

# A93 Banchory to Aberdeen City Multi-Modal Study -STAG-Based Appraisal

**Executive Summary** 

Aberdeen City Council

Project number: 60666961

November 2022

# **Executive Summary**

### **Background**

In September 2021, AECOM was commissioned by Aberdeen City Council (ACC) to develop a Scottish Transport Appraisal Guidance (STAG)-based appraisal of options for improving transport connections (particularly public transport and active travel connections) along the A93 corridor from Banchory in Aberdeenshire to South College Street in Aberdeen City.

The study has been guided by a Project Steering Group led by ACC and supported by Nestrans, Aberdeenshire Council and Sustrans.

### **Study Area**

The study area is the west-east corridor between Corsee Road in Banchory and the Wellington Place/South College Street Junction in Aberdeen City along Station Road, North Deeside Road, Great Western Road, Willowbank Road, Springbank Terrace and Wellington Place. The study corridor is 18 miles (29km) long. The Deeside Way, a long-distance active travel route that runs to the south of the A93 corridor, is also in the vicinity of the study area.

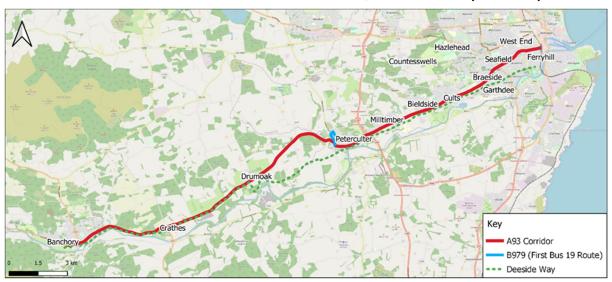


Figure 1: Study Area

### **Context Setting**

An extensive desktop exercise was undertaken to set the context for the study. Key tasks included:

- A review of relevant national, regional and local policy documents;
- A review of previous studies to gather information on problems and opportunities previously identified and options previously developed for sections of the study corridor;
- A review of the geographic context, setting out features of key settlements located along the study corridor;
- A review of the socio-economic context, considering key indicators such as population, employment, car availability, deprivation and health;
- A review of the transport context, supported by origin destination analysis; active travel infrastructure and
  usage counts; bus infrastructure, usage and journey time variability; journey time analysis to/from key
  settlements to/from principal destinations; overview of the road network and traffic volumes; overview of road
  safety incidents; electric vehicle charging infrastructure; and freight routes and counts;
- A review of the planning context, providing information on relevant development allocations and planning applications along the corridor; and
- A review of the environmental context, outlining the key environmental constraints along the study corridor.

### **Problems and Opportunities**

Within STAG, problems, issues, constraints and opportunities (PICOs) are described as follows:

- Problem: undesirable or harmful circumstances with the transport system;
- Opportunity: where a change to the transport system may lead to a positive outcome;
- Issue: uncertainty that the study may not be in a position to resolve, but must work within the context of; and
- **Constraint:** circumstances which may impact on the delivery of the potential interventions or option generation and development.

A localised corridor review was undertaken to determine PICOs along the study corridor and annotated satellite images were used to outline the results. The localised corridor review was supported by a review of strategic issues for the corridor. The diagram below outlines the key strategic PICOs that were identified.

#### **Problems**

- A93 active travel infrastructure
- Deeside Way infrastructure
- Declining bus patronage
- High car usage in key settlements
- · Limited provision of electric vehicle infrastructure
- Lack of road signage to tourist destinations

#### Issues

- Future attitudes to travel and travel behaviour post-COVID-19
- Climate change
- Uncertainty about the impact that advances in electric vehicle and autonomous vehicle technology will have on travel behaviour and vehicle ownership
- Policy in terms of demand management measures in Aberdeen City Centre that could result in a shift away from private car to public transport and active travel for journeys to the city centre

#### Constraints

- Political will
- Competition for funding streams
- Environmental constraints
- Competing demands along the corridor as it is an important movement corridor for several modes of travel

#### **Opportunities**

- Policy context due to local, regional and national support for more trips to be undertaken using sustainable modes of travel
- Bus Service Partnerships
- Funding from Scottish Government for active travel and bus priority interventions
- Relatively short distances to work from Aberdeen City settlements
- Locking in the benefits of the AWPR
- Increased active travel use during the COVID-19 pandemic

Figure 2: Strategic Problems, Issues, Constraints and Opportunities

# **Public and Stakeholder Engagement**

Public and stakeholder engagement was undertaken at two stages during the A93 Multi-Modal Corridor Study – to support the identification of problems, issues, constraints and opportunities and to provide feedback on the option packages developed for the corridor.

