to the A82 and Stadium Road. Non-Motorised User (NMU) route improvements are also incorporated into the design and will be subject to further refinement throughout the detailed development and assessment of the preferred option (DMRB Stage 3 assessment). The material presented at the exhibitions can be found at the following link: https://www.transport.gov.scot/publication/exhibition-materials-june-2019-a9a82-longman-junction-improvement-scheme/</p> <p>As with every major trunk road project, Transport Scotland has carried out a rigorous assessment process to establish the preferred option for the Longman junction improvement. The three stage assessment process, based on standards and best practice set by the DMRB, considers environment, engineering, traffic and economics criteria and the assessment process benefits from engagement with key stakeholders, local communities, landowners, and other interested parties throughout.</p> <p>The preferred option is now being developed and assessed in detail, leading to publication of draft Orders and Environmental Impact Assessment Report (EIAR) for formal comment. Building on the extensive engagement undertaken at the Public Exhibitions in June 2019 and throughout the scheme development so far, Transport Scotland and their design consultants will continue to engage with key stakeholders, including The Highland Council, throughout this process. It is anticipated that this stage of the assessment will conclude with the publication of draft Orders and EIAR in the coming months for formal comment.</p> <p>Progress thereafter on the delivery of the scheme will depend on the level and nature of formal representation received in response to the published draft Orders and whether a Public Local Inquiry will be required to consider objections made and not withdrawn. Construction of the scheme itself can only commence if the scheme is approved under the relevant statutory procedures and thereafter a programme for its delivery can be set.</p> <p>As we have been doing on the A9/A96 Inshes to Smithton Link Road, Transport Scotland have continued to work in collaboration with The Highland Council during the development and assessment of the scheme given their significance as a major landowner and local roads authority. Furthermore, we have conducted positive discussions with The Highland Council regarding potential developments around the Longman area which may come forward in advance of major junction improvements.</p>

3. Implementation Plan					
Ref	Milestone	Description	Original Date	New Date	Comment
1	A96 Inshes to Smithton	Publication of A9/A96 Connections Study Report	March 2016		

		Completion of Design Manual for Roads and Bridges (DMRB) Stage 2 Route Options Assessment and identification of preferred route option	October 2017		
		Public design update for scheme and identification of preferred scheme variant	May 2018		
		Completion of DMRB Stage 3 Assessment, publication of draft Orders and Environmental Impact Assessment Report	September 2019		
		Made Orders	Timescales dependent on the level and nature of formal representation received in response to the published draft Orders and whether a Public Local Inquiry will be required to consider objections made and not withdrawn.		
2	A9/A82 Longman	Appointment of scheme consultants	August 2017		
		Options Public Exhibition	May 2018		
		Completion of Design Manual for Roads and Bridges (DMRB) Stage 2 Route Options Assessment and announcement of preferred option	June 2019		
		Publication of draft Road orders	Timescales dependent on the level and nature of formal representation received in response to the published draft Orders and whether a Public Local Inquiry will be required to consider objections made and not withdrawn.		

4. Benefits Realisation					
Ref	Measure	Description - Impact of benefit	Benefit Type	Realisation Starts	Realisation Ends

5. Financial Profile for Life of Programme (CRD Funding only)				Funding: £109,000,000
Project	Spend 2019/20	Spend to end of FY 2019/20	Spend from Deal Signing to 15 March 2021	
A9/A82 Longman Junction Improvement	£2,391,223	£5,249,978	£6,047,262	
A9/A96 Inshes to Smithton	£843,609	£4,312,336	£4,771,594	
Total for both projects	£3,234,833	£9,562,314	£10,818,857	

6. Summary of key costs against budget current year				
Ref	Cost Item	Budget	Actual Spend	Explanation
	Total			

Transport Infrastructure - West Link (Highland Council)

1. Management Summary					
Summary:	Overall Project Status	Progress against Plan	Financials	Benefits	Risk Register
This Report	G	G	G	G	G
Last Report	G	G			
Main Reasons for Change					

