

# Minutes of the Caithness Transport Forum

Date: 20 March 2024

Time: 10:00 - 12:30

Location: Pentland Hotel, Thurso / Microsoft Teams

#### **Present:**

Trudy Morris (Chair)	Caithness Chamber of Commerce	In-person
Laura O'Kane	Caithness Chamber of Commerce	In-person
Alison Middlemas	Caithness Chamber of Commerce	In-person
Kris Bevan	NorthLink Ferries	Virtual
Cllr Raymond Bremner	The Highland Council	Virtual
Ian Budd	Friends of the Far North Line	Virtual
Julie Calder	Jamie Stone MP Office Case Worker	Virtual
Dougie Cook	Highlands and Islands Airports Ltd	Virtual
John Deighan	Thurso and Wick Trades Union Council	In-person
Bryan Dodds	CVG	In-person
Beatrice Farmer	Dunnet & Canisbay Community Council	In-person
Robert Gillespie	Stagecoach	In-person
Jonathan Gunn	The Highland Council	In-person
Cllr Ron Gunn	The Highland Council	In Person
Nicole Herd	ACCC	In-person
Helen Inkster	Pentland Ferries	Virtual
Audrey John	Jamie Stone MP Office	Virtual
Cllr Willie MacKay	The Highland Council	In-person
Cllr Matthew Reiss	The Highland Council	In-person
Fiona Richardson	The Highland Council	Virtual
Frank Roach	HITRANS	Virtual
Ryan Savage	ScotRail	In-person
David Summers	Highland Council	In-person
David Swanson	The Highland Council	Virtual
Michael Willmot	Far North Line Community Rail Partnership	Virtual

### 1. Welcome and Apologies

- 1.1. The Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting and thanked all present for attending.
- 1.2. Apologies were received from:

Marco Bardelli	Transport Scotland
Magnus Davidson	NRS Dounreay
Carole Etna	Dunnet & Canisbay Community Council
Peter Faccenda	Focus North
William Mainus	Stagecoach
Wayne Malcolm	Stagecoach
Zoe Mackenzie	Marie Todd MSP Office
Sandy Mackie	Scrabster Harbour Trust
Cllr Janet McEwan	The Highland Council
Kathryn Scollie	Pentland Ferries
Kim Shaw	Stagecoach
Jamie Stone MP	Jaime Stone MP
Marie Todd MSP	Marie Todd MSP
Tina Wrighton	NRS Dounreay

- 1.3. It was reported that Marco Bardelli was retiring. His replacement, Graeme Paget gave his apologies.
- 1.4. The Chair thanked Marco on behalf of the CTF for his valuable contribution and attendance at the Forum.

### 2. Minutes of last CTF meeting 08.11.23 - CTF (2023) M003

- 2.1. The minutes were approved as an accurate record of the last meeting.
- 2.2. Proposed by Cllr Willie Mackay, seconded by John Deighan.

## 3. Update on Actions

- 3.1. See Appendix A Action List for updates on actions from the last meeting.
- 3.2. All previous actions were closed, and new ones created for any outstanding actions.

Action CTF2024 M002/A001 - CTF2024 M002/A007 - See Appendix B.

3.3. New actions arising from this meeting in Appendix B.

#### 4. Review of the Forum

- 4.1. Priorities for 2024/25 (See Appendix C)
- 4.2. The Chair proposed a way forward for future meetings, with key points noted below: (assuming the renewal of funding for the Forum from Dounreay for another 3 years. An application had also been made to the Highland Council.)
  - Focus and streamlining meetings.
  - Written updates.

- More progress on matters required in between meetings.
- More proactive discussions at meetings.
- Association of Caithness Community Councils to represent all Community Councils and to act as CTF liaison.
- 4.3. The new format in 4.2 above was agreed by Forum members for future meetings.
- 4.4. It was noted that the PSO remained a key priority.
- 4.5. The Chair noted the core priorities from the February 2024 CTF Funders Report in Appendix C and reminded Forum members that some lobbying would be required again as COVID had meant some issues and challenges previously addressed, needed renewed action.
- 4.6. Forum members were requested to consider improvements the CTF should lobby for regarding the A9 North of Inverness.
  - Matthew Reiss proposed the widening of sections of the roads by 18" each side, improved drainage, and straightening sections.
  - The bridge at Culgower was highlighted as a potential safety issue with larger vehicles.
  - Flooding north of Portgower and north of Storehouse of Foulis was discussed as an annual problem. Audrey John highlighted that flood mitigation measures at Golspie should be considered as well, as flooding posed a risk of Caithness being isolated.
  - Frank Roach reported that the HITRANS Road Transport Strategy would be out for consultation soon and should have evidence of traffic patterns.
  - Jonathan Gunn noted that a flood analysis of the sewers by Scottish Water in Thurso at Traill Street would be done by April.
  - Cllr Willie Mackay raised a concern over the ongoing issue of speeding at Latheronwheel. The CTF would discuss the potential for a reduction of speed limit from 60mph to 40mph with Graeme Paget at Transport Scotland.
  - Cllr Matthew Reiss mentioned the potential need for improvements to the B roads if the Flow Country was given World Heritage Status as an increase in tourism and educational trips would be expected.

# Action CTF2024 M002/A008 - Forum members to feedback on 24/25 Priorities with requests for consideration.

4.7. Cllr Raymond Bremner raised the importance of backing up requests with data and evidence. The distinction between capital infrastructure investment and repair and maintenance works should be considered. He noted a Highland Council meeting with Marco Bardelli and Graeme Paget would be held shortly to discuss these.

# Action CTF2024 M002/A009 - Cllr Raymond Bremner to feedback to the Forum after the meeting with Marco Bardelli and Graeme Paget at Transport Scotland.

4.8. In addition, David Swanson noted concern that the Scotland wide net zero aviation strategy had been lacking. The Chair confirmed that the national aviation strategy for net zero was due to be published in Spring 24. The Chair asked Dougie Cook if HIAL had any input into the forthcoming strategy.

CTF2024 M002/A010 - Dougie Cook to report back to the Forum on HIAL's input into the national aviation strategy.

CTF2024 M002/A011 - David Swanson to consult with Head of Service at Highland Council regarding their input into the Islands Connectivity Plan (ICP) response and whether Transport Scotland's strategy was on target.

### 5. Questions, Clarifications and Urgent Matters

#### Air

- 5.1. A written update was provided by HIAL (see Appendix D)
- 5.2. David Swanson reported that the flight timetable was finalised.
- 5.3. The Chair reported that there was an airport consultative committee meeting to discuss the PSO and Wick airport scheduled for 21.03.24.
- 5.4. Dougie Cook gave an update on the lack of air traffic control cover. Presently, there were 3 staff, when a complement of 5 was recommended. The resilience had been poor. Training of new staff should be complete by August. A request for recruitment had been made, however, this had been deferred, and was reported as a two- year long process from start to finish.
  - Action CTF2024 M002/A012 CCoC to write to Kevin O'Leary (HIAL C.O.O.) regarding the issues blocking and delays with recruitment requests and the risk to the PSO. The Highland Council to be copied in.
- 5.5. A written update was provided by The Highland Council for the Wick PSO (see Appendix E)
- 5.6. Cllr Raymond Bremner reported that a new PSO working group had been established in response to the points received by the Highland Council from Transport Scotland, a condition of the current funding agreement. This group would include representatives from Transport Scotland and would look at ways to address the concerns of government and grow the service.
  - He also noted that though the Highland Council were the lead body, this had to be a collaborative approach to secure the service for future years.
- 5.7. David Swanson noted that detailed statistics were required in recording passenger usage data for the service. Far North Aviation had been contracted to get a baseline of users and motivation for travel. David Swanson also reported that passenger usage was up approx. 25% this year.
- 5.8. The Chair commented that the recently held Focus North Conference raised the issue of plugging the gap between future needs and present requirements, regarding future development and major projects in the region. The Chair noted it was vital that the service was not lost in the interim.

#### Sea

- 5.9. A written update was provided by Pentland Ferries (see Appendix F)
- 5.10. Helen Inkster reported that Pentland Ferries were looking at connections from Gills Bay to Wick and also onward to Inverness.
- 5.11. David Summers noted he would happily discuss the different options available.
  - Action CTF2024 M002/A013 CCoC to send David Summers' contact details to Helen Inkster.
- 5.12. Kris Bevan gave a verbal update:
- 5.13. Passenger volumes in 2023 were up on previous year numbers to 207,163. The first few months of 2024 showed increased numbers to 2023 by 20%.

- 5.14. The MV Hamnavoe was in dry dock in January. This was successfully completed and was put back in service. The MW Hamnavoe was planned to pick up the peak timetable from 1<sup>st</sup> May to 30<sup>th</sup> September 3 trips a day Monday Saturday.
- 5.15. Northlink was involved in the ICP stakeholder group and Pentland Ferries were planning to respond.
- 5.16. Audrey John requested the timetable information from Kris Bevan for Wick Campsite.
- 5.17. A written update was provided by Scrabster Harbour Trust (see Appendix G)
- 5.18. No written update was provided by Wick Harbour Trust.

#### **Roads**

- 5.19. Sandy Mackie, Scrabster Harbour Trust raised a concern before the meeting regarding the landslip at Scrabster. Jacobs had carried out survey works and found there was still a risk of movement.
- 5.20. The concern was that with the drier weather approaching and moving towards the start of the peak season for ferry travel, the harbour was already experiencing a backup of traffic. This would increase in the coming weeks and months.
- 5.21. Limekiln turbines were scheduled to be transported through the harbour from mid-May through to October.
- 5.22. It was agreed that Graeme Paget should be contacted to determine what could be done to remove the traffic lights or increase the flow of traffic to facilitate increased volumes of ferry traffic and activity at the harbour.
- 5.23. Cllr Raymond Bremner mentioned this concern had previously been raised with Marie Todd MSP.

