

**TAYSIDE AND CENTRAL SCOTLAND TRANSPORT PARTNERSHIP****18 DECEMBER 2018****ACTIVE TRAVEL PROGRESS UPDATE****JOINT REPORT BY STRATEGY OFFICER (SUSTAINABLE TRANSPORT) AND  
CYCLE TRAINING & DEVELOPMENT OFFICER**

This report asks the Partnership to delegate authority to Director and Treasurer to procure consultants for Tactran Regional Walking and Cycling Network feasibility and design and Modal Share Cordon Counts; endorse developing Active Travel Audits in Dundee and note progress with various Active Travel initiatives across the region.

**1 RECOMMENDATIONS**

## 1.1 That the Partnership:

- (i) delegates authority to the Director and Treasurer to procure suitably qualified and experienced consultants to take forward Tactran Regional Walking and Cycling Network feasibility and design, as discussed in the report;
- (ii) endorses the intention to take forward design of Active Travel Audits in Dundee, utilising the services of Dundee City Council's City Engineers;
- (iii) delegates authority to the Director and Treasurer to procure suitably qualified and experienced consultants to take forward the Modal Share Cordon Counts as discussed in the report;
- (iv) notes progress on 2018/19 Tactran Active Travel Grant and various active travel activities undertaken by the Strategy Officer (Sustainable Transport) and Cycle Training & Development Officer; and
- (v) notes the update from the 2018/19 Bus and Active Travel Summit.

**2 BACKGROUND**

- 2.1 At its meeting on 27 March 2018 the Partnership was informed that Tactran had secured a further minimum allocation of £100,000 for its Active Travel Grant scheme from the Sustrans Community Links Programme during the 2018/19 financial year. At the same meeting the Partnership also approved the 2018/19 [Active Travel Grant scheme guidance and criteria](#) (Report RTP/18/09 refers).

- 2.2 At its meeting on 26 June 2018 the Partnership approved award to two projects both from Perth and Kinross Council looking at the extension of the Green Routes and the Cycle and Ride scheme in the Carse of Gowrie totalling £35,500 from 2018/19 Active Travel Grant and delegated authority to the Director and Treasurer to approve further awards upon receipt of further information (Report RTP/18/22 refers).
- 2.3 At its meeting on the 25 September 2018 the Partnership noted the award of £50,188 by the Director and Treasurer to one project from the Perth and Kinross Countryside Trust for the Muthill to Auchterader feasibility study and agreed to award funding to two further projects totalling £59,800 from the 2018/19 Active Travel Grant. The projects were from Perth and Kinross Council for the Community Engagement Platform and from NHS Tayside for the feasibility study in and around the Ninewells Hospital site. As a result five projects have received funding awards under the 2018/19 scheme to date totalling £145,488 and the Partnership noted that Sustrans had confirmed this total funding could be accommodated (Report RTP/18/35 refers). Delegated authority was given to the Director and Treasure to award further funding to an application from Dundee City Council upon receipt of more information.
- 2.4 At its meeting on the 25 September 2018 the Partnership noted progress on the Regional Active Travel Development Fund and various active travel activities undertaken by the Cycle Training & Development Officer.

### **3 DISCUSSION**

#### Regional Active Travel Development Fund Update

- 3.1 Following a proposal submitted by the RTPs to the Minister for Transport and the Islands, seeking establishment of a Regional Active Travel Development Fund, the RTPs individually and collectively have submitted proposals to Transport Scotland for capital bids totalling £1m and £2m across the 7 RTPs, with Tactran potentially receiving £133,400 or £266,800 in 2018/19.
- 3.2 At its meeting on 25 September 2018 the Partnership received an update providing details of Tactran's proposals submitted to Transport Scotland for the Regional Active Travel Development Fund noting that Tactran had indicated to Transport Scotland that taking forward the Regional Cycling and Walking Network detailed within the Regional Transport Strategy would be the priority should only £133,400 be made available.
- 3.3 Tactran received a grant offer from Transport Scotland awarding £133,400 for the development of the Regional Waking and Cycling Network on 28 November 2018. At the time of writing, discussions are ongoing between Tactran and Transport Scotland regarding timescale for completion of work and an oral update will be given at the Partnership meeting.
- 3.4 In consultation with constituent Councils, three sections of the Regional Walking and Cycling Network have been identified as priority for feasibility and design: Brechin to Montrose; Dunkeld to Blairgowrie and Stirling to Plean.

- 3.5 Collaboration with Sustran is in progress over the continuation of the Stirling to Plean route to Forth Valley Royal Hospital and Larbert.
- 3.6 The Partnership is asked to delegate authority to the Director and Treasurer to procure suitably qualified and experienced consultants to undertake feasibility and design work and to receive and update at its next meeting.

