

TAYSIDE AND CENTRAL SCOTLAND TRANSPORT PARTNERSHIP**12 SEPTEMBER 2017****ACTIVE TRAVEL PROGRESS UPDATE****JOINT REPORT BY ACTIVE TRAVEL OFFICER AND CYCLE TRAINING & DEVELOPMENT OFFICER**

This report updates and seeks approval of award of funding from the 2017/18 Tactran Active Travel Grant scheme and provides a general update on Active Travel activity undertaken by the Active Travel Officer and Cycle Training and Development Officer.

1 RECOMMENDATIONS

1.1 That the Partnership :-

- (i) approves award of grant funding from the 2017/18 Active Travel Grant as detailed in the report;
- (ii) notes the award of grant funding from the 2017/18 Active Travel Grant under delegated authority, as detailed in the report; and
- (iii) notes the progress on various active travel activities undertaken by the Active Travel Officer and Cycle Training & Development Officer as outlined in the report.

2 BACKGROUND

- 2.1 At its meeting on 10 December 2013 the Partnership approved the appointment of an Active Travel Officer in partnership with Sustrans (Report RTP/13/34 refers). Under this arrangement Tactran funds the costs of staff appointment with Sustrans committing a delivery budget of at least £100,000/annum, which is available to support the development of active travel capital works and networks within the region. At its meeting on 13 June 2017 the Partnership noted that Tactran has secured a fourth annual allocation of at least £100,000 for financial year 2017/18 from the Sustrans Community Links programme (Report RTP/17/15 refers).
- 2.2 The current agreement with Sustrans extends until June 2018 (Report RTP/P3/16 refers). Nina Gillespie, who had been in post since January 2016, left on 1 September 2017 to undertake a course of full-time higher education. Arrangements for addressing the resultant vacancy are discussed in a separate report on Partnership Staffing.
- 2.3 At the meeting on 8 March 2016 the Partnership approved arrangements for appointment of a Cycle Training & Development Officer in partnership with Cycling Scotland. Marianne Scott took up post on 20 June 2016, working on a range of projects and initiatives to support the development of cycle training

in schools through the national Bikeability scheme; early years cycling in nurseries; adult cycle training and other activities to get more people cycling easily and safely, in support of Regional Transport Strategy (RTS) and Cycling Action Plan for Scotland (CAPS) aims and objectives.

3 DISCUSSION

Active Travel Grant

- 3.1 Set up as a match-funded grant scheme, the £100,000 Active Travel Grant (ATG) has been designed to reflect and support the Sustrans Community Links scheme and associated criteria, and implementation of the Tactran Regional Strategy Refresh 2015-2036, in particular Strategy 5.3 Active Travel. At its meeting on 14 March 2017 the Partnership approved the current Active Travel Grant Scheme guidance and criteria (Report RTP/17/06 refers).
- 3.2 The Tactran ATG aims to connect communities by supporting the development and delivery of high quality cycling and walking infrastructure and is available to all partners in the Tactran region including constituent Councils, National Parks, Health Boards, higher and further educational establishments and other statutory bodies. Community organisations and businesses can be considered for this scheme but are required to work in partnership with their relevant Council or other statutory body.
- 3.3 A call for ATG applications was made in April 2017, with a total of 4 submissions received in this period and one project approved by the Partnership on 13 June 2017 (Report RTP/17/15 refers). At that time the Partnership delegated authority to the Director and Treasurer to approve further awards of grant funding to two other projects. The approved projects committed up to £34,200 of the 2017/18 budget and it was noted that the Active Travel Officer would continue to engage with potential partners to identify further projects and opportunities in 2017/18.
- 3.4 Following submission of further supporting information the Perth & Kinross Countryside Trust's application for the River Tay Way project has satisfied scheme eligibility criteria and the Director and Treasurer have approved award of £15,000 from the 2017/18 Active Travel Grant to that project. Stirling Council's application for the Stirling Station Gateway project remains under consideration, awaiting further clarification, and any further developments on this will be reported orally.
- 3.5 A second call for ATG applications was made in June 2017 with submissions invited by 11 August 2017. One application was received as summarised in Appendix A. This application has been assessed against the approved ATG scoring criteria by a panel consisting of the Senior Partnership Manager and Sustrans' Strategic Cycling Plans Manager, supported by the Active Travel Officer. This application is considered suitable for award of ATG funding:

Organisation	Project	Recommended Grant Allocation
Dundee City Council	Dundee Docks Shared Use Path – Design Fees	£18,262

- 3.6 The Partnership is asked to approve the allocation of funding to this project, as set out in the above table and summarised in Appendix A.
- 3.7 The funding approvals and proposals outlined in paragraphs 3.3 to 3.6 above, commit a total of up to £67,462, leaving a remaining balance of £32,538 available to support further activity/projects in 2017/18, including ongoing consideration of the Stirling Station Gateway application. Officers will continue to engage with potential partners to identify eligible projects to be funded from the remaining balance of the 2017/18 ATG budget.