The first phase of engagement was undertaken in Autumn 2021 and involved one-to-one discussions with stakeholders, a study tour with representatives from ACC, Aberdeenshire Council, Nestrans and other key stakeholders, a study tour with elected members from Aberdeenshire Council, an online Placecheck exercise and school engagement including workshops with pupils at Banchory Primary and Cults Academy.

The second phase of engagement was undertaken in Summer 2022 and focused on gaining public and stakeholder feedback on the six devised option packages for the corridor to inform the appraisal of each option package in terms of public acceptability. For this phase of engagement, consultees accessed study information through the AECOM-hosted Virtual Consultation Room, which was linked through the ACC website, including a feedback form which was developed to collate responses to inform the appraisal. The online consultation materials were supplemented by three in-person drop-in events along the corridor in Mannofield, Peterculter and Banchory and two online live Q&A sessions with members of the AECOM project team.

# **Transport Planning Objectives**

In line with STAG, development of Transport Planning Objectives (TPOs) was driven by an understanding of the evidence-based problems and opportunities identified along the study corridor. The final TPOs for the study are:

- TPO1 Increase the modal share of active travel on the A93 road corridor for all journey types;
- TPO2 Improve accessibility to active travel and public transport infrastructure on the A93 corridor from nearby communities;
- TPO3 Increase the modal share of public transport on the A93 road corridor for all journey types;
- TPO4 Support sustainable communities along the A93 corridor; and
- TPO5 Support the role of the A93 corridor as the gateway to Royal Deeside.

#### **Do-Minimum**

In line with STAG, all generated options must be appraised against a Do-Minimum scenario. The Do-Minimum for the A93 Multi-Modal Corridor Study assumes the interventions presented in the table below are in place.

Table 1: Committed Transport Projects included within the A93 Multi-Modal Corridor Study

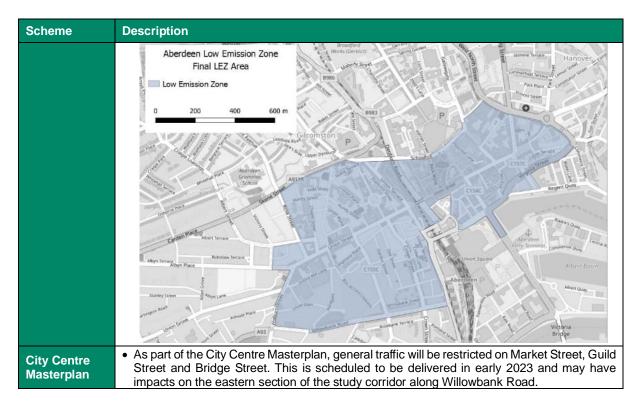
| Table 1: Committed Transport Projects included within the A93 Multi-Modal Corridor Study |   |  |  |
|--|---|--|--|
| Scheme   | Description   |  |  |
| Crathes mini<br>transport hub  | <ul> <li>Aberdeenshire Council is currently exploring the potential to deliver a 'Mobility Hub' facility in Crathes<sup>1</sup>.</li> <li>In advance of completion of the mini hub project, Aberdeenshire Council is progressing other work associated with the uncontrolled pedestrian crossing/refuge connecting the north side of the A93 to the south side, including street lighting.</li> </ul>   |  |  |
| South College<br>Street<br>Junction<br>Improvements<br>Project                           | <ul> <li>This project supports the City Centre Masterplan's aims to improve the public realm in the city centre by providing additional road capacity to accommodate the rerouting of vehicular traffic arising from the implementation of public realm enhancements along Guild Street and Union Street.</li> <li>A preferred option was adopted by ACC in 2017. As the design has progressed, further work, including traffic modelling, has been carried out to ensure the project will perform effectively. In May 2020, ACC resolved to progress a Compulsory Purchase Order to acquire the land necessary to build the project. ACC took ownership of the land and rights in land required for the project in April 2021.</li> <li>The project consists of the following main elements<sup>2</sup>: <ul> <li>An additional traffic lane along South College Street between Bank Street and Wellington Place;</li> <li>An additional lane on Palmerston Place;</li> <li>A new traffic signal-controlled junction at the intersection of Palmerston Place/A956 North Esplanade West;</li> <li>The alteration of the existing traffic signal-controlled junctions at the South College Street/Wellington Place junction and the South College Street/Millburn Street/Palmerston Place junction adding additional approach lanes and improving operational coordination;</li> <li>New and altered walking and cycling infrastructure along South College Street and Palmerston Place; and</li> <li>Reconfigured parking and loading areas on South College Street between Millburn Street and Riverside Drive.</li> </ul> </li> <li>Indicative programming anticipates full opening of the project in Spring 2023.</li> </ul> |  |  |
| Low Emission<br>Zone (LEZ)   | <ul> <li>ACC introduced an LEZ in May 2022, where only certain vehicles can enter based on their emissions standards. It has been introduced with a two year 'grace' period meaning that between 2022 and May 2024, drivers will not be fined for entering the LEZ with a non-compliant vehicle. The LEZ will then come into full effect in June 2024.</li> <li>The LEZ includes the eastern extent of the study corridor via Willowbank Road, Springbank Terrace and Wellington Place<sup>3</sup> (see below).</li> </ul>  |  |  |

