

TAYSIDE AND CENTRAL SCOTLAND TRANSPORT PARTNERSHIP

Minute of Meeting of the Tayside and Central Scotland Transport Partnership held in the Council Chambers, 2 High Street, Perth on Tuesday 13th June 2017 at 10.30am.

Present: Councillors Bill Duff and Ron Sturrock (substitute for Provost Ronnie Proctor) (Angus Council); Councillors Will Dawson, Brian Gordon and Lynne Short (Dundee City Council); Councillors Alasdair Bailey, Bob Brawn and Andrew Parrott (Perth & Kinross Council); Councillor Evelyn Tweed (Stirling Council); Trudi Craggs, Mark Craske and Gavin Roser (Members).

In Attendance: E Guthrie (Director); N Gardiner, A Roger and M Scott (Tactran); G Taylor (Secretary); S Walker (Treasurer); I Cochrane (Angus Council); N Gellatly and E Gourlay (Dundee City Council); A Deans and C Robertson (Perth & Kinross Council); J Gray (Transport Scotland).

Apologies for absence were received from: Provost Ronnie Proctor (Angus Council); Doug Fleming and David Scotney (members).

1. INTERIM CHAIR OF MEETING

The Secretary presided over the meeting until the Chair of the Partnership was appointed under item 5.

2. NOTIFICATION OF COUNCILLOR MEMBERSHIP OF THE PARTNERSHIP

The appointment of the following Members by each of the four constituent authorities was noted:-

Angus Council

Provost Ronnie Proctor and Councillor Bill Duff

Dundee City Council

Councillors Will Dawson, Brian Gordon and Lynne Short

Perth & Kinross Council

Councillors Alasdair Bailey, Bob Brawn and Andrew Parrott

Stirling Council

Councillors Danny Gibson and Evelyn Tweed

3. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest made in terms of the Code of Conduct.

4. MEMBERS INDUCTION BRIEFING

The Director, Secretary and Treasurer delivered a Members Induction presentation (link) covering the background context to Regional Transport Partnerships (RTPs) and the Regional Transport Strategy; Partnership Governance; Financial and Treasury arrangements; and future priorities and challenges.

Councillor Duff requested clarification of the role and relationship of RTP working in relation to the connectivity elements of the Aberdeen City Deal and the Tay Cities City Deal. The Director confirmed that the RTPs work closely and collaboratively on various cross boundary issues such as City Deals and other strategic connectivity issues, noting involvement in the A90/Laurencekirk junction improvement and the Aberdeen – Central Belt rail connectivity improvement projects as examples.

5. APPOINTMENT OF CHAIRPERSON

The Secretary invited nominations for the position of Chairperson of the Partnership.

Gavin Roser nominated Councillor Brian Gordon and was seconded by Councillor Alasdair Bailey.

There being no other nominations Councillor Brian Gordon was duly elected as Chairperson and took the Chair.

Councillor Gordon and other members thanked Councillor Dawson for his contribution as an excellent Chair of the Partnership for the last 8 years.

Councillor Dawson expressed his thanks to the Partnership's Board members, officers and to Doug Fleming, Deputy Chair for their support throughout his own term as Chair of the Partnership.

6. APPOINTMENT OF DEPUTY CHAIRPERSON(S)

The Chair invited nominations for the office of Deputy Chairperson of the Partnership.

Councillor Lynne Short nominated Councillor Evelyn Tweed and was seconded by Councillor Will Dawson.

Gavin Roser nominated Trudi Craggs and was seconded by Councillor Lynne Short.

There being no further nominations, Councillor Evelyn Tweed and Trudi Craggs were duly elected as Deputy Chairpersons.

7. APPOINTMENT OF EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

The Chair invited nominations to the Executive Committee comprising five members, being one member from each of the constituent Councils and one non-Councillor member.

It was agreed that Councillor Gordon, Councillor Tweed and Trudi Craggs, as Chairperson and Deputy Chairpersons, would be the Dundee City Council, Stirling Council and non-Councillor Member representatives. It was also agreed that Councillor Andrew Parrott would be the Perth & Kinross Council representative.

No nomination being forthcoming at the meeting it was agreed that confirmation of an Angus Council representative would be notified to the Secretary and confirmed at the next meeting.

