

PRESS RELEASE

SHELL BOOSTS ABERDEEN CHARITY'S FUNDRAISING EFFORTS

Photos *Photo opportunity available at beach site, with local participants, Transition Directors and Shell personnel*

Local charity **Transition** received its second major boost within a week, to its efforts to build a year round, indoor recreation facility for the community of Aberdeen with the confirmation that **Shell U.K. Limited (Shell)** has made a sponsorship pledge to the facility totalling £100,000. The pledge is conditional on the remaining monies being raised by Transition and the project proceeding to construction.

The news comes only days after the announcement of another major pledge by Glasgow based Charitable Trust, The Robertson Trust, and brings the total funds "committed" to the project to £2.13m out of the required total of £2.67m with a number of other large applications in progress.

Deirdre Michie, External Affairs Manager UK, of Shell in Aberdeen said: "Shell is delighted to support this innovative and exciting community project for Aberdeen and in particular will sponsor the dramatic climbing and adventure centre and the healthy eating cafe. We are impressed by the multi faceted nature of the project – delivering a community facility that will support young people, families, sport for all and healthy living – as well as creating local jobs and providing an exciting visitor attraction to benefit the local economy. Being an indoor facility, the centre will allow participants to stay active regardless of the weather."

Neil Stevenson, Chief Executive of Transition commented "This is a fantastic boost to our fundraising efforts and a very generous pledge from Shell. It is a further demonstration of Shell's commitment to the local community and the youth population specifically. Aberdeen City Council have demonstrated their commitment to the project by a major capital contribution and the use of the beach site and it is fitting that Shell, one of the largest and longest established oil companies in Aberdeen, should lead by example, with this pledge. We still have some work to do to raise the balance of funds required and I hope other companies will be encouraged to look closely at the benefits our project brings to the Aberdeen Community."

Transition has further funding applications lodged with Sport Scotland and other major funding bodies and subject to these being successful, it is hoped construction can start before yearend, with the centre opening around September 2006.

There has been exponential growth in participation and media interest in adventure sports and Transition also aims to act as a "shop window" for the tremendous outdoor sporting opportunities available in Grampian.

Artists impressions of the facilities and the background to the project can be found on Transition's innovative website together with recently

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