

A93 BANCHORY TO ABERDEEN CITY MULTI-MODAL CORRIDOR STUDY STUDY BRIEFING PAPER

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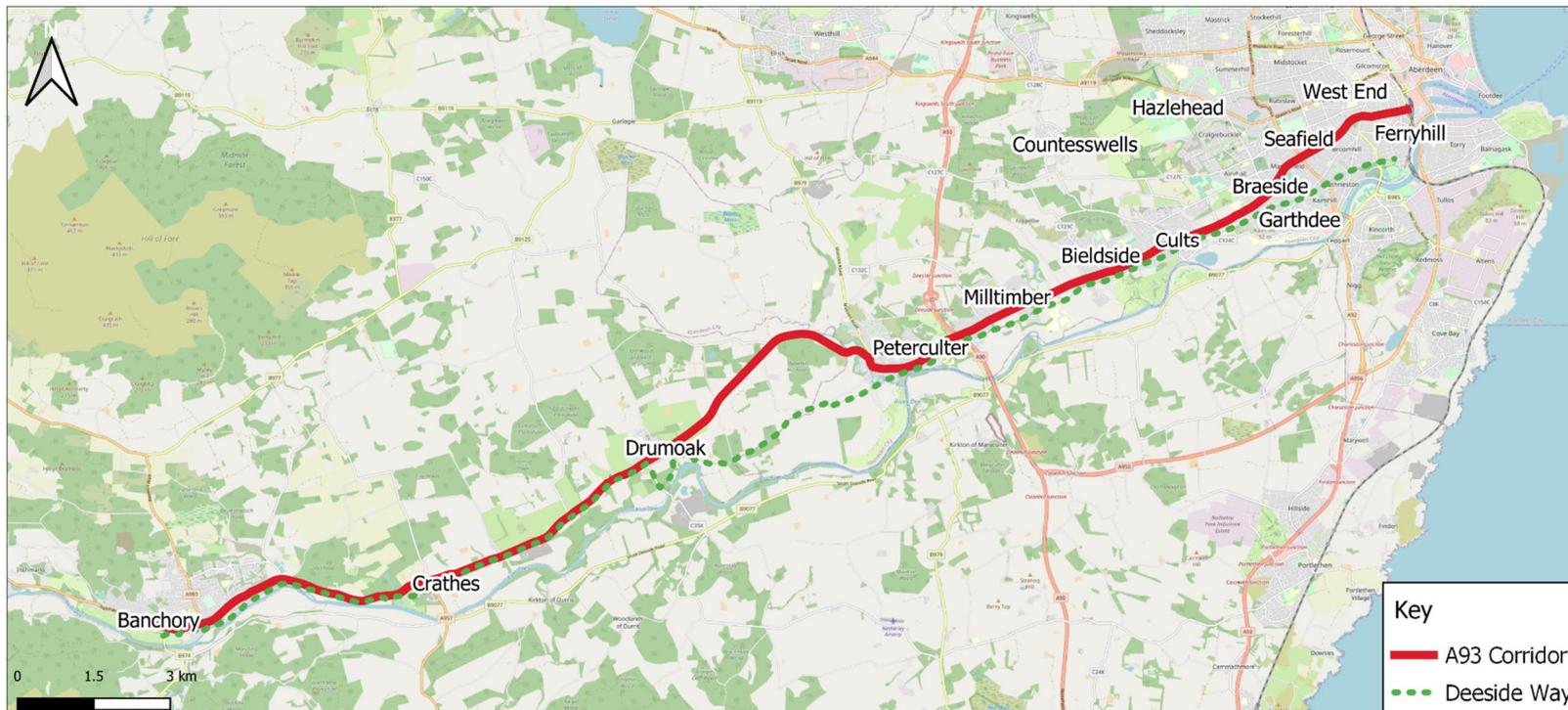
Introduction

Aberdeen City Council (ACC) is working with consultants AECOM to develop a Scottish Transport Appraisal Guidance (STAG)-based appraisal of options for improving transport connections along the A93 corridor from Banchory to Aberdeen City.