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> https://como.org.uk/shared-mobility/mobility-hubs/what/

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> https://www.aberdeencity.gov.uk/services/roads-transport-and-parking/south-college-street-junction-improvements-project-phase-1

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> https://www.aberdeencity.gov.uk/services/roads-transport-and-parking/low-emission-zone



# **Option Generation**

A long list of options was developed based on a number of sources including consultation with ACC, Aberdeenshire Council and Nestrans officers, stakeholders, Community Council groups and members of the public; a review of previous studies to identify historical proposals that remain viable options; a review of statutory planning and policy documents; and outputs from the evidence-led process followed by the team undertaking the appraisal.

This resulted in the development of 59 active travel options, 26 public transport options and 43 'other' options.

# **Option Sifting**

Based on the high level performance of options against the TPOs, Deliverability Criteria, Position in the Sustainable Investment Hierarchy, Identified Problems and Opportunities in the study area and Aberdeenshire Council policy, it was recommended that the options presented in the table below be sifted from further consideration.

Table 2: Options to be Sifted from Further Consideration

| Ref  | Title   |
|------|---|
| AT5  | Review priority at the A93/Anderson Drive Junction for people walking, cycling and wheeling   |
| AT10 | Implement an additional access point to the Deeside Way from the west of Duthie Park          |
| AT22 | Implement crossing facilities on South Anderson Drive at Ruthrieston Road                     |
| AT28 | Implement an active travel bridge over the B979   |
| AT30 | Implement a separate bridge parallel to Rob Roy Bridge for active travel use only             |
| AT42 | Implement with-flow segregated cycling infrastructure along the A93 corridor in Aberdeen City |
| AT46 | Implement a continuous cycle lane between Peterculter and Drumoak                             |
| AT50 | Implement a continuous path along the banks of the River Dee from Duthie Park to Peterculter  |
| AT51 | Re-instate Shakkin' Briggie in Cults for active travel use                                    |
| AT52 | Implement aspirational core path AP10 between Binghill Road and Bieldside                     |
| AT53 | Implement aspirational core path AP4 between Contlaw Road and Bucklerburn Road                |
| AT54 | Implement a direct cycle route from Peterculter to Westhill and Kingswells via Blacktop Hill  |
| PT3  | Implement bus lanes in both directions along the A93 corridor                                 |
| PT6  | Consider options for an alternative terminus arrangement in Peterculter                       |
| PT7  | Consider options for an alternative terminus arrangement in Banchory                          |
| PT12 | Introduce a bus service between Cults and the supermarkets in Garthdee                        |