  The volume of the rain and drainage into it had destabilised the cliff. It would also be mentioned at a meeting with Emma Roddick MSP.
  - Action CTF2024 M002/A014 CTF to request further information and timeline in regard to removal of traffic lights by Transport Scotland at Scrabster Harbour to alleviate backlog during the Spring/Summer.
- 5.24. Concern was raised about ensuring the safety railings were reinstated at the A9/A836 Thurso Tesco junction works.
  - Action CTF2024 M002/A015 CTF to request information regarding safety railings at the junction by Tesco Thurso and enquire if re-installation of these is planned.
- 5.25. A written update was provided by The Highland Council Roads Department (see Appendix H) of the proposed capital works programme for this year.
- 5.26. Jonathan Gunn reported that the Highland Council had approved works for the next three years. The list was subject to review after the winter months. Surfacing was due to start in April.
- 5.27. The new thermal machine has been trialled in various areas. West Church Street and Cowie Lane in Thurso were part of the trial. Results of the trial looked good, the quality of the finish, the bitumen were good, and the costs of the hire was being considered.
- 5.28. Jonathan Gunn clarified that the machine heated the whole surface, and the bitumen was put straight in, not requiring a seal round the edge of the repair.
- 5.29. It was reported that surface dressing of roads cannot be done due to the limited resources.

  Surface dressing should be done within 5 years of a repair, but there were other patching works that were higher in priority.

- 5.30. Beatrice Farmer raised multiple concerns regarding the condition of the roads, including inadequate road markings, verges, numerous potholes and poor road surface conditions resulting in vehicle damage, but recognised the budget and staffing challenges present.
- 5.31. Cllr Raymond Bremner reported that no additional money for the roads had been requested from the government. However, £60m has been allocated for the next 3 years. There was a Highland Investment Plan due in May 2024 that the Council would be looking at.
- 5.32. Frank Roach reported that the Strategic Timber Transport Scheme (STTS) budget had been cut from £7m to £2m.
- 5.33. Cllr Raymond Bremner reported that the current amount of STTS contribution to the capital programme was £0.5m and was likely to be cut.
- 5.34. Over the past 3 years there has been 100km of new roads in Caithness. The cost to dress the roads was £7per m2 compared to £20 per m2 for inlay and overlay.
- 5.35. The Chair encouraged the Highland Council to put out positive publicity and improve the communication regarding work that had been done and the roads and maintenance plan.
  - Action CTF2024 M002/A016 Cllr Raymond Bremner to discuss the Highland Council's communication to the public regarding the maintenance and repair programme.
- 5.36. Cllr Ron Gunn made the Forum aware of the harassment and cyber bullying on social media towards road workers. The Forum agreed that the harassment was unacceptable and that improved communication from the Highland Council was needed.
- 5.37. The Forum discussed the confusion and problems from the public associated with the claims and insurance procedures with regards to damaged vehicles from the roads. Forum members requested clarification on the process to enable the public to submit the correct information for a positive claim.
  - Action CTF2024 M002/A017 Cllr Raymond Bremner to raise the issue of clarifying the insurance and claims process for the public at the next monthly roads meeting.
- 5.38. Cllr Raymond Bremner stated that the Highland Council were doing their best to recover the situation that had been due to a long period of underinvestment in the roads.
- 5.39. Jonathan Gunn reported that all claims come out of the roads budget. The Roads Inspector must have identified the area for repair and the Council's liability depends on the date when the issue was reported and was due to be resolved.
- 5.40. Cllr Matthew Reiss confirmed that the Road Scotland Act states there was a legal duty to manage and maintain the roads. He reported that almost £34m a year was needed to maintain the current state of the roads. This had increased from costs of £26m, and only between £20m to £22m had been spent in the past few years. One HGV does the same damage to road conditions as approximately one thousand cars.
- 5.41. Cllr Raymond Bremner reported that the whole road system in the Highland was under review at the re-design board. In addition, he confirmed the Transient Visitor Levy would be introduced to increase revenue to counteract the impact of tourism on the roads network.

#### Bus

5.42. A written update was provided by Stagecoach (see Appendix I).

- 5.43. Robert Gillespie reported that the first of 6 new buses should be arriving at the end of the month. The seating format would be two seats either side of the aisle. Summer timetables were not available at the time of the meeting.
- 5.44. David Summers reported that the numbers using Bus route 82 were steady.
- 5.45. Cllr Willie Mackay complimented Stagecoach's timekeeping to the timetable.
- 5.46. The Chair reported that Aaron's of Wick had been invited to attend the CTF but had not taken up the invitation.
- 5.47. David Swanson raised the issue of a missed bus connection at the UHI North, West and Hebrides Thurso campus. David Summers agreed to take the discussion offline.
  - Action CTF2024 M002/A018 David Swanson and David Summers to discuss the missing bus connection at the UHI North, West and Hebrides Thurso campus.
- 5.48. Cllr Raymond Bremner enquired about when the X99 buses would return to use the Riverside bus stop in Wick. A discussion was had regarding the new style buses potentially not stopping at the Riverside stop due to the design of the bus.

Action CTF2024 M002/A019 – Stagecoach to confirm when the X99 would return to the Riverside bus stop.

#### Rail

- 5.49. No written update was provided by Scotrail. Ryan Savage reported he would compile an update.
- 5.50. A concern from John Deighan was addressed regarding an incident on the line south of Tain where passengers were offloaded at a level crossing in November. The Fire Brigade had to evacuate the train in this situation and there was a delay to sort out alternative transport.
- 5.51. Ryan Savage reported that Scotrail were considering alternative transport as the reliability of bus and taxi availability varied. The Chair recommended the expedition of suitable alternative transport due to the remote locations passengers could be stranded in on the Far North Line.
- 5.52. Frank Roach experienced connection issues during the meeting and was unable to discuss the issues he wanted to raise.
  - Action CTF2024 M002/A020 Frank Roach to email Laura at <a href="mailto:comms@caithnesschamber.com">comms@caithnesschamber.com</a> with comments and questions on the Scotrail update.
- 5.53. The proposal to have a starlight satellite broadband system on trains north of Inverness would potentially be rolled out within the next 12-24 months.
- 5.54. A written update was provided by FNLCRP (see Appendix J).
- 5.55. Michael Willmot noted that there was an event to celebrate the 150<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Far North Line in June. An event was also planned in July in Wick and he requested to be connected with Friends of the Far North to coordinate celebrations.
- 5.56. Ian Budd reported that the Wick group had spoken to Scotrail/Network Rail to get a special service on the actual anniversary date.
  - Action CTF2024 M002/A021 Ryan Savage, Ian Budd and Michael Willmot to meet and discuss planned exhibitions and celebrations of 150th anniversary of the Far North Line.
- 5.57. The Chair noted the CTF would be happy to help promote that event.

5.58. Ryan Savage noted that the Highland Tourism group had been resurrected and Alistair Smart had started Scotrail's Inspiration Hub website, looking for groups, people, places to attract tourism to the local area.

Action CTF2024 M002/A022 – Ryan Savage to email CCoC with information and requests from the Highland Tourism group for sending to the Community Councils.

#### Other

- 5.59. A written update was provided by Focus North (see Appendix K).
- 5.60. The Urban Foresight Transport Study was circulated to members.
- 5.61. The Chair gave a summary on transport solutions from the report. Dounreay and the Highland Council were discussing contracts in an effort to work together. A Pilot project for Employment for Transport had been discussed with the Transport Minister, however, no funding was available in the coming financial year.
- 5.62. The Chair reported that Cllr Richard Gale was taking forward transport initiatives in Sutherland.
- 5.63. The Focus North conference was positive, interest and new opportunities coming forward.

### 6. Any Other Business

6.1. Michael Willmot reported that the Committee for Climate Change published the report on progress of reducing emissions in Scotland. The Government had to achieve a 4-fold increase in reductions to hit the 2030 target.

### 7. Date of Next Meeting

- 7.1. The next meeting was provisionally booked for **Tuesday 18 June 2024** both in person and virtually.
- 7.2. There being no further business, the Chair thanked everyone and closed the meeting.

**Trudy Morris** 

Chair

20 March 2024

# Appendix A – Actions from last meeting

Date	Action reference	Action Details	Actionee	Status	Meeting Updates
22/06/2023	CTF2023 M002/A001	Chair to respond to Paul Flynn regarding information on the Island Connectivity Plan (ICP).  The Chair expressed disappointment that a representative from the Ferries Directorate was unable to attend the meeting. An update has been provided and circulated. (Appendix A)  The Chair said the CTF would continue to pursue the issue of the delay to the rollout of the RET on Northern Isles Ferry services.	Chair	Closed	Meeting update 20.03.24 - Action closed. This was taken forward with Fiona Hislop at the meeting held in January 24. She is still committed to RET.  The Chair noted key points of the consultation, sent by Helen Inkster, for consideration.  See action CTF2024 M001/A001
22/06/2023	CTF2023 M002/A002	David Summers to send contacts to the Chair regarding representatives from Highland Council contributing to the Island Connectivity Plan (ICP).  David Summers update 11.03.24: I can involve colleagues as appropriate to the topic	David Summers	Closed	Meeting update 20.03.24 - Action closed.
22/06/2023	CTF2023 M002/A003	The Chair to facilitate a meeting with John MacQuarrie, Scottish Rail Holdings, the Far North Community Rail Partnership and the Forum.  The meeting was planned to take place in Helmsdale on 23.11.23	Chair	Closed	Meeting update 20.03.24 - Action closed. Meeting was held. The CRP Model in Scotland differs from the one in England that John MacQuarrie is sympathetic to adopting. Michael Willmot is awaiting a response from John regarding CRP in Scotland.

