



Public Services Reform (Scotland) Act 2010

Annual Statement 2018/19

Contents Page

1. Statement on Measures to Support Sustainable Economic Growth – 2018/19
2. Statement of Efficiency, Effectiveness and Economy – 2018/19
3. Financial Statement

Public Services Reform (Scotland) Act 2010

Statement on Measures to Support Sustainable Economic Growth – 2018/19

1. Introduction

- 1.1 Tactran is the statutory Regional Transport Partnership covering the Angus, Dundee City, Perth & Kinross and Stirling Council areas. The Partnership's principal statutory duties are to :-
- create and oversee the delivery of the statutory Regional Transport Strategy (RTS);
 - engage proactively in Community Planning and support implementation of Local Outcomes Improvement Plans;
 - engage as a Key Agency in the Development Planning process at a regional and local level;
 - support the achievement of statutory Climate Change objectives, as set out in the Climate Change (Scotland) Act 2009 and associated Guidance; and
 - meet the requirements of the Equality Act 2010 and the Equality Act (Specific Duties) (Scotland) Regulations 2012.
- 1.2 The Public Services Reform (Scotland) Act 2010 requires listed public bodies to publish, as soon as reasonably practicable after the end of each financial year, a statement on the steps they have taken to promote and increase sustainable economic growth through the exercise of their functions. Regional Transport Partnerships (RTPs) are listed bodies within the Act.
- 1.3 This statement on Measures to Support Sustainable Economic Growth summarises the key areas of relevant Tactran activity during financial year 2018/19. It should be read in conjunction with the separate statement on Efficiency, Effectiveness and Economy, and the financial information that is also required to be published under the Act.
- 1.4 All of this information can be viewed on, or downloaded free of charge from, the Partnership's [website](#).

Regional Transport Strategy

- 1.5 The first Tactran Regional Transport Strategy 2008 – 2023 (RTS) was approved by Scottish Ministers in June 2008. In accordance with revised Ministerial direction in 2008 the RTS is a “high level” strategy. During 2015/16 a comprehensive review and updating of the RTS was undertaken in consultation with partner Councils and other key stakeholders. The resultant [Regional Transport Strategy 2015 – 2036 Refresh](#) (RTS Refresh) was approved by the Minister for Transport and Islands in July 2015.

- 1.6 The core policy framework and strategic direction of the original RTS has been maintained and the RTS Vision and key Objectives are also unchanged. The RTS Refresh supports Scottish Government's central purpose to promote inclusive, sustainable economic growth, whilst the 16 strategy Objectives align with Scottish Government's Strategic Objectives and National Outcomes. The Strategy's 3 key strategic themes remain :-
- supporting economic prosperity;
 - connecting communities and being socially inclusive; and
 - promoting environmental sustainability and improving health and wellbeing.
- 1.7 Whilst maintaining the original RTS Vision and Objectives the RTS Refresh incorporates various changes to reflect the evolving economic, environmental and social policy contexts within which the Partnership operates. It contains a number of updated policies and proposals, identifying 31 updated Strategic Actions which are aimed at supporting delivery of the 3 key strategic themes.
- 1.8 Public and stakeholder consultation on updating the RTS Refresh Main Issues Report was undertaken in parallel with the Main Issues consultation stage of the second TAYplan Strategic Development Plan (SDP) which covers much of the region. The RTS Refresh delivery horizon of 2036 was also deliberately aligned with that for the second SDP, reflecting the importance of ensuring close alignment of strategic Land Use and Transportation strategy development and delivery.
- 1.9 Following completion of the RTS Refresh a comprehensive review and updating of the [RTS Delivery Plan](#) was completed during 2016/17, for the period 2016-21, again in consultation with partner Councils and key stakeholders. This included a comprehensive mapping of RTS policies and delivery actions against various relevant national, regional and local strategies and policies and their associated action plan/programme priorities, to ensure that the RTS Refresh and RTS delivery priorities continue to align with and support the delivery of national and local outcomes. During 2018/19 a progress report on the RTS Delivery Plan and associated [RTS Monitoring Framework](#) was approved by the Board.