| Ref  | Title   |
|------|---|
| PT13 | Introduce a bus service between the A93 corridor and Aberdeen Royal Infirmary                                   |
| PT14 | Introduce a bus service on the South Deeside Road   |
| PT15 | Introduce a bus service between Peterculter and Westhill/Kingswells   |
| PT16 | Introduce a bus service between Crathes and Stonehaven  |
| PT18 | Implement orbital bus services using the AWPR to enhance connections north and south                            |
| PT19 | Reinstate the railway line along the A93 corridor   |
| PT20 | Implement tram services along the A93 corridor  |
| PT22 | Trial alternative routing of the First 19 service via Union Terrace and Schoolhill                              |
| PT23 | Trial express running of the Stagecoach 201 service within the Aberdeen City boundary                           |
| О9   | Develop an education campaign for the A93 corridor to promote understanding and respect between different users |
| 011  | Conduct a review of road surface maintenance along the corridor, including on-road cycle lining                 |
| 013  | Reopen Park Bridge to vehicles  |
| O15  | Prioritise the A93 corridor for enforcement of pavement parking in line with the Transport Scotland Act 2019    |
| O29  | Reduce the speed limit on Anderson Drive  |
| O30  | Reduce the speed limit on the A93 between Peterculter and Drumoak   |
| O36  | Reduce the speed limit on the A93 in Crathes to 30mph and extend this speed limit 50m to the east               |
| O37  | Extend 20mph speed limit throughout Banchory  |

# **Option Packaging**

Following a process of option development, options were grouped into six packages for the purposes of appraisal and consultation as follows:

- Active Travel Strategic Routes: made up of 12 active travel options, focused on providing dedicated priority
  for active travel users on the A93 corridor. It includes options for linear active travel provision such as
  segregated routes, shared use paths and on-road cycle lanes and options for active travel provision at
  junctions including through protected junctions, cycle early release signals and improved pedestrian phasing.
- Active Travel Other Measures: made up of 35 active travel options, focused on providing improved
  connections to the Deeside Way (through enhanced route connections, wayfinding and access controls), Park
  & Pedal facilities on the corridor, enhanced availability of cycle parking and additional crossing facilities on the
  route.;
- Public Transport Priority: made up of four public transport options and one other option, focused on
  providing dedicated priority for buses on the A93 corridor, including the potential for an eastbound or
  westbound bus lane and traffic signal priority through junctions.
- Public Transport Other Measures: made up of nine public transport options, focused on the potential for a
  Park & Ride facility within the community of Banchory and the potential for Demand Responsive Services
  to/from communities on the corridor. A series of other supporting measures are being considered to improve
  public transport on the A93 corridor, including improvements to bus stop infrastructure, ticketing options to
  enable multi-modal journeys, improvements to boarding and alighting times, enhanced opportunity to take
  bikes on buses, improved frequency of services and alternative routeing of services.
- Neighbourhoods and Placemaking: made up of 11 options, focused on providing a series of measures to
  create a sense of place and enhance the environment for the local communities on the A93 corridor. This
  package also includes consideration of the 20-minute neighbourhood concept, which allows people to be able
  to meet most of their essential needs within a 20 minute walk or cycle of their home. The aim is to reduce the
  volume and speed of traffic and improve accessibility for local people to walk, cycle, wheel and spend time
  outdoors in their community.
- Other Measures: made up of 23 other options, containing a series of other supporting measures to improve
  travel facilities on the A93 corridor, including junction reviews, a review of speed limits and speed limit signage
  as appropriate, reviews of parking in the neighbourhood centres and the potential implementation of a link
  road between North Deeside Road and Inchgarth Road.

# **Option Appraisal**

In line with STAG, a high-level appraisal of the option packages against the TPOs, STAG Criteria (Environment; Climate Change; Health, Safety and Wellbeing; Economy; and Equality and Accessibility) and Implementability Criteria (Feasibility; Affordability and Public Acceptability) was undertaken.

A seven-point scale assessment was undertaken for each package against the TPOs and STAG Criteria. This considers the relative size and scale of the likely impacts, in qualitative terms.

**Table 3: STAG Seven-Point Scale** 

| Impact                        | Description  |
|-------------------------------|--|
| Major positive impact (+3)    | These are positive impacts which, depending on the severity of impact, should be a principal consideration when assessing an option.   |
| Moderate positive impact (+2) | The option is anticipated to have a moderate positive impact which, when taken in isolation may not determine the appraisal of an option but would form a key consideration when considered alongside other factors. |
| Minor positive impact (+1)    | The option is anticipated to have a minor positive impact. Minor positive impacts are those which are worth noting but are not likely to contribute materially to determining whether an option is taken forward.    |
| Neutral impact (0)            | The option is anticipated to have a neutral impact.  |
| Minor negative impact (-1)    | The option is anticipated to have a small negative impact. Small impacts are those which are worth noting but are not likely to contribute materially to determining whether an option is taken forward.             |
| Moderate negative impact (-2) | The option is anticipated to have a moderate negative impact which, when taken in isolation may not determine the appraisal of an option but would form a key consideration when considered alongside other factors. |
| Major negative impact (-3)    | These are negative impacts which, depending on the severity of impact, should be a principal consideration when assessing an option.   |

The Implementability Criteria was assessed based on the extent of risk (low, medium and high). Affordability takes account of the anticipated cost of the option; whilst high-level cost estimates have been provided as part of the option appraisal, further work will be required to develop costs during further stages of option development.