### ACTIONS – last meeting

Date	Action reference	Action Details	Actionee	Status	Meeting Updates
22/06/2023	CTF2023 M002/A008	Cllr Willie Mackay to follow up with contact details of the Landlord / Estate Manager. Chair to follow up with letter regarding complaint and request for information on plans to address issues.  Cllr Willie Mackay updated 12.07.23: The Thurso car park was Highland Council owned and the maintenance responsibility remained with Highland Council, the managing service was listed as Communities and Place – General Fund. Highland Council Roads Department had been asked to quote for repairing the car park but have declined due to capacity and commitment to spend all of the Capital Budget for the year.  Cllr Willie Mackay stressed this issue was on the agenda for the Highland Council, but current fiscal constraints meant the item was lower on the priority list than other areas.  Cllr Mathew Reiss commented that some temporary "goodwill" repairs had been made to the car park after complaints were made and suggested a letter to be sent to Highland Council Roads Department, Communities and Place – General Fund.	Cllr Willie Mackay	Closed	Meeting update 20.03.24 - Action closed. See CTF2023 M003/A001
22/06/2023	CTF2023 M002/A009	David Summers to liaise with Dougie Cook regarding longer bus layovers at the airport.  David Summers update 06.11.23 Aaron's of Wick agreed that the connection time was tight. There has been difficulty in maintaining connections with the flights and the Gills Bay ferry, but they were going to suggest a solution. Discussion to be continued.  David Summers update 11.03.24: Aaron's have sent me a draft timetable which I have reviewed. It includes connections (Mon to Fri) with both outgoing flights and one incoming flight. I am meeting Aaron's after the Forum meeting to finalise the timetable.	David Summers	Closed	Meeting update 20.03.24 - Action Closed. David Summers to provide an update following the meeting with Aaron's.  See Action CTF2024 M002/A006

### ACTIONS – last meeting

Date	Action reference	Action Details	Actionee	Status	Meeting Updates
22/06/2023	CTF2023 M002/A010	David Summers to see if a combined timetable can be printed and copies distributed. David Summers updated 06.11.23 - Paused while timetable revisions were under consideration but would progress once agreed. <b>David Summers update 11.03.24</b> : I am meeting Aaron's after the Forum to finalise the timetable changes. We will then produce combined timetables.	David Summers	Closed	Meeting update 20.03.24 - Action Closed. David Summers to provide an update following the meeting with Aaron's.See Action CTF2024 M002/A007
22/06/2023	CTF2023 M002/A012	Chair to follow up with John MacQuarrie, Scottish Rail Holdings at a meeting with regards to catering services, Delmore Loop and franchise plans for Caledonian Sleeper.  The meeting was planned to take place in Helmsdale on 23.11.23 at 2pm. An invitation had been circulated to Forum Members. An update on this meeting would be provided at the next meeting of the CTF, scheduled for March 2024	Chair	Superseded	Meeting update 20.03.24 - Action Superseded. Meeting was held. The Chair followed up with the minister and a decision regarding the funding for the Delmore Loop will be made in late Spring 24. CTF requested additional catering services in the winter months. Scotrail to consider recruiting year round jobs to enable this.  Superseded by Action CTF2024 M002/A003
08/11/2023	CTF2023 M003/A001	Chair to send a letter to Chief Executive / Head of Roads department raising concerns over the conditions of what is perceived as the busiest car parks in Thurso (Co-op Car Park and Tennis Court Car Park)	Chair	Closed	Meeting update 20.03.24 - The Roads department are not responsible for the repairs to car parks. Christopher Holmes in the property department is the contact regarding these. Cllr Matthew Reiss reported that the Highland Council do not want to release any money to maintain the car parks. Previous repairs have been done under goodwill gestures and are not budgeted for. Cllr Raymond Bremner proposed that Thurso councillors look at their funding. Wick councillors brought money in from their available funds for the Riverside Car Park.

### ACTIONS – last meeting

Date	Action reference	Action Details	Actionee	Status	Meeting Updates
08/11/2023	CTF2023 M003/A002	Ryan Savage to update on options for improved communication methods.  Fiona Campbell Updated 11.03.24: Yes, the communications team have been excellent at ensuring as much detail as possible is put out to customers during disruption. The staff have all been briefed on the latest technology e.g. arrakis, twitter (X). Most staff have even created twitter accounts now, so that they are always up to date with the info being given to customers. Sometimes customers and staff received a similar message but put across in a different way. This lets staff see both sides and be better informed.	Ryan Savage	Closed	Meeting update 20.03.24 - Ryan Savage gave an update that all staff will be briefed on communication in an attempt to standardise the information given to the public to avoid potential confusion between methods.

# Appendix B – Actions arising from this meeting

Action reference	Meeting Item	Action Details	Actionee	Additional Comments
CTF2024 M002/A001	ICP	CTF to respond to the consultation of the Island Connectivity Plan (ICP) to ensure the Caithness side of the Pentland Firth is considered. All members to provide feedback to Laura at comms@caithnesschamber.com by COP Thursday 6th April 2024.	Complete	Response required by: COP Thursday 6th April 2024 (Related to Action CTF 2023 M002/A001) Chair attended Transport Scotland Consultation Event held in Stromness on 29.04.24
CTF2024 M002/A002	ICP	CCoC to formally respond to the ICP consultation with member's feedback.	Complete	(Related to Action CTF 2024 M002/A001 above) Response submitted: 06.05.24
CTF2024 M002/A003	Rail	CCoC to follow up with John MacQuarrie, Scottish Rail Holdings with regards to the franchise plans for Caledonian Sleeper.	CCoC	(Supersedes Action CTF2023 M002/A012)
CTF2024 M002/A004	Rail	Ryan Savage to check the updates to the summer programme regarding catering services.	Ryan Savage	Laura - Awaiting a response
CTF2024 M002/A005	Roads	Fiona Richardson to establish who the owning service is of Thurso Co-op Car Park.	Fiona Richardson	
CTF2024 M002/A006	Bus/Air	David Summers to feedback to the CCoC from the meeting with Aaron's regarding the timetable and longer bus layovers at the airport.	David Summers	
CTF2024 M002/A007	Bus	David Summers to produce combined timetable for printing and copies to be distributed.	David Summers	
CTF2024 M002/A008	Priorities	Forum members to feedback on 24/25 Priorities with requests for consideration.	All CTF Members	
CTF2024 M002/A009	Priorities	Cllr Raymond Bremner to feedback to the Forum after the meeting with Marco Bardelli and Graeme Paget at Transport Scotland.	Cllr Raymond Bremner	
CTF2024 M002/A010	Air	Dougie Cook to report back to the Forum on HIAL's input into the national aviation strategy.	Dougie Cook	
CTF2024 M002/A011	Air	David Swanson to consult with Head of Service at Highland Council regarding their input into the Islands Connectivity Plan	David Swanson	

Action reference	Meeting Item	Action Details	Actionee	Additional Comments
		(ICP) response and whether Transport Scotland's strategy was on target.		
CTF2024 M002/A012	Air	CCoC to write to Kevin O'Leary (HIAL C.O.O.) regarding the issues blocking and delays with recruitment requests and the risk to the PSO. The Highland Council to be copied in.	CCoC	Laura 25.03.24 - Awaiting a response. Laura chased 15.04.24
CTF2024 M002/A013	Sea	CCoC to send David Summers' contact details to Helen Inkster.	Helen Inkster	CCoC to send David Summers info to Helen Inkster - Complete

Action reference	Meeting Item	Action Details	Actionee	Additional Comments
CTF2024 M002/A014	Roads/ Sea	CTF to request further information and timeline in regard to removal of traffic lights by Transport Scotland at Scrabster Harbour to alleviate backlog during the Spring/Summer.	CCoC	Update from Graeme Paget 12.04.24 - Site investigations undertaken by the geotechnical specialists last Friday determined that it is not possible to remove all loose material from the slope using mechanical means alone, due to the distances involved and the limited reach of the largest of plant available. This means that loose material at the highest points will have to be moved down the slope by operatives using roped access and high pressure lances. BEAR are in the process of obtaining quotations for these works, now that they understand the methodology involved, and aim to complete the work by the 15th May when I understand that the abnormal load movements are planned. In the meantime, I have asked BEAR to review the traffic management arrangements to determine if a "Priority" system can be safely achieved whereby the traffic signals could be removed, the overall length of traffic management shortened and signage installed giving priority to traffic heading uphill. I'll have more information about this early next week. Update from Sandy Mackie 23.04.24 - The cones and traffic lights were removed around lunchtime yesterday, but the blocks remain in place. Signage is in place giving priority to traffic leaving the harbour.

Action reference	Meeting Item	Action Details	Actionee	Additional Comments
CTF2024 M002/A015	Roads	CTF to request information regarding safety railings at the junction by Tesco Thurso and enquire if re-installation of these is planned.	ССоС	Graeme Paget response - Feedback from the Road safety team indicated that whilst the scheme is substantially complete, there are still some outstanding works to carry out, including some footway works and road markings, which are due for completion by the end of April. There is a general presumption against installing pedestrian guardrail in the design of new crossings such as this, however each location is assessed independently and a Road Users Safety Audit is now being planned in the coming few weeks to help determine if the guardrail should be installed. Finally, we have raised the issues regarding the crossing timings and the filter lights with the traffic signals installers (Yunex) and asked them to review these to determine if improvements can be made to address the concerns your members have raised. We can monitor this over the coming weeks and feedback accordingly.
CTF2024 M002/A016	Roads	Cllr Raymond Bremner to discuss the Highland Council's communication to the public regarding the maintenance and repair programme.	Cllr Raymond Bremner	
CTF2024 M002/A017	Roads	Cllr Raymond Bremner to raise the issue of clarifying the insurance and claims process for the public at the next monthly roads meeting.	Cllr Raymond Bremner	
CTF2024 M002/A018	Bus	David Swanson and David Summers to discuss the missing bus connection at the UHI North, West and Hebrides Thurso campus.	David Swanson/ David Summers	
CTF2024 M002/A019	Bus	Stagecoach to confirm when the X99 would return to the Riverside bus stop.	Robert Gilespie	

Action reference	Meeting Item	Action Details	Actionee	Additional Comments
CTF2024 M002/A020	Rail	Frank Roach to email Laura at comms@caithnesschamber.com with comments and questions on the Scotrail update.	Frank Roach	
CTF2024 M002/A021	Rail	Ryan Savage, Ian Budd and Michael Willmot to meet and discuss planned exhibitions and celebrations of 150th anniversary of the Far North Line.	Ryan Savage/ Ian Budd/ Michael Willmot	
CTF2024 M002/A022	Rail	Ryan Savage to email CCoC with information and requests from the Highland Tourism group for sending to the Community Councils.	Ryan Savage/ CCoC	

### Appendix C – Key Priorities for 2024/25

#### General

One of the key priorities for 2024/25 will working with the Highland Council and PSO sub-group to ensure a case can be made for continued funding for the PSO and encourage development of a new route to Edinburgh.

