

## APPENDIX 2 - 2016 RES Actions – Delivery update

Action	Status	
<b>Programme 1 – Investment in Infrastructure</b>		
In response to the Planning Review, set up an Infrastructure Investment Group to strategically plan and coordinate national utilities investment and funding in the city and wider region	Multi Agency Management Group set up across public sector bodies in the ACC areas	
Development of investor ready pipeline of development opportunities	Invest Aberdeen formed in 2017 as a partnership by the two Councils, DIT and SDI. Institutional investment climate has moved away from traditional mixed use development to green infrastructure	
Develop and implement a region-wide housing strategy and action plan	Regional Housing Need and Demand Assessments are completed by the 2 Councils and Housing Land Audits with the Development Industry to ensure that at all times there is an effective housing land supply available to meet the Region’s housing needs.	
Support an Updated Regional Transport Strategy, building on ongoing investment in AWPR, rail enhancement and other schemes under construction, developing active travel networks and initiatives, such as integrated ticketing, to promote modal shift and maximising the benefits of improved infrastructure	Nestrans’ Regional Transport Strategy to 2040 was approved by Scottish Ministers and adopted in November 2021. It contains over 100 proposals and actions aimed at achieving six high level priorities around enhanced connectivity, carbon reduction, improved health and wellbeing, casualty reduction, accessibility and modal shift.	
Lobby Transport Scotland to prioritise the implementation of key strategic upgrades on the rail and trunk road network, including A90 north and south of Aberdeen and the A96 dualling between Aberdeen and Inverness	<p><u>A90(N)</u> Following earlier assessment work, a review of evidence is currently being undertaken on the A90(N)/A952 corridor linking Ellon to Peterhead and Fraserburgh. Outcomes of this work will inform next steps regarding option development, and the asks of Transport Scotland at Trunk Road Authority.</p> <p>A96 Dualling Nestrans and local partners continue to engage with and lobby Transport Scotland who are currently undertaking a review of options for dualling the A96 (including climate change assessment), as per the</p>	

	Government's Bute House Agreement. Outcomes are due to be published for consultation later in 2023.	
<p>Deliver on commitments to implement schemes through the City Region Deal, including access to the new Aberdeen South Harbour, and, in the Scottish Government's Memorandum of Understanding, to reduce journey times to the Central Belt</p>	<p><u>External Links to Aberdeen South Harbour:</u>  Following option appraisal, work is now progressing on the design and consents process for the upgraded access arrangements, following guidance in the Design Manual for Roads and Bridges. The project will see replacement of the existing coast road overbridge, and upgrade of the link along the Coast Road to Hareness Junction via Altens. Active travel improvements are also included.</p> <p><u>Aberdeen to Central Belt Rail Journey Time Improvement Project</u>  Design development continues on this project which will provide improved inter-city journey times between Aberdeen and the Central Belt, improved local rail connectivity between Aberdeen and Dundee, and enhanced rail freight opportunities by 2026. This is being achieved through signalling upgrades, changes to the track layout at key stations, and the construction of passing loops. This infrastructure provides opportunity to recast timetables in order to deliver the key project outcomes. Beyond 2026, work will continue on the railway in order to deliver electrification, currently planned for 2030. This will bring further benefits, including increased line height clearances for freight, and new electric powered rolling stock.</p> <p><u>A90/A957 Laurencekirk Junction</u>  Project to improve the A90/A937 Junction at Laurencekirk. Following design development and publication of draft trunk and side road orders, Transport Scotland are currently working to resolve a number of objections that were raised, in order to progress the scheme without having to go to Public Local Inquiry. One objection was raised due to the deterioration of the Oatyhill Bridge upon which the published scheme relied upon for providing local residential access, and progress continues to be made on the resolution of this issue.</p>	