**Table 4: Implementability Criteria** 

| STAG Criteria           | Description  |
|-------------------------|--|
| Feasibility             | The feasibility of construction or implementation and operation of an option and the status of its technology (e.g. proven, prototype, in development, etc.) as well as any cost, timescale or deliverability risks associated with the construction or operation of the option, including consideration of the need for any departure from design standards that may be required. |
| Affordability           | The scale of the financing burden on the promoting authority and other possible funding organisations and the risks associated with these. The level of risk associated with an option's ongoing operating or maintenance costs and its likely operating revenues (if applicable).   |
| Public<br>Acceptability | An assessment of the likely public response to an option, including consideration of the outcomes of consultation thus far.  |

# **Rejected Options**

Based on the findings of the appraisal, it is recommended that the options presented in the table below are removed from further consideration at this stage.

**Table 5: Options Rejected from Further Consideration** 

| Package                         | Option Title  | Rationale   |
|---------------------------------|---|---|
| Active                          | AT2: Create a protected junction at Great<br>Western Road/Holburn Street Junction for<br>cyclists                     | Recommended to combine with Option O1 in the Other Measures Package |
| Travel –<br>Strategic<br>Routes | AT3: Increase pedestrian phasing at the A93/Anderson Drive Junction to support diagonal movements across the junction | Recommended to combine with Option O2 in the Other Measures Package |
|                                 | AT4: Implement segregated cycle provision   | Recommended to combine with Option O2 in                            |
|                                 | through the A93/Anderson Drive Junction   | the Other Measures Package  |

| Package                                    | Option Title  | Rationale  |
|--|---|--|
|  | AT43: Increase pavement width on the south side of the A93 in proximity to Anderson Drive   | Recommended to combine with Option O2 in the Other Measures Package  |
|  | AT45: Implement a shared footway on the A93 corridor between Peterculter and Newmill Hill Forest and adjacent quiet road network to the north | Significant deliverability concerns associated with the need for land purchase to deliver this option  |
|  | AT48: Implement cycle lanes on either side of the carriageway through Drumoak and Park  | Limited impact against the TPOs and STAG Criteria  |
| Active<br>Travel –<br>Other<br>Measures    | AT23: Implement crossing facilities near Abbotshall Road  | Recommended to combine with Option AT25 in the Active Travel – Other Measures package  |
|  | AT24: Upgrade informal crossing point east of Kirk Brae to formal crossing facilities   | Option is not considered to provide significant benefits as there is an existing formal crossing point 90m to the west of this crossing and there are deliverability concerns associated with the Millden Road junction 15m to the east  |
|  | AT26: Implement a pedestrian island crossing at Bellenden Walk to enhance access to the Deeside Way via Milltimber Brae                       | Significant deliverability risks are anticipated due to the carriageway width in this location   |
|  | AT37: Implement a Park and Pedal facility near the AWPR Junction  | Significant deliverability risks are anticipated due to the requirement for land acquisition and Option AT38 would be anticipated to provide the same benefits whilst making use of existing infrastructure  |
| Public<br>Transport –<br>Priority          | PT26: Increase east-west phasing of traffic signals at A92 Anderson Drive to give more priority to flows on the A93 corridor                  | Recommended to combine with Option O2 in the Other Measures Package  |
| Public<br>Transport –<br>Other<br>Measures | PT24: Trial a variation of the Stagecoach 201 service to travel direct through Banchory rather than via Hill of Banchory                      | Option has limited impacts against the majority of TPOs and STAG Criteria and would have negative impacts against the Equality and Accessibility Criterion. Furthermore, option has significant deliverability risks as the service operator has indicated that the majority of passengers board within the Hill of Banchory loop and therefore this trial is unlikely to be supported by Stagecoach |

# **Selected Options**

Based on the findings of the appraisal, it is recommended that the options presented in the table below are selected for further consideration.