Other priorities will include:

#### Road

- To engage with CTF members and other local stakeholders to identify future areas for investment on the A9 north of Inverness and to lobby Transport Scotland for these to be addressed.
- To work with all stakeholders to ensure maintenance of county's road network in light of declining public-sector budgets, and to lobby for sufficient resource to be provided to address the backlog of works required.
- Push for solutions to the flooding in Traill Street, Thurso.

#### Rail

- To work with the new Far North Community Rail Partnership to lobby for sustained improvement of the basic service provision on the Far North Line with regards to reliability, journey times, quality of rolling stock, etc., as well as to look at future enhancements to the service.
- To continue to lobby for catering services on rail services all year round.

#### Air

- To continue to work with Scottish Government, HITRANS, and other stakeholders to work on the ambition for net-zero aviation in the Highlands & Islands by 2040, and to lobby for Wick to be a key part of these ambitions and to be a testbed for new technological solutions.
- Attend the Wick John O'Groats Airport Consultative meetings to represent the Forum.

#### Sea

• To continue to lobby Transport Scotland to ensure that a solution is found which enables the commitment to deliver Road Equivalent Tariff on the Northern Isles Ferry Services is upheld.

### Appendix D - Wick John O'Groats Airport



#### **Public Service Obligation (PSO)**

Further 12 months funding until March 2025 has been confirmed.

#### **Aviation Statistics**

#### Statistics for HIAL:

February 2024: Year to date passenger numbers have increased by 4% against February 2023.

February 2023: Aircraft movements are static compared to last year with a reduction of -0.8% on 2023.

#### **Statistics for Wick JOG:**

Passengers, February 2024 v 2023 26% increase, YTD 22% increase, the forecast to end of year is over 11k pax.

Aircraft movements down -16% on Feb 2023, YTD -5% the forecast is just over 3k movements this year.

#### **Ongoing works**

This year's maintenance budget has been approved with no specific areas of concentration.

#### **Projects update**

The new de-icer trailer and tractor mounted sprayer for winter operations have both been delivered.

Delivery of a new vehicle for security is expected for the end of the month.

Our environmental consultants Ricardo were on site in February and plan to present their findings on the drainage system next month.

#### **Audits and Safety meetings**

The CAA will be at the airport 18<sup>th</sup>-20<sup>th</sup> March for an air traffic audit.

#### AIR - HIAL UPDATE

#### **Staffing levels**

ATC staffing is currently reduced to three operational ATCO's.

Our two ATC trainees are progressing well through their validation training. Their validations are now expected for August 2024.

#### **Opening hours**

The reduced staffing levels in ATC means the requirement for tactical closures of the airport throughout the day remains in place.

We were forced to close the airport on Sunday 10<sup>th</sup> March due to the staff shortages in ATC and a member of staff off sick. We continue to manage the staffing as best we can and minimise any disruption.

Eastern Airways and other stakeholders have been informed of the issues we face and will continue to receive regular updates.

The 24/7 cover for emergency flights remains unchanged.

#### **Dougie Cook**

HIAL

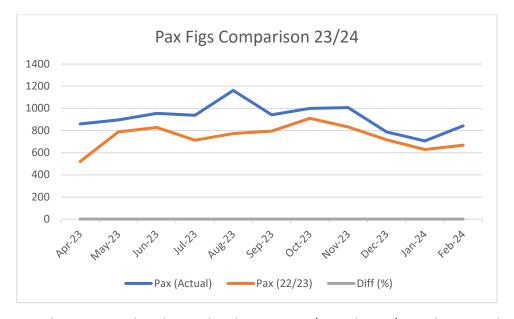
### **Appendix E – Wick PSO**

# Wick PSO update

### Year 2 summary to date

Passenger figures have seen a substantial and consistent rise across the whole of the second year of operation – as of February 2024 the service has carried just over 10,000 passengers in 2023/24.

Month	Pax (Actual)	Pax (22/23)	Diff (%)
Apr-23	859	520	65%
May-23	896	788	14%
Jun-23	955	828	15%
Jul-23	938	712	32%
Aug-23	1162	773	50%
Sep-23	942	794	19%
Oct-23	1000	910	10%
Nov-23	1007	832	21%
Dec-23	787	716	10%
Jan-24	706	628	12%
Feb-24	843	668	26%



Travel patterns are largely correlated across 2022/23 and 2023/24, indicating a clearly seasonal demand pattern. One notable differentiator can be seen in August 2023, when a trial was undertaken and heavily promoted to offer every seat on the service at a flat fare of £49.99. While the outcome of this trial was successful with regards to increasing passenger numbers, it also resulted in a substantial drop in average revenue which, if continued, would prove financially unsustainable in the long run. The Council and the operator continue to work together to examine ways to boost passenger numbers on the route while ensuring that the service develops towards long-term sustainability.

### Funding for 2024/25

Following a period of significant uncertainty regarding the funding for the service beyond 31<sup>st</sup> March 2024, on 20<sup>th</sup> February 2024 the Council received a letter from Transport Scotland confirming that their contribution towards the PSO of £1m per annum would continue into 2024/25. The Council itself remains committed to offering its contribution of £0.3m per annum for both 2024/25 and 2025/26.

As part of a wider review of the long-term sustainability not just of the PSO route, but of Wick John O'Groats Airport, Transport Scotland have requested that a Working Group be set up to address the various challenges and opportunities here. The Council has had an early-stage discussion with Transport Scotland on the constitution of the group, and hopes to hold the first meeting in mid-April.

### Performance and Reliability

Performance and reliability over the period from November to February 2024 has been largely in line with expectations, given the weather-related challenges over the period – notably heavy snow and ice in January. The relatively low number of cancellations during this period is credit to the hard work of the team at Wick John O'Groats Airport in keeping the airport open in the face of challenging conditions.

Month	Planned	Operated	%Operated	CANX Reasons	Reliability (controllable)		ОТР
Nov-23	96	94	98%	2 x Operational 2 x Weather		98%	67%
Dec-23	78	72	93%	4 x Operational 8 x Weather		95%	64% Data not
Jan-24	78	66	85%	4 x Operational		93%	available
Feb-24	92	84	91%	4 x Weather 2 x Operational 2 x Crew		96%	Data not available

## Schedule Updates

The previously advised winter schedule, operating from 23<sup>rd</sup> December to 14<sup>th</sup> January inclusive, with a period of two weeks in January offering a single daily rotation, appears to have again been successful. As can be seen above, passenger growth was maintained at the expected rate by comparison to 2022/23, and the single daily rotation both mitigated against risks both financially (not operating flights with a low or zero number of passengers) and operationally (moving operations within daylight hours).

The summer schedule (1 April-31 Oct 2024) has been reviewed to assess onward/inbound connectivity at Aberdeen Airport and, as of the date of this report, no significant changes are expected to be made.

**David Swanson** 

**HIGHLAND COUNCIL** 

### **Appendix F – Pentland Ferries**



MV Pentalinas annual refit has been completed for 2024 and the vessel will continue in service on the Pentland Firth route until September 2024. The vessel will operate 3 returns sailings a day on the same scheduled timetable as present throughout this time.

MV Alfred has also competed the 2024 refit period and remains in operation for CalMac on the Clyde and Hebrides network until September 2024.

The introduction of our self-funded Resident Discount Scheme (RDS) has been well received by Orkney residents. We are delighted to be in a position to now extend the scheme until end of October 2024. We very much hope this assists Orkney residents with the cost of travel on and off the islands. The scheme was rolled out in addition to the fare freeze we have in place until April 2025.

Recruitment of seafaring personnel is challenging at present. We are currently recruiting for various ranks and ratings on a permanent, relief and temporary basis.

**Helen Inkster** 

**Managing Director Pentland Ferries** 

20th March 2024

### Appendix G - Scrabster Harbour Trust



Scrabster Harbour is managed and operated by Scrabster Harbour Trust, established in 1841 and governed by its own legislation. The Trust seeks to serve the local community and all surpluses created are reinvested into the port.



#### 1. PORT ACTIVITY

The Trust is having a particularly strong trading year with record revenues forecast. The activity highlights for the ten-month period to 31st January 2024 are as follows.

- Total vessel arrivals 1,808. An increase of 3% on the previous year.
- Total vessel tonnage 7.758 million tonnes. Again, an increase of 3% on the previous year.
- Ferry Passenger numbers totalled 195,350 with the 200,000 figure being passed in early February. This is an increase of 29.5% on the corresponding period in 2022-23.
- Fish box landings amounted to 239,658 boxes, a decrease of 12% on last year. The decline arises from reduced consigned landings partly offset by an increase in landings through the Scrabster Market.

#### SEA – SCRABSTER HARBOUR TRUST UPDATE

- General cargo volumes amounted to 61,470 tonnes, a 77% increase on last year. The total includes timber, road salt, electrical transformers, wind turbine components and rock bags for offshore cable protection.
- Faroes fish cargo volumes are 50% lower than last year reflecting disruption to the sailing schedule earlier in the financial year.
- Fuel deliveries by coastal tanker amount to 27,955 tonnes, a 18% decline on the prior year level.
- Offshore Energy activity involved 67 vessels with a registered tonnage of 316,913 tonnes.