Work with Scottish Government and Transport Scotland, under the City Region Deal programme, to develop business cases for priority transport infrastructure schemes across the north east to bring forward future funding opportunities	STPR2 and NPF4 both recognise Aberdeen Rapid Transit and bus prioritisation as identified schemes.	
Enhance City Centre environment by implementation of transport elements of the City Centre Masterplan and a Low Emissions Zone, including Hydrogen fuelled vehicles	Low Emission Zone implemented in Aberdeen City Centre in 2022.	
Development of business case and prospectus for Aberdeen's Queens Square redevelopment	Ongoing	
Deliver detailed design and cost proposals for site preparation and infrastructure to facilitate developer investment at Energetica Industry Park	Preparation of site briefs and development prospectus for Energetica Corridor being prepared by SE with support from Aberdeenshire Council	
Explore production of development briefs for Aberdeen Station Gateway, Castlehill and North Dee redevelopment (CCMP Projects)	Included within City Centre and Beach Masterplans	
Consult with the UK Government and Scottish Government to ensure that successor programmes to EU Structural Funds are aligned to the economic needs of the North East (Shared Prosperity Funds)	Aberdeen City and Aberdeenshire Councils have now received their allocations from UK Government for UK Shared Prosperity Fund and the respective investment plans have been approved	
Identify regeneration opportunities for commercial and industrial areas across the region, ensuring land and infrastructure is available in strategic growth areas and corridors, and aligned to capitalise on development of new technologies and supply chain opportunities (eg: CCS, Decommissioning)	Partners continue to support the delivery of City Region Deal to deliver essential infrastructure required to drive economic regeneration and growth across the region. Energy Transition Zone business case approved April 2021 and implementation underway	
Implement the digital programme within the Aberdeen City Region Deal and build upon the projects that have already been delivered: 1: City Network Extension 2: Full Fibre Network 3: Duct Network 4: Gigabit Voucher Scheme 5: Port of Aberdeen 5G network 6: Scottish Agricultural Organisation Society (S.A.O.S) 5G network 7: 5G "pop up" network to be used in the field across the region where required to test applications	The digital programme of City Region Deal has largely been delivered in Aberdeen City with further investment required in Aberdeenshire to address gaps in digital connectivity.  City Network Extension and Full Fibre projects successfully delivered. Duct Network has three phases. Phase 1 complete, Phase 2 to be completed in May 2023 and Phase 3 completed by December 2024. The Gigabit Voucher scheme is ongoing and will provide immediate help for people experiencing slow broadband speeds in rural areas.	

	Legal agreements are being drafted for the grant funding for the Port of Aberdeen 5G network, S.A.O.S 5G network and the ONE 5G “pop up” network.	
Ensure we build on the Digital Programme in the City Region Deal to secure additional investment into development of Smart City activities and the rollout of 5G technologies across public sector and industry	<p>5G projects continue to be developed in the region. Liaising with UK Government on rollout of Project Gigabit across North East of Scotland.</p> <p>Smart City strategy currently being refreshed with a new roadmap to support fostering citizen innovation, Digital Tourism, jobs and skills and an integrated data infrastructure</p> <p>5G projects continue to be developed in the region. Liaising with UK Government on rollout of Project Gigabit across North East of Scotland.</p>	
Capitalise on our reputation as a global centre of excellence for subsea and underwater engineering and decommissioning, and for learning and training in the broader oil and gas and energy sectors	<p>Global Underwater Hub; National Decommissioning Centre and National Subsea centre all operational. Work underway on National Floating Wind Innovation Centre and Advanced Manufacturing Skills Hub. £3m of NEERSF support for learning and skills support in energy sector delivered. National Energy Skills Accelerator established.</p> <p>Growing subsea opportunities around floating offshore wind</p>	
Deliver Food Hub within the City Region Deal that provides R&D infrastructure and expertise for regional primary producers, processors and manufacturers	The construction programme for SeedPod has been finalised and the construction contract was awarded on 31 March 2023. Mobilisation is now underway and activity will commence on site in May 2023. The construction programme is being finalised, with completion currently scheduled for Q2 2024/25.	
Delivery of Bio-therapeutics Hub within the City Region Deal, to grow and develop spin-out and start-up life sciences businesses beyond early stage development	The construction of Bio-Hub is complete with a launch date at the end of May 2023. BioHub will provide a unique combination of facilities, networks and support programmes to its tenants, enabling business leaders, academics and clinicians to realise their commercial ambitions in life sciences	
Increase the number of tourism businesses with online booking capabilities	Vast majority now do have such provision.	