Monitoring

- 3.8 Active Travel Grant project, summary reports from each financial year since the scheme's inception, including the latest 2016/17 summary report, have been produced and are available in the [Members' Area](#) of the Tactran website. These detail the work completed as a part of the project, as well as recording relevant developments since their completion as a part of the ATG scheme. Subject to continuation of the scheme, the 2018/19 ATG criteria will be reviewed to consider the inclusion of additional monitoring requirements.
- 3.9 As its meeting on 13 March 2017 (RTP/17/15 refers) the Partnership noted that Tactran, in partnership with Angus, Dundee and Perth & Kinross Councils, was successful in securing monitoring equipment through Cycling Scotland's National Monitoring Framework programme. This programme looks to create a Scotland-wide approach to monitoring cycling modal share, complementing existing monitoring schemes within each settlement with 10,000+ populations. Stirling Council successfully submitted a separate application for this programme.
- 3.10 Cycle-pedestrian counters have now been installed in the following locations :
- Keptie Street, Arbroath
 - Arbroath Road, Dundee
 - Glasgow Road, Perth
 - Lade Way, Perth
 - Burghmuir Road, Stirling
 - Glen Gardens, Callander
- 3.11 Under Cycling Scotland's National Monitoring Framework programme, temporary counts have also been completed in 22 locations within Arbroath, Dundee, Perth and Stirling and these will be completed bi-annually, with the next counts scheduled for October 2017.

- 3.12 In partnership with Cycling Scotland, Tactran provided funding in 2016/17 for an additional four permanent cycle/pedestrian counters to be installed in the Tactran region to further contribute to the National Monitoring Framework and also RTS monitoring capability. Discussions are ongoing with Councils and Cycling Scotland on identifying appropriate locations for these in each Council area.
- 3.13 Cycling Scotland will share the data from the permanent counters on a quarterly basis with Tactran and partner Council's. Data from the temporary counts will be shared bi-annually.
- 3.14 In addition to this, Abellio ScotRail has been undertaking cycle parking counts at railways stations via their CCTV systems and has agreed to share this data with local authorities and RTPs on a quarterly basis. Tactran will use all of this information to supplement existing monitoring data to help build a picture of walking and cycling rates in the Tactran region.

Bikeability Support Plus Funding

- 3.15 All four partner Councils now have an identified Bikeability Coordinator, supported by Tactran. The Cycle Training & Development Officer has provided interim coordination support to Stirling during the period June to August with a new Coordinator appointed to start in Stirling late August 2017.
- 3.16 The percentage of schools completing Level 2 training across the region in 2015/16 was 38% against a national average of 37.5%. Updated national figures are expected to be published in September. The target delivery rate for the current academic session is 60% and all four partner Councils are expected to record significant increases during 2017 into 2018. Discussions are ongoing regarding including Bikeability within local Education Health & Wellbeing Strategies.
- 3.17 Level 3 Bikeability Scotland training in Secondary schools has been offered to a number of schools within the region, with Strathearn Community Campus, Crieff and Blairgowrie High School starting delivery in September 2017.
- 3.18 Cycling Scotland and Sustrans have published a joint statement showing how Bikeability Scotland and iBike programmes complement each other. This has been met positively across Tactran, and there is ongoing discussion about the potential for an iBike officer in Angus.
- 3.19 Dundee University PGDE (Post Graduate Degree Education) programme director has agreed to include the SCQF accredited 'Cycle Training Assistant' course into the University's PGDE curriculum from May 2018. This will be a pilot project in the first year, exploring potential benefits of ensuring PGDE students have the opportunity to complete the course ahead of their school placement.

.All Ability & Adult Cycling Opportunities

- 3.20 Seventeen delivery outlets have been recruited and trained to offer the Essential Cycling Skills (ECS) courses throughout Tactran. These include: Angus Cycling Hub, Electric Bikes Scotland, Stirling Cycle Hub, Recyke-A-Bike, Coupar Angus Cycle Hub, Wheels Cycling Centre in Callander, World of Cycling in Broughty Ferry, Second Cycles Dundee, Ancrum Outdoor Centre, The Bike Station Perth, Small Fry Cycling, PKC Sustrans iBike Officer, Tiso Perth, Craigdon Mountain Sports Perth, Aviva, Revolution Strathearn and Dunblane ByCycle. The offer has been promoted via local authorities, NHS Forth Valley and NHS Tayside.
- 3.21 The Cycle Training & Development Officer is consulting with partners across the region on establishing a pilot project aimed at promoting social benefits of cycling via led-rides to people of retirement age.
- 3.22 Dundee University's Institute of Sport and Exercise will be the first to train and offer participants ECS training and development as part of the Active Living and Seniors project, aiming to commence in September 2017. It is intended to extend support to further communities across the Tactran region during 2018.

Cycle Friendly School

- 3.23 Across the Tactran region, 21 schools now hold an active Cycle Friendly School Award, with 2 more schools awaiting assessment, a further 3 schools working through an action plan and 7 schools considering applying.

