

North Sea Commission, Aviemore – Thursday 15 June

Transport Study Tour – Inverness Airport

Number of participants – Up to 25 people can attend.

Depart the Conference Centre at 1330 and travel by coach directly along the A9 and A96 to Inverness Airport.

Points of interest will be identified along the route including the new Airport Access Road which received a significant amount of European funding. Details will also be provided on the proposals for a Business Park adjacent to the Airport also served by this road access. In addition to this Frank Roach of Highland Rail Partnership will provide details of the proposal to locate a rail station at Dalcross serving the Airport and Business Park. The coach will pull up alongside the site for this rail halt to allow delegates to view the site.

Nat Anderson from Highlands and Islands Airports Limited will arrange a tour of the terminal building and control tower. Information will be provided on how HIAL are funded and the recent takeover of the Terminal Building by HIAL. This will be an opportunity for HIAL to outline their plans for growing the airport in the future and will give delegates an impression of the role played by the airport in developing the economy of the region.

Howard Brindley of the Highlands and Islands Transport Partnership will give delegates details of the Air Discount Scheme launched by the Scottish Executive as a mechanism to provide a 40% discount to residents of Caithness, North West Sutherland, Orkney, Shetland and the Western Isles to travel from their local airport.

Refreshments will be provided at the Airport terminal before the coach departs on the return journey. There will be one final stop at Culloden Battlefield Visitor Centre. The Visitor Centre showcases a unique period in the region's history and gives an insight into the Jacobite rebellion of 1745-46 that culminated with the last battle fought on British soil on 16th April 1746.

The coach will then continue to Aviemore with a return time no later than 1730 to give delegates time to get ready for the evening activities.