#### 2. LOOKING AHEAD & OTHER MATTERS

Upcoming activity and issues at the port include the following.

• The Trust's application to be designated as a Border Control Post (BCP) has reached the final stages. Animal and Plant Health Agency (APHA) visited Scrabster on 4<sup>th</sup> March 2024 to inspect the facilities. A decision on the application is expected next month ahead of the introduction of full import checks on 30<sup>th</sup> April 2024.



• The Scrabster cruise season is expected to begin on 23<sup>rd</sup> April with the scheduled arrival of the German vessel AidaSol. The season runs until early August with eighteen vessels currently expected.

#### SEA – SCRABSTER HARBOUR TRUST UPDATE

- The importation of wind turbine components for the Limekiln development is expected to commence in mid-May with the shipping programme ending at the beginning of October. Components for twenty-four turbines will pass through the port. The port will be particularly busy during this period.
- The ferry peak season sailing schedule will begin on 1<sup>st</sup> May and end on 30<sup>th</sup> September.
- Following the landslip on 27<sup>th</sup> December 2023, traffic lights remain in place at the entrance corner to the port. There does not appear to have been any further movement of material since December. With Easter and the peak sailing schedule fast approaching, plus the upcoming abnormal transports for the Limekiln project, the Trust has requested for the lights to be removed.
- For the safety of port users and the public, automatic access barriers will be installed on the St. Ola and Jubilee Piers to restrict access to authorised persons and vehicles.

**Sandy Mackie** 

15<sup>th</sup> March 2024

# **Appendix H – The Highland Council**

Caithness Prioritised List - Capital Works 2024/2025

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	2024/2025	Activity	Route	Road Name/Location	Average	Scheme	Total Area	Cost per	Estimated Cost
Priority	Priority				Width (m)	Length (m)	(m²)	(m²)	to Lay
82	1	Overlay	U2460	Newfield farm Road	3	400	1200	£20	£24,000.00
60	2	Surface dressing		Lybster Achavanich Road	3	1100	3300	£7	£23,100.00
69 70	3 4	Overlay	U2884 U2884	Olrig Mains	3	560 1010	1680 3030	£20 £20	£33,600.00 £60,600.00
84	5	Overlay Overlay	U1477	Olrig Mains Coolhill Road	3	470	1410	£20	£28,200.00
310	6	Overlay	A99	Reiss Lodge	6	610	3660	£20	£73,200.00
	7	Overlay	U2124	Achavarn Westfield Road	3	750	2250	£20	£45,000.00
	8	Overlay	A882	Wick Georgemas Road	6	1200	7200	£20	£144,000.00
122	9	Overlay	U1462	Upper Keiss Road	3	375	1125	£20	£22,500.00
	10	Overlay	A836	Haygarth Gun Shop	5	300	1500	£20	£30,000.00
	11	Inlay	B855	Brough Village	2.2	450	990	£25	£24,750.00
	12	Inlay	U5063	Sir John's Square	6	46	276	£25	£6,900.00
	13	Overlay	B870	Scotscalder to Mybster	3	100	300	£20	£6,000.00
	14	Surface dressing	U1222	Ulbster Mains	3	837	2511	£7	£17,577.00
	15	Overlay	B870	Scotscalder to Mybster	3	393	1179	£20	£23,580.00
	16	Overlay	U1082	Latheronwheel Braehungie	3	306	918	£20	£18,360.00
	17	Inlay	U1082	Guidebest Road	3	90	270	£25	£6,750.00
329	18	Overlay	U2225	Murkle Sibmister Road	3	400	1200	£20	£24,000.00
323	19	Inlay	U3494	St Fergus Road	6	220	1320	£25	£33,000.00
279	20	Inlay	C1073	Harbour Terrace	6	150	900	£25	£22,500.00
309	21	Overlay	B876	Killimster turn off to Biggins	6	1000	6000	£20	£120,000.00
	22	Overlay	U1660	Brough	3	60	180	£20	£3,600.00
180	23	Inlay	U3805	Union St, Wick	9	80	720	£25	£18,000.00
181	24 25	Overlay	U2465 U1806	March Road, Wick Oldhall 36	3	370 150	1110 450	£20 £20	£22,200.00 £9,000.00
		Overlay			_				•
	26	Inlay	U3583	Loch Street	6	340	2040	£25	£51,000.00
4	27	Inlay	C1093	Keiss Village Harbour Road	6	335	2010	£25	£50,250.00
147	28 29	Overlay Overlay	U1871 U2134	Halkirk to Plocan Achscrabster Road	3	800 900	2400 2700	£20 £20	£48,000.00 £54,000.00
27	30	•	U1868		_	900 1140	3420	£20	£68,400.00
27 54	31	Overlay Overlay	U1862	Hoy Pumping Station Road Braal Castle Road Halkirk	3	500	1500	£20	£30,000.00
71	32	Overlay	C1069	Poolhoy to Wester	3	860	2580	£20	£51,600.00
72	33	Overlay	u1256	Achairn	3	940	2820	£20	£56,400.00
80	34	Overlay	U1182	Gordons Road, Clyth	3	370	1110	£20	£22,200.00
81 83	35	Overlay	U2416	Northfield, Hempriggs	3	600	1800	£20	£36,000.00
109	36 37	Overlay Overlay	U1376 B870	Killimster Westerloch Road Mybster Watten Road	3	206 500	618 1500	£20 £20	£12,360.00 £30,000.00
149	38	Overlay	U1113	Upper Lybster	3	200	600	£20	£12,000.00
150		Overlay	U1165	Occumster Harbour	3	620	1860	£20	£37,200.00
87	40	Overlay	U4729	Sandside Road	3	230	690	£20	£13,800.00
	41	Overlay	U1617	Gills Harbour	3	100	300	£20	£6,000.00
	42	Inlay	A99	JOG to Harbour	3	451	1353	£25	£33,825.00
	43	Overlay	C1010	Ham Mill	3	200	600	£20	£12,000.00
208	44	Inlay	U2305	Smiddy's Lane	3	170	510	£25	£12,750.00
209	45	Inlay	U2220	Castletown-Stonegunn	6	186	1116	£25	£27,900.00
210	46 47	Inlay Overlay	U2245 U1731	Murrayfield lane Tain	3	53 275	159 825	£25 £20	£3,975.00 £16,500.00
7	48	Inlay	A99	Wick to John O'Groats	1.2	850	1020	£25	£25,500.00
<u> </u>	49	Overlay	U1664	Brough	3	133	399	£20	£7,980.00
	50	Overlay	U1811	Laid Road	3	500	1500	£20	£30,000.00
14	51	Overlay	U1823	Westerdale to Lochmore	3	2000	6000	£20	£120,000.00
	52	Inlay	A99	Bridge Street	6	200	1200	£25	£30,000.00
	53	Inlay	A99	Geroge Street	6	300	1800	£25	£45,000.00
196	54	Overlay	U1621	Annies bakery to junction	3	210	630	£20	£12,600.00
195	55	Overlay	A99	Southbound lane JOG south 40's	3	30	90	£20	£1,800.00
238	56	Inlay	U4078/U3989/U 4034	Lythmore Road	6	300	1800	£25	£45,000.00
274	57	Inlay	U3455	Argyll square	3	100	300	£25	£7,500.00
286	58	Inlay	C1041	BRoadhaven Road	6	220	1320	£25	£33,000.00
288	59	Inlay	C1041	Papigoe Road	6	600	3600	£25	£90,000.00
	60	Overlay	U2819	Brough Road, Hempriggs Row	3	140	420	£20	£8,400.00
	61	Overlay	U1226	Long Greens Road	3	112	336	£20	£6,720.00
33		Overlay	C1021	Balnabruich Braemore	3	1767	5301	£20	£106,020.00
107 108	63 64	Surface dressing Surface dressing		Wick Georgemas Wick Georgemas	6 6	1800 600	10800 3600	£7 £7	£75,600.00 £25,200.00
143	65	Surface dressing		Orkney View	6	370	2220	£7	£15,540.00
144	66	Surface dressing	U5492	Murkle View	6	220	1320	£7	£9,240.00
111	67	Surface dressing	A836	Thurso to Reay	6	800	4800	£7	£33,600.00
116	68	Surface dressing		Westerdale to Halkirk	5	2000	10000	£7	£70,000.00
36 38	69 70	Surface dressing Surface dressing		Baikie Place, Thrumster Stroupster Road, Nybster	6	60 1110	360 3330	£7 £7	£2,520.00 £23,310.00
39	70	Surface dressing		Hill of Dunnet	3	500	1500	£7	£10,500.00
40	72	Surface dressing	U1324	Mowat Place Papigoe	6	100	600	£7	£4,200.00
41	73	Surface dressing	U3787	Hen Street / Langley park	4.5	180	810	£7	£5,670.00
42	74	Surface dressing		Falconer Waters Court, Thurso	6	260	1560	£7	£10,920.00
43	75	Surface dressing		Shebster to Shurrery	3	2300	6900	£7	£48,300.00
44		Overlay	U1927	Brawlbin to Shurrery	3	1330	3990	£20	£79,800.00
45 46		Inlay Inlay	U3551 U3523	Hill Avenue Glamis Road	7	40 130	280 910	£25 £25	£7,000.00 £22,750.00
46	78	Inlay	C1073	Northcote st	6	300	1800	£25	£45,000.00
48	80	Inlay	U3661	West Banks Terrace	6	30	180	£25	£4,500.00
51	81	Overlay	U2188	Weydale	3	350	1050	£20	£21,000.00
53 63	82	Inlay	U1841	George st Halkirk	5.5	220	1210	£25	£30,250.00
62 63	83 84	Surface dressing Inlay	U1656 U3517	Hill of Rattar Dunnett Avenue, Wick	3 6	870 200	2610 1200	£7 £25	£18,270.00 £30,000.00
- 03	U <del>-1</del>	muy	03317	Dannett Avenue, WICK		200	1200	LZJ	±30,000.00