**Table 6: Options Selected for Further Consideration** 

| Package                             | Ref  | Title  |  |
|-------------------------------------|------|--|--|
|                                     | AT1  | Implement early release signals for cyclists at all signalised junctions along the A93 corridor                  |  |
|                                     | AT6  | Review priority and crossings at the AWPR Junction and surrounding area for people walking, cycling and wheeling |  |
| Active Travel –<br>Strategic Routes | AT41 | Implement two-way segregated cycling infrastructure along the A93 corridor in Aberdeen City                      |  |
| Package                             | AT44 | Implement a shared footway on the A93 corridor between Peterculter and Banchory                                  |  |
|                                     | AT47 | Formalise pedestrian path on north side of carriageway between Drumoak and Drum Castle                           |  |
|                                     | AT49 | Implement cycling infrastructure along the High Street in Banchory   |  |
| Active Travel –                     | AT7  | Conduct a route wide review of wayfinding signage to the Deeside Way   |  |
| Other Measures                      | AT8  | Redesign access controls onto and on the Deeside Way to improve accessibility                                    |  |
| Package                             | АТ9  | Implement a continuous cycle route from the Deeside Way (at Duthie Park) to Union Street                         |  |

| Package                                    | Ref  | Title   |
|--|------|---|
|  | AT11 | Implement a contraflow cycle lane on Duthie Terrace to facilitate connection to the   |
|  | AT12 | Deeside Way Implement a contraflow cycle lane on Dee Street to facilitate connection between  |
|  | AT13 | the Deeside Way and the city centre  Implement a contraflow cycle lane on Ferryhill Place to facilitate connection between the Deeside Way and the city centre    |
|  | AT14 | Implement a contraflow cycle lane on Ferryhill Terrace to facilitate connection between the Deeside Way and the city centre                                       |
|  | AT15 | Implement a contraflow cycle lane on Fonthill Terrace to facilitate connection between the Deeside Way and the city centre  |
|  | AT16 | Implement a contraflow cycle lane on Prospect Terrace to facilitate connection between the Deeside Way and the city centre  |
|  | AT17 | Develop an integrated path network which connects settlements south of the River<br>Dee with the A93 and Deeside Way  |
|  | AT18 | Improve priority for Deeside Way users across Pittengullies Brae  |
|  | AT19 | Implement an active travel link from Deeside Way to Drum Castle   |
|  | AT20 | Implement enhanced path connections between Newmill Hill Forest and the Deeside Way   |
|  | AT21 | Improve access to the Deeside Way in the west of Drumoak  |
|  | AT25 | Implement additional formalised crossing facilities in Cults  |
|  | AT27 | Implement improved crossing facilities for Deeside Way users across the B979  |
|  | AT29 | Implement additional zebra crossing points in Peterculter   |
|  | AT31 | Consider locations for additional crossing facilities within Drumoak  |
|  | AT32 | Implement island crossing point east of Drumoak to enable safe crossing towards Drum Castle   |
|  | AT33 | Implement island crossing point at Crathes to enable safe crossing between bus stops at Crathes Woods   |
|  | AT34 | Implement a new pedestrian crossing over Station Road to facilitate access to Banchory Primary and Banchory Academy   |
|  | AT35 | Implement crossing facilities on the western section of Banchory High Street  |
|  | AT36 | Implement additional cycle parking within Cults, particularly near bus stops  Implement a Park and Pedal facility at the former rail station in Peterculter using |
|  | AT39 | existing car parking in this location  Implement additional cycle parking near bus stops and at the bus terminus in Peterculter                                   |
|  | AT40 | Implement additional cycle parking within Banchory Town Centre  |
|  | AT55 | Resurfacing of key active travel links within 20-minute neighbourhoods (e.g. The Bush in Peterculter)   |
|  | AT56 | Develop a greater network of active travel connections from Park Bridge to the south of the river   |
|  | AT57 | Redesign access controls at Park Bridge to allow for recumbent cycles and cargo bikes   |
|  | AT58 | Implement a contraflow cycle lane on Bridge Street in Banchory  |
|  | AT59 | Implement an enhanced network of connecting paths from Inchmarlo and Torphins to the A93 corridor   |
|  | PT1  | Implement an eastbound bus lane along the A93 corridor  |
| Public Transport                           | PT2  | Implement a westbound bus lane along the A93 corridor   |
| <ul><li>Priority</li><li>Package</li></ul> | PT25 | Conduct a traffic signal review to consider bus priority at all traffic signals along the A93 corridor  |
|  | O43  | Introduce adaptive timings at traffic signals along the corridor  |
|  | PT4  | Conduct a route wide review of bus stop provision and infrastructure  |
| Public Transport                           | PT5  | Consider options to improve boarding and alighting times on bus services along the corridor   |
| - Other                                    | PT8  | Enhance opportunities for cycle carriage on bus services on the A93 corridor  |
| Measures<br>Package                        | PT9  | Utilise app technology to provide real-time information to bus passengers of the ability to take bikes on buses   |
|  | PT10 | Implement ticketing options for multi-modal journeys  |
|  | PT11 | Implement a P&R site in the east of Banchory  |