8. APPOINTMENT OF SECRETARY AND PROPER OFFICERS

The Partnership resolved that Gillian Taylor, Head of Democratic Services, Perth & Kinross Council be reappointed as Secretary; that Lisa Simpson, Head of Legal & Governance Services, Perth & Kinross Council be reappointed as Legal Officer; and that Scott Walker, Chief Accountant, Perth & Kinross Council be reappointed as Treasurer.

9. MINUTE OF MEETING OF 14 MARCH 2017

The minute of meeting of the Tayside and Central Scotland Transport Partnership of 14 March 2017 was submitted and approved as a correct record.

In relation to Item 4 – City Deals, the Director advised that progress on City Deals had been delayed by the UK Parliamentary General Election and confirmed that further progress and developments would be reported to future meetings.

In relation to Item 7 – 2016/17 Revenue Programme and Monitoring, the Director advised the Montrose Port study was not yet available, but would be reported to the Partnership when it became available.

10. APPOINTMENT OF NON COUNCILLOR MEMBERS

There was submitted a report by the Director (RTP/17/11) notifying the Partnership of Doug Fleming's intention to stand down from the position of non-Councillor member of the Partnership at the end of his current term of appointment and seeking agreement to the arrangements for appointing a replacement, and also seeking approval of extensions to the terms of appointment of Gavin Roser and Mark Craske.

Resolved:

- (i) To note the resignation of Doug Fleming from the position of non-Councillor member of the Partnership effective from 30 September 2017 and to agree to enter into a recruitment process to fill the resultant vacancy;
- (ii) To agree to delegate authority to carry out the resultant recruitment and appointment process to the Executive Committee;
- (iii) To extend the Partnership's thanks and appreciation to Doug Fleming for his significant contribution to the work of the Partnership since his appointment in February 2009;
- (iv) To agree to extend the appointment of Gavin Roser as non-Councillor member of the Partnership until 30 September 2018; and
- (v) To agree to extend the appointment of Mark Craske as Health Sector representative on the Partnership until 30 September 2019.

11. PUBLIC SERVICES REFORM ACT ANNUAL STATEMENTS

There was submitted a joint report by the Director and Treasurer (RTP/17/12) seeking the Partnership's approval of Annual Statements which require to be published under the Public Services Reform (Scotland) Act 2010.

Resolved:

- (i) To approve publication of the Public Services Reform Act Annual Statements for 2016/17 as detailed in the Appendices to the report.

12. DRAFT UNAUDITED ANNUAL ACCOUNTS FOR 2016/17

There was submitted a joint report by the Director and Treasurer (RTP/17/13) presenting the Draft Unaudited Annual Accounts for 2016/17.

Resolved:

- (ii) To approve the contents of the Draft Unaudited Annual Accounts for 2016/17; and
- (iii) To authorise the Treasurer to sign the Annual Accounts at the appropriate sections prior to submission to the Controller of Audit by 30 June 2017.

13. 2017/18 REVENUE BUDGET AND PROGRAMME

There was submitted a joint report by the Director and Treasurer (RTP/17/14) providing the Partnership with a monitoring update on Revenue expenditure and seeking approval of a revised 2017/18 Revenue Programme.

The Director highlighted various proposed revisions to the 2017/18 Revenue Budget and associated 2017/18 Regional Transport Strategy (RTS) Programme Budget, including potential options for allocating an increased provision for Contingencies as a result of additional Deferred Income from 2016/17.

Councillor Bailey asked if usage statistics could be provided for the www.gotoo.com, www.travelknowhowsotland.co.uk and www.tactranliftshare.com websites. The Director advised that usage was monitored by consultants who are employed to provide development and maintenance support for each of the websites and that a report on their respective usage would be produced for the next Partnership meeting in September.

Resolved:

- (i) To note the position regarding Core Revenue expenditure as at 30 April 2017 as detailed in Appendix A to the report;
- (ii) To note progress on the 2017/18 RTS Revenue Programme and related expenditure as discussed in sections 3.3 – 3.33 of the report and detailed in Appendix B to the report; and
- (iii) To approve the revised 2017/18 RTS Revenue Programme as detailed in the report and Appendix B to the report.

14. 2017/18 ACTIVE TRAVEL GRANT SCHEME

There was submitted a report by the Active Travel Officer (RTP/17/15) advising the Partnership on projects funded by the Tactran Active Travel Grant scheme to date, noting applications received and seeking approval of proposed awards of funding from the 2017/18 Tactran Active Travel Grant scheme.