2023/2024	-	Activity	Route	Road Name/Location	Average	Scheme	Total Area	Cost per	Estimated Cost
Priority 64	Priority 85	Inlay	U1344	Airport Road	Width (m)	Length (m) 100	(m²) 300	(m²) £25	to Lay £7,500.00
65 67	86	Inlay	U2485 U1727	Wick airport industrial estate Reaster to Bowermadden	6.5	200 180	1300 540	£25 £20	£32,500.00 £10,800.00
68	88	Overlay Surface dressing	U1913	Plocan - Brawlbin - Dorrery	3	1800	5400	£7	£37,800.00
73 74	89 90	Overlay Overlay	u1304 U1820	Faulds Banniskirk Road	3	560 340	1680 1020	£20 £20	£33,600.00 £20,400.00
75	91	Overlay	U2631	Braehour Road	3	200	600	£20	£12,000.00
76 77	92 93	Overlay Overlay	U1899 U1082	Tongside Road Upper Latheron Road	3	400 400	1200 1200	£20 £20	£24,000.00 £24,000.00
79	94	Overlay	U1222	Loch Sarclet	3	444	1332	£20	£26,640.00
86 56	95 96	Surface dressing Overlay	U1601 A836	JOG Mill to Stemster Thurso to John O'Groats	3 1.2	1330 1000	3990 1200	£7 £20	£27,930.00 £24,000.00
88	97	Overlay	C1085	West Gills Branch Road	3	650	1950	£20	£39,000.00
89 90		Overlay Overlay	C1033 U1625	Everley to Crockster Toll Gills Road	3	200 300	600 900	£20 £20	£12,000.00 £18,000.00
91	100	Overlay	U2760	Lochyside Road, Scarfskerry	3	130	390	£20	£7,800.00
93 94		Overlay	U1637	Barrock Branch Road	3	150	450	£20	£9,000.00
95		Inlay Inlay	U2305 U2426	Smiddy Lane Castletown Battery Road, Wick	6	170 220	1020 1320	£25 £25	£25,500.00 £33,000.00
96		Overlay	U2153	Scrabster back Road	3.5	582	2037	£20	£40,740.00
97 98	105 106	Inlay Inlay	U4311 U4361	Wilson lane Back Shore Street, Thurso	6	350 40	2100 240	£25 £25	£52,500.00 £6,000.00
99	107	Inlay	U4017	Dale Road	6	220	1320	£25	£33,000.00
101 227		Inlay Inlay	U4341 U4377	Henderson St Thurso Donald grant Road	6	350 114	2100 684	£25 £25	£52,500.00 £17,100.00
103	110	Inlay	U4385	Brilon Court Thurso	6	60	360	£25	£9,000.00
104 105		Inlay Inlay	U4379 U5329	College Court Thurso Primrose Avenue	6 7	90 30	540 210	£25 £25	£13,500.00 £5,250.00
106	113	Surface dressing	A882	Wick Georgemas	6	800	4800	£7	£33,600.00
110 113	114 115	Surface dressing Surface dressing		Isauld to Milton, reay Dunbeath to Braemore Road	3	510 144	1530 432	£7 £7	£10,710.00 £3,024.00
114	116	Surface dressing	U1802	Dunn to Lannergill	3	730	2190	£7	£15,330.00
115 117	117 118	Surface dressing Surface dressing	C1018 U1085	Westerdale to Halkirk Landhallow, Latheronwheel	6	840 515	5040 1545	£7 £7	£35,280.00 £10,815.00
119	119	Surface dressing	U1763	Bowertower Mains Road	3	800	2400	£7	£16,800.00
120 123	120 121	Surface dressing		Wester Bridge to Greenland Coolhill Road, Keiss	3	400 130	1200 390	£7 £7	£8,400.00 £2,730.00
123		Surface dressing Surface dressing		Auckengill township Road	3	500	1500	£7	£10,500.00
125 126		Surface dressing		Freswick to Skirza Skirza Harbour	3	500 100	1500 300	£7 £7	£10,500.00 £2,100.00
127		Surface dressing Surface dressing		Lybster- Forss	3	335	1005	£7	£7,035.00
128 129		Surface dressing		Crown Square, Murkle Tanghead Road Scarfskerry	3	306 260	918 780	£7 £7	£6,426.00 £5,460.00
130		Surface dressing Surface dressing	U2755 C1010	Dunnet to Barrock CrossRoads	3.5	640	2240	£7	£15,680.00
193	129	Overlay	U1609	Canisbay from 30s to 30 edge patching	2.4	562	1348.8	£20	£26,976.00
131 132		Surface dressing Surface dressing		Barrock branch Road Oldwick Castle Road	3 6	210 230	630 1380	£7 £7	£4,410.00 £9,660.00
134	132	Surface dressing	U3785	Kennedy Road	8.8	265	2332	£7	£16,324.00
135 136	133 134	Surface dressing Surface dressing	U3497 U3544	Cairndhuna Road Harrow Terrace	8.8 10	265 200	2332 2000	£7 £7	£16,324.00 £14,000.00
137	135	Surface dressing	U3618	Newton Road Wick	7.5	170	1275	£7	£8,925.00
139 141		Surface dressing Overlay	U4341 U1871	Henderson St, Thurso Halkirk to Plocan	6	300 800	1800 2400	£7 £20	£12,600.00 £48,000.00
142	138	Inlay	C1045	Lybster Main st and Harbour	3	150	450	£25	£11,250.00
145 146	139 140	Surface dressing Overlay	U3547 U1097	Henrietta Street Mains of Forse	7.5 3	440 420	3300 1260	£7 £20	£23,100.00 £25,200.00
148	141	Overlay	U1823	Westerdale to Lochmore	3	5600	16800	£20	£336,000.00
		Overlay Overlay	C1025 C1037	Mountpleasant Road Hastigrow - Upper Gills Road	3	50 500	150 1500	£20 £20	£3,000.00 £30,000.00
	144	Inlay	C1041	Girnigoe/Willowbank Junction	6	10	60	£25	£1,500.00
		Overlay Overlay	C1062 C1247	Duncansby Road Scarfskerry	3	135 126	405 378	£20 £20	£8,100.00 £7,560.00
	147	Overlay	C1247/U1656	Scarfskerry	3	2600	7800	£20	£156,000.00
		Overlay Overlay	U1272 U1300	Bylbster Farm Halcro Road	3	500 540	1500 1620	£20 £20	£30,000.00 £32,400.00
	150	Inlay	U1354	Plover Place	6	60	360	£25	£9,000.00
		Overlay Inlay	U1368 U1348	Road off b876 Ackergill	3	100 222	300 666	£20 £25	£6,000.00 £16,650.00
	153	Inlay	U1434	South Street Keiss	6	370	2220	£25	£55,500.00
		Overlay Overlay	U1577 U1581	Near JOG Duncansby	3	140 366	420 1098	£20 £20	£8,400.00 £21,960.00
	156	Overlay	U1589	Near JOG .	3	750	2250	£20	£45,000.00
		Overlay Overlay	U1707 U1727	Lochend Reaster	3	1610 660	4830 1980	£20 £20	£96,600.00 £39,600.00
	159	Inlay	U2240/U2331	Middle Castletown no entry whole square	6	111	666	£25	£16,650.00
		Inlay Overlay	U2356 U2435	Infront of 4 calder square Keiss	3	100 550	300 1650	£25 £20	£7,500.00 £33,000.00
	162	Overlay	U2465	Harden, Wick	3	340	1020	£20	£20,400.00
		Inlay Overlay	U2470 U2809	Old Wick Castle Road 39 Old Mill	4 3	600 200	2400 600	£25 £20	£60,000.00 £12,000.00
	165	Inlay	U3547	Henrietta Street	6	15	90	£25	£2,250.00
	166	Inlay	U3586/U3572/U 3591	Mackay Lane/Kirk Lane/Miller Lane	5.5	188	1034	£25	£25,850.00
		Inlay	U3594	Macleod Road	6	10	60	£25	£1,500.00
		Overlay Inlay	U3594 U3608	Macleod Road Miller Street	1.2	50 90	60 540	£20 £25	£1,200.00 £13,500.00
	170	Inlay	U3630	Port Dunbar Junction	6	10	60	£25	£1,500.00
		Inlay Inlay	U3641 U3662	Rutherford Street West Banks Avenue/Seaforth Avenue Junction	6	60 28	360 168	£25 £25	£9,000.00 £4,200.00
	173	Inlay	U3678	Tollbooth Lane	6	10	60	£25	£1,500.00
		Inlay Inlay	U3748 U3805	John Street Union Street	6 6	10 52	60 312	£25 £25	£1,500.00 £7,800.00
	176	Inlay	U4141	Robertsons Lane	6	44	264	£25	£6,600.00
		Inlay Inlay	U4396 U5058	Mill Terrace Bleachfield House front Road	3	80 50	240 150	£25 £25	£6,000.00 £3,750.00
	179	Overlay	U1715	First Lochend Spur Road	3	215	645	£20	£12,900.00
152 155		Surface dressing Surface dressing		George Crescent Achcastle Shore	6 3	185 854	1110 2562	£7 £7	£7,770.00 £17,934.00
157	182	Surface dressing	U4209	Sinclair Street	6	230	1380	£7	£9,660.00
158	183	Surface dressing	U1656	Hill of Rattar	3	1520	4560	£7	£31,920.00