Cycle Friendly Campus

- 3.24 The University of Dundee has achieved Cycle Friendly Campus status, with a 10% rise in the number of students and staff cycling. The University of Stirling, Forth Valley College, Dundee and Angus College and Abertay University are all registered with the award scheme and are due to be assessed during August and September 2017.

Cycle Friendly Employer

- 3.25 Of the large employers across the region 18 have achieved Cycle Friendly Employer status with 14 more employers due to be assessed or currently developing an action plan. Angus Cycle Hub is now an active Cycle Friendly Service Centre able to support rollout of the award across Dundee and Angus.

Cycle Friendly Communities

- 3.26 The Cycle Friendly Communities status has been achieved by 3 community led cycling projects with Coupar Angus Cycling Hub achieving Gold and Angus Cycling Hub and FABB Scotland achieving Silver. All three were awarded funding through the Cycle Friendly Communities Fund.

Nursery Play on Pedals

- 3.27 Early years teams across Angus, Stirling, Perth & Kinross and Dundee are established partners for the rollout of Play on Pedals training to staff in the nursery setting.

Pedal for Scotland/Wee Jaunt Perth & Perth on the Go

- 3.28 Pedal for Scotland returns for the 19th year on 10th September 2017 with over 6,000 people expected to participate in the 45-mile Classic Challenge from Glasgow to Edinburgh. Alongside the Glasgow to Edinburgh rides, a number of regional 'Wee Jaunts' have also been promoted as part of Pedal for Scotland, aimed at family cycling.
- 3.29 The Wee Jaunt Perth was held on 6 August 2017 with over 250 registered participants cycling on closed roads in and around the city centre incorporating the North Inch. The Wee Jaunt was held in parallel with a Perth on the Go promotional event. A Tactran/Sustrans/Cycling Scotland stall promoted active travel activity and projects on the day, which generated a great deal of interest and enquiries.
- 3.30 Suitable locations are currently being considered to run additional Wee Jaunt events in Angus and/or Dundee.

Practical Cycle Awareness Training (PCAT) for PCV/LGV Drivers

- 3.31 Stirling and Perth & Kinross Councils have both developed their own Joint Approvals Unit for Periodic Training (JAUPT) accredited CPD course for fleet drivers with support from Cycling Scotland and Tactran. Perth & Kinross Council is also supporting the training of drivers in the Moray area. Discussions are ongoing with Angus Council and Dundee City Council on extension of PCAT in these areas.

4 CONSULTATIONS

- 4.1 The report and relevant proposals have been the subject of consultation and agreement with Sustrans, Cycling Scotland, the Sustainable Travel Liaison Group, Transportation Officers Liaison Group and other appropriate stakeholders.

5 RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS

- 5.1 The proposed award of Active Travel Grant funding can be accommodated from the allocation of £100,000 to the 2017/18 Tactran Community Links Active Travel Grant scheme by Sustrans.
- 5.2 Provision for the costs associated with appointment and activity of the Active Travel Officer and Cycle Training & Development Officer exists within the approved 2017/18 RTS Revenue Programme Budget.

6 EQUALITIES IMPLICATIONS

6.1 This report has been screened for any policy implications in respect of Equality Impact Assessment and no major issues have been identified.

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Report jointly prepared by Nina Gillespie and Marianne Scott. For further information contact Niall Gardiner: email niallgardiner@tactran.gov.uk / telephone 01738 475764 or Marianne Scott: email mariannescott@tactran.gov.uk / telephone 01738 475763.

NOTE

The following background papers, as defined by Section 50D of the Local Government (Scotland) Act 1973 (and not containing confidential or exempt information) were relied on to a material extent in preparing this Report:

Report to Partnership RTP/13/34, Walking and Cycling Strategy Update, 10 December 2013

Report to Partnership RTP/16/08, Active Travel Progress Update, 8 March 2016

Report to Partnership RTP/16/20, Active Travel Progress Update, 14 June 2016

Report to Partnership RTP/P3/16, Partnership Staffing, 6 December 2016

Report to Partnership RTP/17/06, Active Travel Progress Update, 14 March 2017

Report to Partnership RTP/17/15, 2017/18 Active Travel Grant Scheme, 13 June 2017

Project Recommended for Funding

Organisation	Project Name	Description	Total Project Cost	Grant Funding Requested
Dundee City Council	Dundee Docks Shared Use Path – Design Fees	The Dundee Docks and City Quay area provides a crucial part of the Green Circular and National Cycle Route 1. At present however, the Docks acts as an obstacle to the route, with cyclists requiring photo ID to gain access and the use of secure intercom system to enable to the Port to operate safely, presenting cyclists with travel time delays. The project will develop this ‘missing link’ by enhancing the current path opening the area up to cyclists and pedestrians, providing the designs for a continuous route that will be open to the public, whilst maintaining the security of the Port.	£36,524	£18,262