Community Planning

- 1.10 RTPs are statutory Community Planning agencies and partners. The Partnership was a formal signatory to the 4 Single Outcome Agreements (SOAs) for the Angus, Dundee City, Perth & Kinross and Stirling Community Planning Partnership areas which pre-dated the Community Empowerment (Scotland) Act 2015. During 2017/18 the Partnership contributed proactively to the development of the new Local Outcomes Improvement Plans (LOIPs) which have replaced the previous SOAs under the 2015 Act. At its meeting on 12 December 2017 the Partnership endorsed the 4 partner Council area LOIPs. In formally endorsing the LOIPs the Partnership also agreed, in principle, to contribute to Participatory Budgeting in each CPP area, subject to further consideration of the detailed resource implications.

1.11 As outlined above, RTS Refresh policies were comprehensively mapped and aligned to support SOA priorities alongside related SOA Action Plans and the updated RTS Delivery Plan was aligned with the emerging LOIP priorities. This was to ensure that the Partnership's own activity and delivery priorities moving forward continue to support and contribute to achievement of defined National and Local Outcomes, including those relating to inclusive, sustainable economic growth.

1.12 RTS activity and priorities during 2018/19 which contributed to LOIP outcomes included:-

- **supporting sustainable economic growth** – through proactive support of the two City Region Deals covering the Tactran area: the Stirling/Clackmannanshire and Tay Cities Region Deals. Tactran led the Connected Tay theme and supported the development of strategic outline business cases. It also provided technical and financial support for the Tay Cities Regional Transport Model. Similarly, officers have been supporting project development in the Stirling/Clacks City Deal and the Partnership offered financial support for the evolution of projects up to 'Case for Change' stage. Additionally, through promoting and supporting enhancements to transport infrastructure and internal and external road, rail and air connectivity; ongoing work on the development of proposals for improved rail services following on from the Tay Estuary Rail Study and strategy (TERS) and Revolution in Rail proposals in consultation with the rail industry. Also via membership of the East Coast Mainline Authorities (ECMA) consortium and the High Speed Rail Scotland group. Tactran has further supported Transport Scotland in the development of the Regional Transport Working Groups (RTWGs) that will provide the medium for consultation on the Strategic Transport Projects Review (STPR2) proposals to improve strategic road and rail network connectivity nationally and regionally. Tactran has been the coordinating body for the Tay Cities Aviation Study and continues to work with HIAL and the Dundee Airport Consultative Committee to support improved air connectivity and facilities at Dundee Airport.
- **supporting improvements in health and wellbeing, increased physical activity and reducing health inequalities** - through continued development of the RTS Delivery Plan projects supporting the Health & Transport strategies, working with and through CPPs on development of locally relevant Health & Transport Action Plans; drawing down funds from the Regional Active Travel Development Fund to support these measures; working with Councils, Health Boards, Sustrans, Cycling Scotland and Paths for All on the development of regional and local Active Travel strategies; promoting the completed Active Travel Audits within key settlements to identify opportunities to develop walking and cycling networks and facilities; funding the development and delivery of infrastructure which promote and increase walking and cycling for commuter, leisure and other travel through the Tactran Community Links Active Travel Grant scheme; and supporting the delivery of cycle training

programmes to encourage increased cycling by people of all ages;

- **contributing to community and road safety** - through continued partnering on and financially supporting the delivery of road safety education campaigns such as Safe Dive/Stay Alive in all 4 partner Council areas; contributing towards the development of national cycle monitoring capacity and capability regionally; contributing, as appropriate, to delivery of local infrastructure improvements, promoting active travel and other initiatives; and partnering with Cycling Scotland, Councils, education establishments, local communities and other partners to promote safe cycle training for early years, primary and secondary schoolchildren and adults;
- **supporting the provision of high quality and accessible local services** - through ongoing maintenance and development of the Thistle Card assistance card and associated “app” to assist disabled bus users across the region; maintenance and development of the regional travel information strategy and [‘Get on the Go’](#) social media campaign; funding the specification of an upgraded Real Time Passenger Information system covering Angus, Dundee City and Perth & Kinross; and developing regional strategies for emerging technologies such as the EV Strategy and MaaS (Mobility as a Service) Playbook.
- **supporting improvements in environmental quality and reduction in transport related carbon emissions** - through supporting public and private sector organisations to develop and implement Workplace and Active Travel Plans and supporting measures and infrastructure; working in partnership with Transport Scotland and all other RTPs to develop the Travelknowhow web-based travel planning toolkit as a nationally available resource; promoting the Liftshare platform to reduce the costs and environmental impact of travel; providing Sustainable Travel Grant Scheme funding and other support to a range of public and private sector organisations to aid their development and implementation of workplace Travel Plans in support of Climate Change Act objectives; promoting and delivering more sustainable travel choices through the regional Buses; Rail; Park & Ride; Travel Information and Active Travel strategies; and progressing Freight Quality Partnership initiatives aimed at more sustainable transport of goods including timber transport.