Ensure energy sector is maximising opportunities for investment under place-based Industrial Strategy and Sector Deals	Energy Transition Zone investor offer developed, working with Invest Aberdeen and both governments.	
Implement the Regional Sustainable Energy Action Plan, promoting awareness and opportunities arising from it, to identify competitive advantage for the region		
Maximise supply chain development in alternative energies (including renewables and carbon capture & storage/hydrogen action plan, and support innovation in other fuel technologies	500 + energy supply chain companies supported with diversification and opportunities in green energy markets through ONE and ETZ Ltd supported by JTF	
Provide specific business growth support for private sector companies, focusing on diversification opportunities	Councils currently deliver business growth support with Business Gateway. Not focussed on diversification – SE work with wider local and national partners eg ONE	
Ensure opportunities for a Smart City Action Plan are maximised	Detailed stakeholder interviews and workshops were held, and a new Smart City Roadmap has been produced.	
Develop and deliver the digital and entrepreneurship hub to build a digital company cluster and enable digital transformation within the region's key sectors	ONE Techhub opened and operational, funded by ONE with thriving digital ecosystem – supported through ONE DT Business Growth Programmes and ONE Codebase start-up fundamentals and next steps. Partners include Techscaler, 5G Innovation centre, datalab, censis, Barclays.	
Building on the data platform in Regional Data Exchange above, stimulate innovation through open data networks, to create an underlying framework for public data in the region to be open and available for others to use and reuse	Work was undertaken to produce an outline business case for a Regional Data Exchange and Sensor Network through the City Region Deal. The commercial and economic case wasn't strong enough and the Joint Committee agreed to not proceed any further with these projects and to use the funding to prioritise digital infrastructure throughout the Region	
Review and scope potential future transformational projects, identified through the Renaissance stakeholder engagement, for economic impact and further development	Energy Transition Zone established as major transformational project by ONE and partners. NEAT North East Adventure Tourism phase 1 funding secured by ONE through Just Transition to support four infrastructure projects over two years.	
<b>Programme 3 – Inclusive Economic Growth</b>		
Support objectives of the Circular North-east programme. A circular economy seeks to maximise value from what is currently termed waste. The project will promote innovation and encourage collaboration	Circular economy principles focal point for Energy Transition Zone	

between local companies and academic institutions to identify business opportunities for both new and existing companies	AGCC has developed learning modules. Circular economy officer in post operating across the region.	
Build on the momentum created from the Buy North East initiative to promote local procurement and ensure regional businesses are aware and prepared to take advantage of the opportunities provided by the planned programme of infrastructure investment and other development projects	Local procurement still to be developed. Business Gateway procurement officer in post in Aberdeenshire as part of Community Wealth Building project. Aberdeen City Council has this worksream as part of its employability service delivery and a Communit Wealth Building Action Plan	
Through the Regional Learning & Skills Partnership, improve support for young people, high attainment, meaningful progression and employment opportunities that, in turn, fulfil the economic needs of the region	Ongoing	
Putting inclusive growth at the heart of public sector investment, maximise opportunities for targeted recruitment and training activity for all potential procurement spend through community benefit clause	Inclusive growth objectives and outcomes now being monitored using the wellbeing economy monitor	
Support delivery of Developing Young Workforce Programme	Ongoing	
Responding to the 15-24 Learner Journey Review, develop feasibility of delivering Campus 6 model, a model which will extend and enhance the educational opportunities and choices for young people in the final year of secondary education, and who are seeking to progress further, through tertiary education, towards meaningful employment and improved career prospects		
Align the region's skills system to support economic transition through delivery of Regional Skills Strategy	Regional Skills Strategy completed 2018	
Increase the take up of Scottish Enterprise support to businesses and grow the number of account managed companies based in the region		
Continue the delivery of Business Gateway business start-up, funding and development support which is available to all businesses (including social enterprises in key health and social care sector)	Ongoing	
Continue to deliver Elevator's accelerator programmes through their regional Centre for Entrepreneurship that assist early stage businesses to maximise their potential	Support all accelerators in the region	
Delivery of Elevator's programmes that support the development of future entrepreneurs	ONE developing entrepreneur culture including NEERSF MIT cohorts trained.	