| Package                              | Ref       | Title  |  |
|--------------------------------------|-----------|--|--|
|                                      | PT17      | Explore the feasibility of implementing Demand Responsive Services to allow surrounding settlements to connect with the A93 corridor (e.g. Inchmarlo and Torphins) |  |
|                                      | PT21      | Increase the frequency of bus services on the A93  |  |
|                                      | 019       | Introduce placemaking and gateway features in Cults  |  |
|                                      | O20       | Introduce placemaking and gateway features in Peterculter  |  |
|                                      | 021       | Implement gateway signage on approach to Drumoak in both directions  |  |
|                                      | 022       | Implement gateway signage on approach to Crathes in both directions  |  |
| Naighbarmhaada                       | O23       | Introduce placemaking and gateway features in Banchory Town Centre   |  |
| Neighbourhoods<br>and<br>Placemaking | 024       | Implement package of measures to support 20-minute neighbourhood in Mannofield   |  |
| Package                              | O25       | Implement package of measures to support 20-minute neighbourhood in Cults  |  |
|                                      | O26       | Implement package of measures to support 20-minute neighbourhood in Peterculter  |  |
|                                      | 027       | Implement package of measures to support 20-minute neighbourhood in Banchory   |  |
|                                      | 041       | Implement traffic calming measures on School Road in proximity to Culter School  |  |
|                                      | 042       | Implement traffic calming measures on Banchory High Street   |  |
|                                      | 01        | Review the layout of the Great Western Road/Holburn Street Junction, including consideration of signal timings and lane allocation                                 |  |
|                                      | 02        | Review the layout of the A93/Anderson Drive Junction   |  |
|                                      | О3        | Review the layout of the A93/Pitfodels Station Road Junction   |  |
|                                      | 04        | Review the layout of the A93/Abbotshall Road Junction  |  |
|                                      | O5        | Review the layout of the A93/Malcolm Road Junction   |  |
|                                      | <b>O6</b> | Review the layout of the A93/Hill of Banchory East Junction  |  |
|                                      | 07        | Review the layout and traffic signal phasing at the A93/Dee Street Junction in Banchory  |  |
|                                      | 08        | Review pedestrian safety at island crossings along the corridor  |  |
|                                      | O10       | Increase road signage to tourist destinations and services along the A93 corridor, particularly from the AWPR  |  |
|                                      | 012       | Implement a link road between A93 and Inchgarth Road   |  |
| Other Measures                       | 014       | Implement signage to discourage vehicles from parking on the access road designated as the Deeside Way in Drumoak  |  |
| Package                              | 016       | Conduct a review of parking in Cults   |  |
|                                      | 017       | Conduct a review of parking in Peterculter   |  |
|                                      | 018       | Conduct a review of parking in Banchory  |  |
|                                      | O28       | Implement additional flashing speed limit signs along the A93 corridor   |  |
|                                      | 031       | Reduce the speed limit on Kennerty Road  |  |
|                                      | O32       | Increase the number of speed limit signs on approach to Drumoak in both directions   |  |
|                                      | O33       | Extend 30mph speed limit 50m east at the eastern entrance to Drumoak   |  |
|                                      | O34       | Reduce speed limit on Sunnyside Drive to 20mph   |  |
|                                      | O35       | Extend 30mph speed limit from Drumoak to Park  |  |
|                                      | O38       | Implement additional 20mph speed limit signage on the High Street in Banchory  |  |
|                                      | O39       | Implement temporary 20mph speed limit to support movements to/from the International School on the A93   |  |
|                                      | O40       | Implement traffic calming measures along Willowbank Road/Springbank Terrace  |  |

# **Small-Scale, Low Risk Options**

As study options were developed and packages assembled, it became clear that there are several options which, if brought forward for early implementation, could offer ACC small-scale, low risk opportunities on the corridor that complement the overall aims and objectives of the study. These options are shown in the table below.