1.13 Continuing to engage proactively in and supporting the process of developing and implementing LOIPs, participatory budgeting and associated Locality Action Plans/Programmes will continue to be a key focus for the Partnership.

Development Planning

- 1.14 RTPs are designated as statutory Key Agencies in the Development Planning process reflecting the importance of ensuring that strategic Transportation and Land Use policy and planning are aligned and integrated in a manner that fully supports inclusive, sustainable economic growth.
- 1.15 The RTS Refresh recognises and promotes the principle that new development should be directed to the most economically and environmentally sustainable locations, supported by efficient, effective and sustainable transport systems and infrastructure, and also that existing developments should adopt more sustainable approaches to meeting current and future transport demands.
- 1.16 The Travel Planning strategy and our various Travel Plan “toolkits” are available to support all public and private sector stakeholders in the creation, implementation and monitoring of effective Travel Plans. The development of ‘Travel Know How’ as a nationally available resource provides further assistance to the Development Industry and Planners in designing, implementing and monitoring more sustainable approaches to travel planning associated with all types of development and land use.

Climate Change Public Sector Duties

- 1.17 RTPs are designated public bodies with a statutory responsibility to contribute to the delivery of emissions reduction targets and generally act in a way that supports national climate change mitigation and adaptation programmes and frameworks.
- 1.18 The Climate Change (Scotland) Act 2009 sets challenging targets to reduce Scotland’s emissions of greenhouse gases by 42% by 2020 and 80% by 2050. Contributing to the achievement of the Scottish national targets and obligations on reducing greenhouse gas emissions is a specific Key Objective of the Regional Transport Strategy 2015-2036 Refresh.
- 1.19 Part 4 of the Climate Change (Scotland) Act places duties on public bodies relating to climate change. The duties require that a public body must, in exercising its functions, act:
- in the way best calculated to contribute to delivery of the Act's emissions reduction targets;
 - in the way best calculated to deliver any statutory adaptation programme; and
 - in a way that it considers most sustainable.

- 1.20 The Partnership has previously undertaken a Transport Carbon Assessment which identified key priority mitigation areas where the Partnership and its RTS have significant potential to contribute to, or support, reduction in transport carbon emissions. A Climate Change Adaptation Policy Statement has also been prepared and approved by the Partnership in response to earlier feedback from the Sustainable Scotland Network (SSN) on previous annual reporting. The Transport Carbon Assessment and Climate Change Adaptation Policy Statement are available on the [Climate Change page](#) of the Tactran website. This work has informed the Partnership and our partner Councils', Development Planning Authorities' and Community Planning Partnerships' understanding and identification of issues and proposed actions in relation to statutory Climate Change Act public sector duties, having specific regard to reducing the impacts of transport.
- 1.21 This work identified key options and actions as having most potential for enabling Tactran, and other public sector partners, to contribute cost-effectively towards transport carbon reduction, namely :-
- continued promotion of Travel Planning and behavioural change measures;
 - support for development of eco-driving initiatives with public and private sector organisations;
 - promoting the positive role of Development Planning in supporting behavioural change in favour of more sustainable modes of transport/travel, particularly walking, cycling and public transport;
 - targeted development and promotion of low carbon vehicles and infrastructure.
- 1.22 The outputs from this work were shared with all Community Planning Partnerships and Development Planning Authorities and were used to inform the Partnership's own RTS Refresh during 2015/16, the comprehensive review and updating of the RTS Delivery Plan during 2016/17 and project development and delivery during 2018/19.
- 1.23 The Partnership has an approved workplace Travel Plan for its own staff at its headquarters and Partnership staff have undertaken fuel efficient driving training delivered by the Energy Savings Trust.
- 1.24 Tactran continues to work closely with a wide range of public and private sector employers and partners to promote Travel Planning and behavioural change regionally and nationally. Development of the Travelknowhow toolkit, launched as the nationally available Travelknowhow Scotland resource working in partnership with Transport Scotland and all other RTPs, has extended the reach and benefits of our previous regional focus and investment in Travel Planning.