#### Active Travel Audits

- 3.7 A programme of Active Travel Audits commenced in March 2017 and was completed by end of June 2018, with 13 settlement locations in total having been audited.
- 3.8 The aim of the Active Travel Audits was:
- to compile up-to-date information and mapping of existing active travel networks in main settlements
  - to map associated potential settlement active travel networks in support of the RTS and partner Council Active Travel Strategies
  - to develop prioritised action plans and outline costs of recommended active travel infrastructure and facilities within each settlement to inform and support development of robust future funding bids to the Community Links Programme, Smarter Choices/Smarter Places and other potential funding sources
- 3.9 At its meeting on 23 March 2018 the Partnership noted that it is intended to develop and design the infrastructure proposals recommended within the Active Travel Audits, before pursuing further settlements and locations to audit (Report RTP/18/09 refers).
- 3.10 There is £30,000 available within the Tactran RTS Revenue Active Travel budget in 2018/19 to develop and design infrastructure proposals arising from the Active Travel Audits. The Active Travel Audits to date have been developed in partnership with Sustrans and they have confirmed additional Sustrans funding of up to £30,000 is available for this initiative.
- 3.11 Following consultation with constituent Councils it is intended to utilise this funding to take forward design within the three areas of Dundee previously audited: North East Dundee, Lochee and Coldside, using Dundee City Council's City Engineers to undertake the work.

#### Modal Share Monitoring

- 3.12 After consultation with the constituent Councils it was agreed to submit an application to the Smarter Choices Smarter Places Open Fund to carry out modal share monitoring across the region.

- 3.13 There are limited existing data sets that can be utilised to measure mode share within the region. Hence implementation of more cordon counts at key areas across the region will help to better understand the modal share across the Tactran region and inform future investment priorities.
- 3.14 The Smarter Choices Smarter Places Open Fund is managed by Paths for All and aims to encourage people to change their behaviours to walk or cycle as part of their everyday short journeys. The fund is available to support public, third and community sector organisations and can award funding up to £50,000 which requires to be matched 50/50. Tactran has been awarded £20,000 from the Fund with Tactran providing £10,000 and the four constituent Councils providing £10,000 as match funding.
- 3.15 The Partnership is asked to delegate authority to the Director and Treasurer to procure suitably qualified and experienced consultants to take forward the Modal Share Cordon Counts.

#### Active Travel Grant

- 3.16 Tactran and Sustrans have been working in partnership to promote and deliver active travel projects in the Tactran region through the Active Travel Grant (ATG) since 2014/15 and a minimum of £100,000 was initially available to take forward projects in 2018/19. The 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.
- 3.17 The ATG aims to connect communities by providing 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.
- 3.18 There have been two calls for 2018/19 ATG applications; one in April 2018 and another in July 2018. This has resulted in a total of five Active Travel Grant applications being awarded a total of £145,488. At its meeting on 25 September 2018 the Partnership also deferred for award of one application to the Director and Treasurer pending further information.
- 3.19 Further information on Dundee City Council's application for the construction of a shared use path along the Arbroath Road has recently been received. The application is currently being assessed against the approved ATG scoring criteria by a panel consisting of the Senior Partnership Manager, Senior Strategy Officer and Sustrans' Partnerships Manager, Scotland Region, supported by the Strategy Officer (Sustainable Transport). An oral update will be provided at the Partnership meeting.

- 3.20 As in previous years, it has been agreed with Sustrans that additional Community Links funding can be levered should projects totalling in excess of the initial minimum £100,000 allocation be identified. Subsequently, reflecting demand for financial support for projects Sustrans has confirmed £145,488 can be accommodated within 2018/19 to date.

#### Velocity Submission

- 3.21 Tactran's Cycle Training and Development officer submitted an abstract for the Velocity International Cycling Conference 2019 to be held in Dublin. The Abstract submission is Cycling Through the Ages using the Adult Cycling Project with Dundee University Institute of Sport and Exercise (ISE) as a case study.

#### Bikeability

- 3.22 Bikeability Co-ordinators continue to operate in Angus, Dundee, Perth & Kinross and Stirling supported by the Tactran Cycle training and Development officer.
- 3.23 Stirling Bikeability coordination has now been handed over to Recyke-a-bike during October 2018. All four local authorities are now in receipt of the Support Plus Funding to support Bikeability during 2018/2019 via the Mentor Support Model. Gabriella Farquhar from Bridge of Allan Primary School won the Bikeability volunteer of the year award.
- 3.24 Meetings have been arranged and are ongoing with all four Departments of Education to discuss the placement of Bikeability in the school health and wellbeing curriculum.