The study will place particular focus on how to improve conditions for pedestrians, wheelchair users, cyclists and public transport users of the route for both eastbound movements towards the city centre and

westbound movements towards Banchory (and beyond). The study area additionally incorporates the Deeside Way route to the south of the main A93 corridor.

This briefing paper has been prepared to set out the scope of the study, the approach that will be taken by the study team and the way in which the public and stakeholders can get involved as the work moves forward.



A93 Multi-Modal Corridor Study - Study Area

Study Approach

A number of key tasks will be undertaken to progress the study including:

- Understanding how people currently use the A93 and the 'case for change' in support of furthering opportunity for sustainable travel on the corridor.
- Identification of problems, issues, constraints and opportunities along the A93 corridor and the Deeside Way, noting how COVID-19 has affected the way people travel.
- Development of study objectives to reflect the identified problems, issues, constraints and opportunities within the study area.
- Development of options focussing on walking, wheeling, cycling, bus infrastructure, technology and junction reviews amongst others.
- Appraisal of options in accordance with STAG – this will highlight the options that perform strongest against a range of criteria. The appraisal will recognise the priorities of current and emerging local, regional and national transport, economic, land-use, environmental and sustainability plans and programmes.

The study will take cognisance of the new Roads Hierarchy for Aberdeen, which was agreed by ACC in 2019. Consideration will be given to options for better aligning the A93 with its role as a priority route in the revised hierarchy.



A93 at Banchory

Engagement

Engagement with stakeholders and communities along the A93 corridor will be a core part of the study throughout its duration.

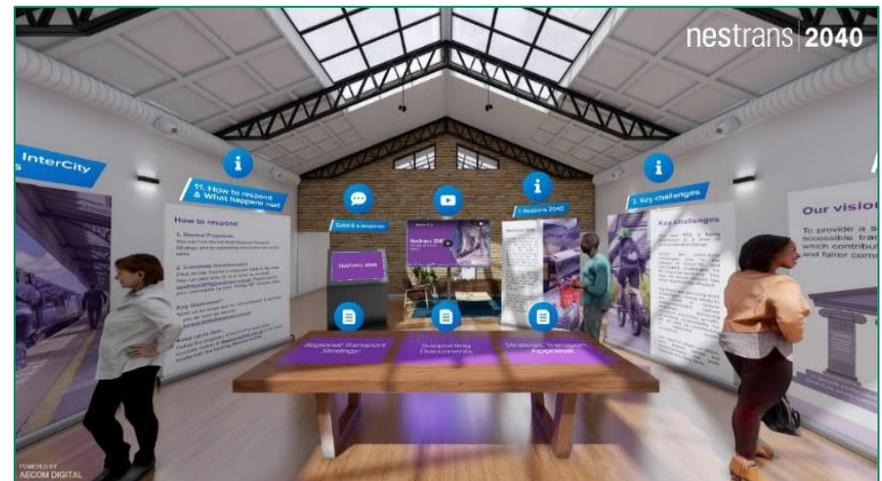
Initial engagement activities will be focussed on identifying the key problems and opportunities on the corridor, whilst future engagement opportunities will allow participants to have their say on options that are developed as part of the work.

Cognisance will also be taken of previous and ongoing consultation activities on other projects and strategies which are relevant to the study.

The ability to deliver certain engagement events in the context of COVID-19 will be subject to continuous review, with virtual engagement undertaken where possible. Engagement activities will include:

- Written briefing to local Councillors; MPs and MSPs;
- Workshops with ACC, Aberdeenshire Council and Nestrans officers;
- Virtual meetings with local Community Councils;
- Workshop sessions with local schools;

- Online 'Placecheck' for stakeholders and the general public to identify targeted problems and opportunities at locations across the corridor;
- Study tour of the A93 corridor with officers and key local stakeholders to identify key problems and opportunities; and
- A Virtual (online) Public Consultation Room towards the end of the study to obtain feedback on options and support completion of the option appraisal.



Example Virtual Consultation Room

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