Table 7: Small-Scale, Low Risk Opportunities on the Corridor

|         | Table 7: Small-Scale, Low Risk Opportunities on the Corridor   |
|---------|--|
|         | Travel – Other Measures Package  |
| AT7     | Conduct a route wide review of wayfinding signage to the Deeside Way   |
| AT8     | Redesign access controls onto and on the Deeside Way to improve accessibility  |
| AT11    | Implement a contraflow cycle lane on Duthie Terrace to facilitate connection to the Deeside Way  |
| AT12    | Implement a contraflow cycle lane on Dee Street to facilitate connection between the Deeside Way and the city centre   |
| AT13    | Implement a contraflow cycle lane on Ferryhill Place to facilitate connection between the Deeside Way and the city centre  |
| AT14    | Implement a contraflow cycle lane on Ferryhill Terrace to facilitate connection between the Deeside Way and the city centre  |
| AT15    | Implement a contraflow cycle lane on Fonthill Terrace to facilitate connection between the Deeside Way and the city centre   |
| AT16    | Implement a contraflow cycle lane on Prospect Terrace to facilitate connection between the Deeside Way and the city centre   |
| AT36    | Implement additional cycle parking facilities within Cults, particularly near bus stops  |
| AT38    | Implement a Park and Pedal facility at the former rail station in Peterculter using existing car parking in this location  |
| AT39    | Implement additional cycle parking near bus stops and at the bus terminus in Peterculter   |
| AT40    | Implement additional cycle parking within Banchory Town Centre   |
| AT57    | Redesign access controls at Park Bridge to allow for recumbent cycles and cargo bikes  |
| AT58    | Implement a contraflow cycle lane on Bridge Street in Banchory   |
| Public  | Transport – Other Measures   |
| PT4     | Conduct a route wide review of bus stop provision and infrastructure   |
| PT17    | Explore the feasibility of implementing Demand Responsive Services to allow surrounding settlements to connect with the A93 corridor (e.g. Inchmarlo and Torphins) |
| Other N | Measures   |
| 08      | Review pedestrian safety at island crossings along the A93 corridor  |
| O10     | Increase road signage to tourist destinations and services along the A93 corridor, particularly from the AWPR  |
| 014     | Implement signage to discourage vehicles from parking on the access road designated as the Deeside Way in Drumoak  |
| O16     | Conduct a review of parking in Cults   |
| 017     | Conduct a review of parking in Peterculter   |
| O18     | Conduct a review of parking in Banchory  |
| O28     | Implement additional flashing speed limit signs along the A93 corridor   |
| O31     | Reduce the speed limit on Kennerty Road  |
| O32     | Increase the number of speed limit signs on approach to Drumoak in both directions   |
| O33     | Extend 30mph speed limit 50m east at the eastern entrance to Drumoak   |
| O34     | Reduce speed limit on Sunnyside Drive to 20mph   |
| O35     | Extend 30mph speed limit from Drumoak to Park  |
| O38     | Implement additional 20mph speed limit signage on the High Street in Banchory  |
| O39     | Implement temporary 20mph speed limit to support movements to/from the International School on the A93   |

### **Next Steps**

Going forward, it is noted that the small-scale, low risk options identified provide early opportunities for ACC to progress these measures to delivery. While further work may be needed to gauge the scope of these, these measures can be progressed in isolation of any more detailed option development beyond this appraisal. However, in due course, these measures would themselves complement any packages or options ultimately delivered following more detailed work.

In this regard, in order to fully determine those packages (and options within packages) which have the potential for delivery along the corridor, detailed STAG-based appraisal is required, including more detailed design work, to confirm the package(s) that would move forward into an Outline Business Case (OBC) for delivery.

The work undertaken to date provides the foundation for ACC to take the outcomes of this study forward to further level of study. This will ensure a continued consistency in terms of route corridor appraisal in the city, with the Ellon P&R-Garthdee study now moving to OBC stage, with the other corridor studies currently at various stages of appraisal.

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