	2024/2025	Activity	Route	Road Name/Location	Average	Scheme	Total Area	Cost per	<b>Estimated Cost</b>
Priority 159	Priority 184	Surface dressing	U1408	Voice Boach	Width (m)	Length (m) 580	(m²) 1740	(m²) £7	to Lay £12,180.00
160		Surface dressing Surface dressing	U1408	Keiss Beach South Street Keiss	3 5	365	1825	£7	£12,775.00
162	186	Surface dressing	U4391	Burnett Place Thurso	6	275	1650	£7	£11,550.00
163 164		Surface dressing Surface dressing	U2411 C1033	Mansville Road Everley to Crockster Toll	3	742 1000	2226 3000	£7 £7	£15,582.00 £21,000.00
165	189	Surface dressing	C1033	Everley to Crockster Toll	3	770	2310	£7	£16,170.00
166 167		Surface dressing	U1609	Seater - Canisaby Hill Of Warse	5	1700	8500	£7	£59,500.00
167		Surface dressing Overlay	C1033 U1384	Everley to Crockster Toll Ruthers of Howe	3	2000 176	6000 528	£7 £20	£42,000.00 £10,560.00
169	193	Overlay	U2440	Noss Head Road	3	600	1800	£20	£36,000.00
170 174		Overlay Inlay	A99 U4115	Wick to John O'Groats Park Avenue Thurso	6	350 46	2100 92	£20 £25	£42,000.00 £2,300.00
175		Inlay	C1001	Glengolly - Isauld	2 1.2	220	264	£25	£6,600.00
176	197	Inlay	C1001	Glengolly - Isauld	1.2	266	319.2	£25	£7,980.00
177 178		Overlay Overlay	B876 U3785	Reiss to Castletown Wick Cemetery Road	3 7.5	290 177	870 1327.5	£20 £20	£17,400.00 £26,550.00
183		Inlay	03763	Castle Terrace, Thurso	6	200	1200	£25	£30,000.00
191	201	Overlay	C1033	Canisbay turn off junction	6	15	90	£20	£1,800.00
192 194		Overlay Overlay	U1609 U1609	South Canisbay junction North Canisbay junction	6 6	15 15	90 90	£20 £20	£1,800.00 £1,800.00
197	204	Overlay	U1637	West Barrock Road	3	670	2010	£20	£40,200.00
198 200		Inlay	U1696	Seaview, Dunnet Junction	6	15 124	90 744	£25 £25	£2,250.00
200	206 207	Inlay Inlay	U2348 U2339	Churchill Road to mackay Street Castlehill Avenue	6 6	160	960	£25	£18,600.00 £24,000.00
202	208	Inlay	U2326	Playingfeild Lane	6	33	198	£25	£4,950.00
203 204		Inlay	B876	castletown wick junction	6	15 15	90 45	£25 £25	£2,250.00 £1,125.00
204		Inlay Inlay	U2250 U2300	Murryfield - Gunn's lane junction Murryfield - Caulder lane junction	3	15	45 45	£25	£1,125.00 £1,125.00
206	212	Inlay	U2260	Murryfield - Allan's Avenue junction	3	15	45	£25	£1,125.00
207 211		Inlay	U2318 U2205	Harland Gardens Murkle junction and	6	35 40	210 240	£25 £20	£5,250.00 £4,800.00
211		Overlay Inlay		Murkle junction end Dunnet Road-Park Avenue	6 3	40 116	348	£20 £25	£4,800.00 £8,700.00
213	216	Inlay	U4285	Stroma Road South Junction	6	15	90	£25	£2,250.00
214 215		Inlay Inlay	U4283 U4094	Stroma place junction Morven place junction	6 6	15 15	90 90	£25 £25	£2,250.00 £2,250.00
217		Inlay	U4076	Laurie Terrace	6	213	1278	£25	£31,950.00
218	220	Inlay	C1025	Mountpleasant Road	3	136	408	£25	£10,200.00
	221	Edge strengthening	U4149	Royal Terrace eastbound lane	1.2	275	330	£40	£13,200.00
220	222	Inlay		Oldfeild Terrace	6	22	132	£25	£3,300.00
221 222		Inlay Inlay		Mt vernon bottom loop Millbank Road	6 6	410 96	2460 576	£25 £25	£61,500.00 £14,400.00
223		Inlay	U4267	stainland drive	6	100	600	£25	£15,000.00
224		Inlay	C1081	Lovers lane	6	154	924	£25	£23,100.00
225 226		Overlay Inlay	U4070 C1081	Janet Street Janet Street	6 11.5	58 100	348 1150	£20 £25	£6,960.00 £28,750.00
228	229	Inlay	U4379	Collage Court	6	58	348	£25	£8,700.00
229		Inlay	U5329	Primrose Avenue	6	80	480	£25	£12,000.00
230 231		Inlay Inlay	U4337 U4345	West cinema Road Ironside place	6 6	240 253	1440 1518	£25 £25	£36,000.00 £37,950.00
232	233	Inlay	U4345	Meiklejohn court	3	70	210	£25	£5,250.00
233 234		Inlay Inlay		Provost cormack Heathfeild Road	6 6	144 147	864 882	£25 £25	£21,600.00 £22,050.00
235		Inlay	U4113	Ormile Hill junction	6	15	90	£25	£2,050.00 £2,250.00
236	237	Inlay	U4159	St peters Road	3	62	186	£25	£4,650.00
237 239		Inlay Inlay	U4064 U5035	Howburn Road junction at store Bishops drive	6 6	15 16	90 96	£25 £25	£2,250.00 £2,400.00
240		Inlay	U4333	Upper burnside drive	6	15	90	£25	£2,250.00
241		Inlay		Thurso buisness park	6	240	1440	£25	£36,000.00
242 243		Inlay Inlay	U3942 U4024	Barrock Street Duncan Street junction	6 6	300 15	1800 90	£25 £25	£45,000.00 £2,250.00
244	244	Inlay	U4019	Davidsons lane	6	230	1380	£25	£34,500.00
245		Inlay	U4305	West church Street	3	400	1200	£25	£30,000.00
246 247		Inlay Inlay	U4015 U4147	Cowie lane Rose Street	3	270 43	810 129	£25 £25	£20,250.00 £3,225.00
248	248	Inlay	U4295	Thorkel Road	6	43	258	£25	£6,450.00
249 250		Inlay	C1077	Durness Street	6	212 135	1272 810	£25 £25	£31,800.00
250 251		Inlay Overlay	C1077/U4009 U4009	Swanson and couper Street Couper square	6 10	135 10	810 100	£25 £20	£20,250.00 £2,000.00
252	252	Inlay	B877	Shore Street	6	240	1440	£25	£36,000.00
253	253	Inlay	U4309/U4139/U 4133	Wilson Street into robert dick place	3	272	816	£25	£20,400.00
254		Overlay	U1871	Comlifoot	6	643	3858	£20	£77,160.00
255 256		Inlay Inlay		Sinclair lane Sinclair square	3 6	678 66	2034 396	£25 £25	£50,850.00 £9,900.00
257	257	Inlay	B874	B874 Main	3	2200	6600	£25	£165,000.00
258	258	Inlay	U1838	Church Street	6	172	1032	£25	£25,800.00
259 260		Inlay Inlay	U2752 U3514/U3583	camilla Street Loch Street meets brown place junction	6 6	500 337	3000 2022	£25 £25	£75,000.00 £50,550.00
261	261	Overlay	U2838	Rockhill Road	3	120	360	£20	£7,200.00
262	262	Inlay	U3785	Harrow Road	6	173	1038	£25	£25,950.00
263 264		Inlay Inlay	U3541 U3563	Harrow hill Kennedy Terrace	6 3	131 46	786 138	£25 £25	£19,650.00 £3,450.00
265	265	Inlay	U2388	Oldwick Road	6	161	966	£25	£24,150.00
266		Inlay		Roxbrough Road	6	381	2286	£25	£57,150.00
267 268		Overlay Inlay	U2470 U3659	Old wick castle Road Wellignton Avenue	3	745 100	2235 300	£20 £25	£44,700.00 £7,500.00
269	269	Inlay	U3569	Kinnaird Street	3	170	510	£25	£12,750.00
270		Inlay		Kinnaird/wellignton	3	155 15	465 90	£25	£11,625.00
271		Inlay	3624	Bexly Terrace - Harbour Road junction	6	15	90	£25	£2,250.00
272		Inlay	U3654	Smith Terrace	6	140	840	£25	£21,000.00
273 275		Inlay Inlay	U3653 U3511	Sinclair Terrace Lowar Dunbar Street junction with Bredalbane Terrace	6 6	300 15	1800 90	£25 £25	£45,000.00 £2,250.00
276	275	Inlay	U3511	Lowar Dunbar Street junction with Bredalbane Terrace	6	15	90	£25	£2,250.00
277 278		Inlay	U3511	Lowar Dunbar Street junction Argyle Square	6	15 15	90 90	£25 £25	£2,250.00
		Inlay Inlay	U3514 U3666	Upper Dunbar Street - Brown Place junction Willaimson Street	6 6	180	1080	£25 £25	£2,250.00 £27,000.00
280									
280 281 282	279	Inlay Inlay	U3643 U3491	Saltoun Street Burn Street	6 6	82 147	492 882	£25 £25	£12,300.00 £22,050.00