1. Executive Summary – for previous quarter
<p>Works are substantially complete – bridge commissioning works are ongoing, with minor modifications required to precisely align the new bridge. Surfacing works on the two approaches to the bridge cannot be completed until the bridge has been commissioned to ensure exact alignment. All works programmed to be completed by the end of May 2021.</p> <p>Landscaped works are nearing completion</p> <p>Works in Torvean Park are also nearing completion with the artwork installation in April 2021.</p> <p>Construction of final phase underway. Original planned completed was December 2020, but due to the pandemic and the 3 months cessation of construction projects ongoing covid disruption and final commissioning of the bridge this has been delayed to May-2021.</p> <p>Note on completion in May-2021, THC will be required to maintain those sections to be adopted by the Trunk Road Authority for an extended period – these periods being 24 months for road infrastructure and 60 months for landscape areas.</p>

3. Implementation Plan					
Ref	Milestone	Description	Original Date	New Date	Comment
1	Bridge Construction	Structural elements of bridge arrive on-site	30/10/2020	9/11/2020	Complete
2	Opening of realigned A82, west link to roundabout	Completion of underpass installation and building of road to align to roundabout	30/11/2020	17/12/2020	Complete
3	Completion of Construction works		31/12/2020	31/05/2021	Works nearing completion
4	Recommissioning of existing swing bridge (Tomnahurich Bridge)	New control system to be installed to allow operation from new control building	25/1/2021	31/10/2020	
5	Commissioning of new swing bridge (Torvean Bridge)	New swing bridge to be able to work in tandem with existing bridge to maintain traffic flow while boats transit canal	31/03/2021	31/05/2021	
6	Completion of landscaping maintenance	Ongoing landscaping maintenance until adoption by Transport Scotland	31/03/2026		

3. Benefits Realisation					
Ref	Measure	Description - Impact of benefit	Benefit Type	Realisation Starts	Realisation Ends
1	Enable the development of significant areas for housing and other economic development at Ness-side and Torvean	<p>689 number of housing planning consents granted at Ness Side 3 years post opening of Stage 1.</p> <p>100 number of houses completed at Ness Side 3 years post opening of Stage 1.</p> <p>466 number of planning consents granted at Torvean 3 years post opening of Stage 2.</p> <p>100 number of houses completed consents granted at Ness Side 3 years post opening of Stage 1.</p>		December 2017	Developer led, c800 houses have been progressed to date.
2	Reduce congestion at key junctions	<p>Ness Bridge August/Sept traffic flows to reduce by 20% 1 year post opening,</p> <p>Reduction of 10% August/September Traffic Flows on Kenneth Street 1 year post opening.</p>		December 2017	December 2017
3	Provides a distributor road for Inverness	Pass/fail		December 2017	December 2017
4	Enhance cycling and walking within the City	<p>Cycle numbers over the bridge to achieve 2000/month 3 year post stage 1 opening</p> <p>Pedestrian numbers over the bridge to achieve 2000/month 3 years post Stage 1 opening.</p> <p>Utilisation of West Link as a public transport route.</p>		December 2017	March 2021
5	Provide connectivity across the river and canal at the south-west of the city.	Journey time reduction of 30% from HQ to Lochardil in the peak periods.		December 2017	December 2017
6	Remove traffic delays associated with the canal crossing	Pass/Fail		May 2021	May 2021
7	Provide the opportunity for enhanced sports facilities; reconfiguration of Torvean Golf Course; a new facility at Canal Parks, managed by Highlife Highland	Pass/Fail		December 2017	December 2017