- Grow Innovation Driven IDEs (IDEs)		
Delivery of sector-specific business growth programmes in food, drink and agriculture, life sciences, oil, gas and energy, and digital to accelerate company creation and growth	ONE developed and delivered growth programmes for all sectors including Tourism via Visit Aberdeenshire.	
Work with businesses on a more inclusive approach to business support and how they work with their supply chains to support business growth, including workplace innovation and adoption of progressive people practices	Use Wellbeing Economy Monitor approaches Refresh of the ACC Business Charter in 2023	Yes
Implement Regeneration Plans for Tillydrone, Middlefield, Northfield and Torry (Aberdeen City) and the towns of Peterhead, Fraserburgh, Macduff and Banff to support inclusion, sustainability and entrepreneurship	Locality Plans developed	
Ensure leverage of remaining Structural Funds (ERDF/ESF 2020) where relevant	Funds finish in June 2023. Working to delivery Shared Prosperity Funding and Levelling Up.	
Transformation and refurbishment of Union Terrace Gardens	Complete	
Redevelopment of Aberdeen Science Centre as focal point for STEM engagement with young people	Complete	
Develop and implement a regional narrative, and marketing campaign that supports the objectives of the Regional Economic Strategy in order to attract and retain people, and investment	Invest Aberdeen set up  ABZolutely campaign delivered by AGCC	
<b>Programme 4 - Internationalisation</b>		
Delivery of Invest Aberdeen inward investment bureau to deliver City Region propositions to retain and attract new businesses and investment across priority sectors	Invest Aberdeen created New action to seek investment	
Rejuvenate North East of Scotland Trade Group as an export partnership focused on increasing the number of companies exporting and activity from existing exporters	North East Trade and Investment group now active	
Maximise civic, trade, World Energy Cities & EU memberships to link Aberdeen to international trade and investment markets		
Engage with Government to ensure Region is positioned to capitalise on any emerging trade deals following Brexit		
Ensure we maximise opportunities for the fisheries sectors as the landing and processing hub for the UK in the context of Brexit	Ongoing	

Delivery of the new Regional Tourism Strategy and Action Plan		
Delivery and marketing of cultural, heritage and tourism attractions of national significance, and of international standard (existing and new assets) and maximising tourism potential of accredited archives	Ongoing ACC	
Support and promote the arts and cultural venues of the North East to attract and promote national and international exhibitions and programmes	Opening of Music Hall and Art Gallery. Coastal Economies Levelling Up Programme will create a new museum in Peterhead and expand the Macduff Marine Aquarium.	
Establish a new Convention Bureau model to maximise the impact of the new arena and conference centre and the Aberdeen Harbour expansion	Established within VisitAberdeenshire and supported by operators of P&J Live. Also includes the Ambassador Network to support the bids for international business events	Yes
Support delivery of Offshore Europe 2019, and secure support from 2021	Complete. Now focus on the 50 <sup>th</sup> edition of OE in 2023	Yes
Support delivery of the new arena and events complex in Aberdeen, including SMG business plan to attract events to the city	Done and ongoing	
Submission of a bid for UNESCO Creative Cities designation	Not Done	
Support and attract events that will be of international and national significance as part of the delivery of the Aberdeen 365 events and festivals plan	Events 365 set up and operational and has seen a number of new national events been secured and existing events expanded	Yes
Support development of projects and delivery of Culture Aberdeen Plan and Aberdeenshire Culture Strategy	Culture Strategy launched in 2017  Support creative sector and seek to attract cultural events and filming	
Establish feasibility of a sustainable investment fund for tourism, marketing, culture and events in Aberdeen	Scottish Government developing work for a bill on a transient tourism levy. Work has been done in 2017 that will be used to inform feasibility in 2023/24	
Retain and attract new air routes to Aberdeen International Airport	Ongoing	
In marketing as an embarkation port, develop case for delivery of a new cruise terminal, supporting infrastructure, along with a world class range of products and itineraries for the cruise market	Ongoing	