#### All Ability & Adult Cycling Opportunities

- 3.25 Dundee University Institute of Sport and Exercise (ISE) & Tactran Cycle Training and Development officer presented a roundtable discussion during the Cycling Scotland Conference on the 6 November 2018.
- 3.26 Tactran's Cycle Training and Development officer is continuing to work with local authority active travel coordinators/hubs to introduce the Essential Cycle Skills project into community hubs, groups, NHS medical hubs, groups, women's groups, men's sheds/groups, WRI, community centres, churches, service centres.

#### Cycle Friendly School

- 3.27 A further 3 schools have been awarded Cycle Friendly School award since September's meeting meaning there are now thirty schools holding an active Cycle Friendly School (CFS) Award, with 5 more schools working toward CFS Award through an action plan.

- 3.28 Cycle Friendly Secondary School development grant closed on the 4 October 2018. Cycling Scotland received a high volume of applications from across Scotland with two schools within Tactran receiving funding – Braeview High School in Dundee and Perth Grammar School. Four applications from Craigie High School and Grove Academy in Dundee and Wallace High School and Stirling High School in Stirling were unsuccessful.

#### Cycle Friendly Campus

- 3.29 Forth Valley College have been awarded Cycle Friendly Campus status since September's meeting and now join the University of Dundee as the only two Cycle Friendly Campuses across Tactran. Abertay University, Perth UCI College, Dundee & Angus College (Kingsway Campus, Gardyne Campus, Angus Campus) and Stirling University registered in 2017 for the award scheme and are working towards completion by January 2019.

#### Cycle Friendly Employer

- 3.30 Since September's Partnership meeting, 3 additional companies have been awarded Cycle Friendly Employer (CFE) status, bringing this to a total to 32 employers across the region. 28 more employers are registered and due to be assessed or are currently working towards achieving CFE status.
- 3.31 Cycle Friendly Employer Development Grants closed for application during November 2018 with a high volume of employers applying for funding. Two applications from the Tactran area are being considered for funding.

#### Cycle Friendly Communities

- 3.32 There continues to be four Cycle Friendly Communities across Tactran: Live Active All Ability Cycling Perth, Angus Cycling Hub and FABB Scotland achieving the Silver award and Coupar Angus Cycling Hub achieving the Gold award.

#### Nursery Play on Pedals

- 3.33 Play on Pedals (PoP) continues to increase across the region with all four local authority early years teams planning and organising training for staff during 2018/2019. The PoP programme is well received in the region and continues to grow from strength to strength.

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

- 3.34 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. Discussions are ongoing with Angus Council and Dundee City Council on extension of PCAT in these areas.

### Making Cycling Mainstream Training

- 3.35 Making Cycling Mainstream training for Council officers and partner organisations was held on the 14 November 2018 in the Dewars Centre Perth with 15 participants attending.

### Bus and Active Travel Summit

- 3.36 The annual active travel summit aimed at lead council officers and members was held on the 24 October 2018 in Edinburgh. The summit was originally focused on active travel but has now been expanded to the Bus and Active Travel Summit reflecting the creation of the Transport Scotland directorate of 'Bus, Accessibility and Active Travel'.
- 3.37 The Cabinet Secretary for Transport, Infrastructure and Connectivity Michael Mathieson MSP addressed the summit. He was keen to make sure that what we do does not exacerbate social inequalities. He described his aspiration to create, in the next ten years, the cleanest and most inclusive transport system and also emphasised that we need to also see buses as a socially healthy option.

## **4 CONSULTATIONS**

- 4.1 This report has been prepared in consultation with Sustrans officers who are in agreement with the proposals.
- 4.2 The Tactran Community Links Active Travel Grant scheme has been developed in consultation with the Sustainable Travel Liaison Group, Transportation Officers Liaison Group, Public Transport Officers Liaison Group and other appropriate stakeholders.
- 4.3 The Tactran Active Travel Audits have been developed in consultation with the constituent local authorities and Sustrans.

## **5 RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS**

- 5.1 An initial allocation of £100,000 for the Tactran Community Links Active Travel Grant scheme has been supplemented by an additional £45,488 from the 2018/19 Sustrans Community Links programme to date.
- 5.2 The Active Travel Audit Phase 2 expenditure of £80,285 is being funded 50% from the 2017/18 RTS Revenue Programme budget allocation for Active Travel with 50% match funding of £40,142 towards this initiative being provided by Sustrans in 2018/19. Sustrans has also confirmed that up to £30,000 is available to develop and design infrastructure proposals arising from the Active Travel Audits.
- 5.3 Tactran have been awarded £133,400 for the Regional Active Travel Development Fund for 2018/19.

## **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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### **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/18/09, Active Travel Progress Update, 23 March 2018

Report to Partnership RTP/18/22, Active Travel Update, 26 June 2018

Report to Partnership, RTP/18/35 refers, Active Travel Update, 25 September 2018