8	Benefit to Cost Ratio	3.86		May 2021	Over the life of the investment 20 years assumed for BCR
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4. Financial Profile for Life of Programme (CRD Funding only)							UK /SG Funding: £n/a
2020/21	2019/20 Q4	Q 1	Q 2	Q 3	Q 4	Total	
Forecast Spend @ Apr-20	£3,000,000	£2,000,000	£2,000,000	£1,500,000	£300,000	£5,800,000	
Revised Forecast Spend (In-Year)		£272,139	£1,534,388	£2,177,145	£1,369,781	£5,353,453	
Actual Spend	£3,347,030	£272,139	£1,534,388	£2,177,145		£3,983,672	

5. Summary of key costs against budget current year				
Ref	Cost Item	Budget	Actual Spend	Explanation
1	Scheme Delivery	£5,800,000	£3,983,672	
	Total			

Transport Infrastructure - Inshes Junction (Highland Council)

1. Management Summary					
Summary:	Overall Project Status	Progress against Plan	Financials	Benefits	Risk Register
This Report	G	G	A	G	G
Last Report	G	G			
Main Reasons for Change					

2. Executive Summary – for previous quarter
<p>Since the commencement of the Inshes Junction project there has been a change in the National Transport Strategy. This strategy has a hierarchy of travel – to encourage active modes of transport and discourage travel by cars, in preference to more sustainable measures. This has resulted in a complete review of the project and the consideration of revised scheme objectives – that will be presented to the Inverness City and Area Committee on the 27th May 2021 that will then allow consultations to progress.</p> <p>Note: Inshes 3 lanes over overbridge complete and Beechwood access has been awarded with a start of construction in April 2021.</p>

3. Implementation Plan					
Ref	Milestone	Description	Original Date	New Date	Comment
1	City and Area Committee Report	To review the changing transport priorities and the potential impact on the scheme layout – with approval sought to consult on a variety of layouts with differing objectives and outcomes	19/11/2020	27/5/2021	This was deferred as competing pressures were prioritised at committee
2	Beechwood access	An essential element of the scheme to reduce access locations to improve traffic capacities.	30/10/2020	6/04/2021	Contract awarded – works start early April 2021.
3	Consultation	Consultation to be carried out to determine views on differing layouts which achieve differing outcomes and objectives.	31/03/2021	21/05/2021	Following committee approval on the 27 May 2021 consultations will be progressed through virtual means
4	Committee Approval of Preferred Option	Selection of preferred option and approval to promote necessary consents	31/10/2021		
5	Obtain Construction Consents	Planning permission, traffic orders and compulsory purchase orders	31/01/2023		Note timescales will be dictated by the representation period and strength of any related objections
6	Start of Construction		1/5/2023		
7	Completion of Construction		31/03/2023		

4. Benefits Realisation					
Ref	Measure	Description - Impact of benefit	Benefit Type	Realisation Starts	Realisation Ends
1	Creates a more efficient transport network	Through traffic modelling and post construction counts seek to provide sufficient capacity for all modes of transport		March 2023	20 years post opening is the measure
2	Connects with A9/A96 Inshes to Smithton Project	Coordination of design and programme delivery with linked Transport Scotland Scheme		March 2023	March 2023
3	Encourages active and sustainable travel choices	Shift provision and emphasis towards the new hierarchy of travel – prioritising provision for sustainable travel		March 2023	March 2023
4	Cost effective and on time	Contain project delivery within the allocated project budget and also achieve agreed delivery programme determined by the Council		March 2023	March 2023

5. Financial Profile for Life of Programme (CRD Funding only)						
2020/21	2019/20 Q4	Q 1	Q 2	Q 3	Q 4	Total
Forecast Spend @ Apr-20	£206,000	£51,000	£51,000	£51,000	£51,000	£410,000
Revised Forecast Spend (In-Year)					£20,000	£20,000
Actual Spend	£44,000	£10,000	£10,000	£10,000		£30,000

6. Summary of key costs against budget current year				
Ref	Cost Item	Budget	Actual Spend	Explanation
1	Scheme Delivery	£410,000	£30,000	
	Total	£410,000	£30,000	

Red	Significant issues with the project delivery	Amber	Negative effect on project delivery	Green	Project is performing to plan
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