2023/2024	2024/2025		_		Average	Scheme	Total Area	Cost per	Estimated Cost
Priority	Priority	Activity	Route	Road Name/Location	Width (m)	Length (m)	(m²)	(m²)	to Lay
284	282	Inlay		Telford Street	6	98	588	£25	£14,700.00
285 287		Inlay Inlay	U3805/U3608 U3657	Union Street junction with Miller Street Market Street	6 3	15 42	90 126	£25 £25	£2,250.00 £3,150.00
289	285	Inlay	U2372	Elzy Place	6	15	90	£25	£2,250.00
290 291		Inlay Inlay		Elzy Grove junction Lindsay Drive - Port Dunbar	6 6	15 430	90 2580	£25 £25	£2,250.00 £64,500.00
		•	3630	·	_				•
292 294		Inlay Inlay	U3553 U3520/U3580	Hillhead Road - willowbank juction Grinigoe Street/leith walk	6	15 420	90 2520	£25 £25	£2,250.00 £63,000.00
295	290	Inlay	U3502	Leishman Avenue - corner cresent junction	3	15	45	£25	£1,125.00
296 297		Inlay Inlay	U3547 U3768	Henrietta Street Airport Road-Ambulance station junction	6	80 40	480 240	£25 £25	£12,000.00 £6,000.00
298	293	Inlay	U3768	Parallel airport Road	3	33	99	£25	£2,475.00
299 300		Inlay	U3407	Hill Avenue meets ackergill cresenct	3	15 57	45 342	£25 £25	£1,125.00 £8,550.00
300		Inlay Inlay	U3689 U3634	U class George Street Robert Street - A99 junction	6	15	90	£25	£2,250.00
302	297	Inlay	U3547	Henrietta Street - A99 junction	6	15	90	£25	£2,250.00
303 304		Inlay Inlay	U3805 U3649	Station Road Seaforth Avenue	6 3	150 120	900 360	£25 £25	£22,500.00 £9,000.00
307	300	Overlay	C1033	Wildeston	3	341	1023	£20	£20,460.00
308 311		Overlay Overlay	C1033 B870	Innstack Quaybrae to Ruthers junction	3	148 1200	444 3600	£20 £20	£8,880.00 £72,000.00
312	303	Overlay	B870	Quaybrae junction past Scottag	3	1200	3000	LZO	172,000.00
314 315		Overlay Overlay	C1029 C1029	Camster Road Pennyland House Camster Road Strath to windfarm	3				
316		Overlay	C1029 C1029	Camster Road at Windfarm enterance	3				
317		Overlay	C1029	Camster Road	3				
318 319		Inlay Inlay	U3532 C1045	Green Road Latheronwheel Village Road	6				
320	310	Inlay	U1071	Lybster Main st	6				
322 323		Inlay Inlay	A836 B874	Castletown Road Ormlie Road	6 7.5				
324	313	Inlay	A99	A99 North St - B874 Jct	5.4				
327	314	Overlay Edge	U1043 A836	Dunbeath - Mulbuie Road Thurse Fact A836 at corner leaving thurse	3.5 2.4				
		strengthening		Thurso East A836 at corner leaving thurso					
		Overlay Overlay	B855 B874	Dunnet Tister B874 junction	3 6				
	318	Overlay	C1006	Wester Bridge - Greenland Road, Reaster	3				
		Overlay Overlay	C1006 C1006	Wester Bridge - Greenland Road Wester Bridge - Greenland Road	3				
	321	Overlay	C1006	Wester Bridge - Greenland Road	3				
		Overlay	C1037	Hastigrow - Upper Gills Road	3				
		Overlay Overlay	U1296 U1356	North Watten side Road bit Reiss Beach Road	3				
	325	Surface dressing	U1356	Reiss Beach Road	3				
		Overlay Overlay	U1356 U1557	Reiss Beach Road Skirza	3				
	328	Overlay	U1565	Upper Skirza	3				
		Overlay Overlay	U1597 U1641	Canisbay Barrock	3				
	331	Overlay	U1771	Nipster Road	3				
		Overlay Overlay	U1809 U2300	Oldhall 41 Calder Lane U	3				
	334	Surface dressing	U2314	Harland Road	6				
		Surface dressing	U2401 U2604	Mey	3				
		Overlay Overlay	U2728	Canisbay Brabstermire Road	3				
		Overlay	U2748	Folly Road, Murkle	3				
		Inlay Inlay	U3618 U3618	Newton Road Newton Avenue	3 6				
	341	Inlay	U3649	Seaforth Avenue	6				
		Inlay Inlay	U3649 U3791	Seaforth Avenue Gowrie lane	6				
	344	Inlay	U3795	Buisness park	6				
		Inlay Inlay	U3805 U4024	Bankhead Duncan Street	6 3	_			
	347	Inlay	U4028/U4115	Dunnet Road meets towerhill Road junction	3				
		Inlay Edge	U4032 U4032	East Church Street East Church Street	6 1.2				
		strengthening							
		Inlay	U4064	Heathfield Road from Surface dressing to pennyland jucntion	6				
	351	Edge strengthening	U4117	Patersons Lane	1.2				
	352	Inlay		Patersons Lane/Brabster Street Junction	6				
		Inlay	ŕ	Riverside place from mansons lane resurfacing to wilson Street	6				
		Inlay	U4141	Robertsons Lane	3				
		Inlay Inlay		Scaraben Court Junction Market Street	6				
	357	Inlay	U4319	Langland Court	3				
		Inlay Inlay	U4337 U4369	Ormlie Industrial Estate Road Albyn Court Junction	6				
	360	Inlay	U4733	Houston Terrace junction	3				
		Overlay Overlay	B874 C1010	Lochshell Barrock - Ham - Brough Road	3				
	363	Overlay	C1025	Biships hill SD to north first turm	3				
		Overlay Overlay	C1033 U1755	Everley - Crockser Toll Road Bower	3				
	366	Overlay	U4400	Thurso east from resurfacing to end	3				
	367	Overlay	U1755	Brabsterdorran to halfway down hill	3				
		Overlay Inlay	U1082 U1082	Braehungie Guidebest Road	3				
	370	Overlay	U2896	Nottingham Mains Farm Road	3				
		Overlay Overlay	U1105 U1113	Achsinegar Road Achow Osclay	3				
	373	Overlay	U2819	Brough Road, Hempriggs Row	3				
		Overlay Overlay	U1226 U1218	Long Greens Road Corbiegoe	3				
	376	Overlay	U1210	Brickigoe Road	3				
	377	Overlay	U1210	Roadside Ragara	3				

### ROADS – THE HIGHLAND COUNCIL

2023/2024 Priority	2024/2025 Priority	Activity	Route	Road Name/Location	Average Width (m)	Scheme Length (m)	Total Area (m²)	Cost per (m²)	Estimated Cost to Lay
	378	Overlay	U2887	Stemster Farm Road	3				
	379	Overlay	U1276	Scouthal Road	3				
	380	Overlay	U1782	Dunn Road	3				
	381	Overlay	U1782	Dunn Farm	3				
	382	Overlay	B876	Hastigrow Burn	6				
	383	Inlay	U4084	Mayfield Road	3				
	384	Overlay	B874	Aimster Farm Road	5.5				
	385	Inlay	A99	Quoys Of Reiss	2.5				
	386	Overlay	A99	Reiss Golf Course	6				
	387	Overlay	U1775	Brabsterdorran	2.9				
	388	Overlay	U1609	Canisbay	5.8				
	389	Overlay	A99	Keiss Village	7.5				
	390	Overlay	A99	Keiss Village	5				
	391	Overlay	B876	Granton Mains	6				
	392	Overlay	A882	Haster To Bilbster	1.5				
	393	Overlay		Longreens Road	2.5				
	394	Inlay	U1751	Auchorn Square, Bower	3				
121	395	Surface dressing	C1037	Hastigrow to Upper Gills	3				
85	396	Surface dressing	U1597	Stemster seater Road	3				
133	397	Surface dressing	U2388	Carnaby Road	6				
138	398	Surface dressing	U4313	Provosť Cormack Drive	7.5				
37	399	Surface dressing	C1037	Hastigrow to Upper Gills	3				
154	400	Surface dressing	U1113	Achow Osclay	3				
112	401	Surface dressing	U2134	Achscrabster Road	3				
161	402	Surface dressing	U4084	Mayfield Road	6				
	403	Overlav	U1190	Clachan Road Clyth	3				

#### **BUS - STAGECOACH**

## Appendix I – Stagecoach

As mentioned previously we had had significant investment made by way of brand-new vehicles. The first of those vehicles are to arrive by the end of the month.

Our passengers' numbers have remained steady and passenger confidence is generally high.

### Appendix J – Far North Line Community Rail Partnership



The Far North Line Community Rail Partnership website is now live at <a href="www.fnlcrp.co.uk">www.fnlcrp.co.uk</a> with the purpose of promoting the line and all the amenities and attractions to which it leads. Its aim is to encourage non car tourism in the area and help the local economy by advertising the appeal of the various destinations alongside the enticement of the scenic beauty of the line itself. We are keen to hear from any business or tourist attraction which is not currently mentioned or linked in. Contact me at <a href="hello@fnlcrp.co.uk">hello@fnlcrp.co.uk</a>. We would like to hear especially from providers of community transport or active travel opportunities such as cycle hire where there is a service that can be offered to visitors arriving by train or bus - and in so doing make local transport providers' finances more secure for serving local communities.

The line from Helmsdale to Wick and Thurso celebrates its 150<sup>th</sup> anniversary this year and to mark this, there will be an event at RSPB Forsinard on Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> June which will include presentations about the history of the route as well as looking ahead to its future. Anyone who would like to be kept up to date with details of the day as they emerge should again contact me at <a href="mailto:hello@fnlcrp.co.uk">hello@fnlcrp.co.uk</a>

Michael Willmot

Secretary

### Appendix K – Focus North



Focus North commissioned a detailed local transport study from innovation consultancy Urban Foresight, in response to concerns raised by stakeholders about transport for employment. Urban Foresight carried out a great deal of analysis to understand current transport modes and public transport provision. This included a survey of local residents and stakeholder that captured more than 350 responses. As a next step, Highland Council and Dounreay are now meeting to examine current contracts with providers and consider how they can take a more innovative approach to improve public transport links. This is likely to be a medium-term action, when existing contracts are up for renewal. In the more immediate term, Focus North is investigating the potential for pilot-level activity off the back of the Urban Foresight report. However, it is worth noting that while Focus North is making progress on many fronts, transport remains a particularly challenging issue and more resource is needed to deliver the kind of transformation the community wants to see.

**Nicola More** 

**Business Development Manager, Focus North**