Councillor Parrott asked if the Dunkeld in Bloom Birnam Path project could be improved to enable reconsideration. N Gardiner advised that the project involved provision of a footpath only with no provision for cycling. The conditions of the Community Links Active Travel Grant scheme, as approved by the Partnership, require that measures to promote both walking and cycling are accommodated. Consultations with the project promoters had identified that there was no ability or intention to develop the project to accommodate both walking and cycling, therefore the project is ineligible for Active Travel Grant funding, as indicated in the report.

T Craggs asked if information on the success and outcomes from previously funded projects, including whether feasibility studies have resulted in infrastructure proposals progressing to implementation, is available. N Gardiner confirmed that each project that had received funding was required to provide a report on completion of the project and that monitoring of outcomes was also encouraged. He confirmed that more detail would be provided to the Partnership meeting in September.

Resolved:

- (i) To note the projects funded by the Tactran Active Travel Grant since its inception in financial year 2014/15;
- (ii) To approve award of grant funding from the 2017/18 Active Travel Grant scheme as detailed in the report;
- (iii) To delegate authority to the Director and Treasurer to approve further awards of grant funding to projects as discussed in the report; and

- (iv) To agree to receive a report on progress on the programme of Active Travel Audits at the Partnership meeting on 12 September 2017.

15. DIRECTOR'S REPORT

There was submitted a report by the Director (RTP/17/16) updating members on various operational, policy and other matters of interest and relevance to the Partnership; seeking approval of a proposed response to consultation on the Hitrans Regional Transport Strategy refresh and arrangements for responding to a consultation on Improving Parking in Scotland; and updating the Partnership on staffing arrangements.

Councillor Sturrock left the meeting.

Councillor Dawson emphasised the importance and wide-ranging nature of the consultation on parking in Scotland and encouraged Tactran and all partner Councils to consider submitting responses, highlighting the need for national policy to be sensitive to local needs and circumstances and the need to avoid potential for unintended consequences. He had written previously to the Minister to request an extension of the consultation deadline, to enable all RTPs and Councils adequate time to consider and respond following the Council the elections, which had been granted. M Craske asked that consideration be given in responses to supporting the case for NHS Boards to be granted the same parking authority as Councils. The Director advised that Tactran officials were currently consulting with partner Council officers on proposed responses, which would also inform a proposed joint RTPs response to the consultation. He requested that M Craske submit further detail on the NHS parking issue for potential inclusion within RTP and Council submissions.

T Craggs asked if, during recent meetings, the Minister for Transport and the Islands had given any indication on the future of RTPs. The Director advised that the Minister had recognised the role and contribution of RTPs, as evidenced by the inclusion of RTPs in various Ministerially-led and other initiatives referred to in the report, including the National Transport Strategy (NTS) review, the National Bus Stakeholders Group, the national Active Travel Summit and the Aberdeen – Central Belt Reference Group. The Minister had reaffirmed that the future role of RTPs would be considered as part of the Transport Governance review to be undertaken as part of the ongoing NTS review process. The Director also noted that the Minister had met with the RTP Chairs twice during recent months, when he had agreed that the RTPs have a strong role to play in helping inform review of the NTS and had spoken positively about the role and contribution of RTPs and had indicated a willingness to have ongoing engagement with the RTPs individually and collectively.

Resolved:

- (i) To approve the proposed response to consultation on the Hitrans Regional Transport Strategy Draft as detailed in Appendix C to the report;

- (ii) To note the Transport Scotland consultation on Improving Parking in Scotland and remit officers to liaise with partner Councils and other RTPs on the development of appropriate responses;
- (iii) To note the position regarding Partnership staffing as outlined in the report; and
- (iv) To note the various other updates and information provided in the report and accompanying appendices.

15. MEMBERS ISSUES AND AOCB

G Roser suggested that copies of the Strategic Transport Projects Review and National Planning Framework 3 be made available to the new members. He also advised of the recent hosting of the European Freight Leaders conference in Glasgow and offered to give a presentation to the Partnership on this. The Chair agreed that this would be considered as an agenda item for a future meeting.

16. DATES OF NEXT MEETINGS

10.30am on 12 September 2017 in Stirling
10.30am on 12 December 2017 in Forfar