- 1.25 Tactran submitted an initial trial Public Bodies Duties Climate Change Report for 2014-15 to the Sustainable Scotland Network (SSN) in November 2015. SSN issued feedback on the trial report, which indicated that Tactran's reporting overall was satisfactory but also indicated that more information was required on Adaptation. In response to this feedback the Partnership approved a Climate Change Adaptation Policy Statement. The Partnership's first mandatory annual Public Sector Climate Change Report for 2015/16, along with the Adaptation Policy Statement, was submitted to SSN in November 2016.
- 1.26 The Partnership's second mandatory Public Sector Climate Change Report for 2016/17, incorporating revisions to address further feedback received from SSN on the 2015/16 Report, was submitted in November 2017. For that year, SSN has provided one consolidated feedback document for all organisations' 2016/17 reports highlighting general areas for improvement in climate change reports covering all parts of the submission.
- 1.27 The feedback, where applicable to Tactran, was appropriately incorporated into improving our reporting and the Climate Change Report for 2017/18 was submitted to SSN on 30 November 2018

2. Measures to Support Sustainable Economic Growth

- 2.1 The RTS Refresh and Delivery Plan fully recognise the key role that efficient, integrated and environmentally sustainable transport networks and infrastructure play in supporting an economically vibrant, environmentally responsible and socially inclusive society. Our updated strategic aims and actions, coupled with development of the delivery proposals and priorities contained in the updated RTS Delivery Plan, are specifically framed and designed to support and promote inclusive, sustainable economic growth locally, regionally and nationally.
- 2.2 The RTS Delivery Plan 2016 - 2021 sets out the Partnership's proposals for successful implementation and realisation of the RTS Vision and Objectives, with a focus on the 5 years to 2021, whilst having regard to and identifying longer term interventions and measures which are required to support successful delivery of the RTS Refresh over the 21 years between 2015 - 2036. The updated Delivery Plan is a framework for determining priorities for improving transport infrastructure, services and facilities in consultation and partnership with our constituent Councils, Transport Scotland and other agencies.
- 2.3 Specific measures which the Partnership has progressed, implemented or supported through its 2018/19 activity, in fulfilment of its statutory role and duties, are summarised below. Further detailed information on projects, initiatives and the Partnership's activity generally can be obtained by visiting our [website](#).

Strategic Transportation, Economic Development and Planning

- 2.4 Along with other RTPs, Tactran has strongly promoted the integration of strategic transportation, economic development and planning in response to national consultations including the Planning (Scotland) Bill. In line with its statutory Key Agency role in Development Planning, Tactran contributed to and commented formally during 2018/19 on the following Development Planning and other relevant consultations:-
- Cairngorms National Park Local Development Plan 2020 Proposed Plan;
 - Stirling Council Supplementary Guidance on Developer Contributions;
 - Perth & Kinross Council Supplementary Guidance documents; and
 - [Dundee Western Gateway - Draft Development Framework](#).
- 2.5 As noted above, the first statutory review and refresh of the RTS was aligned with the second iteration of the TAYplan Strategic Development Plan including a joint Main Issues public consultation. Tactran will continue to engage proactively in the various Development Planning processes and will comment formally and input to the relevant Main Issues Reports, Proposed Plans and Action Programmes as these come forward and evolve.

- 2.6 Following approval of the Tay Cities Region Deal Heads of Terms in November 2018, the Tay Cities partners agreed to refresh the Regional Economic Strategy. Tactran has been involved in the development of the strategy building on the work undertaken as part of the RTS Delivery Plan update and TAYplan Action Plan. It is anticipated that the RES Refresh will be available for publication consultation in June 2019.

RTS Development and Delivery

- 2.7 The policies, proposals and priority actions which are required to deliver the RTS Vision and Objectives are set out in the RTS 2015 – 2036 Refresh and RTS Delivery Plan 2016 - 2021, which include detailed strategies/frameworks and associated interventions covering :-
- strategic connectivity
 - health & transport
 - active travel
 - travel planning
 - buses
 - park & ride
 - rail
 - freight
 - travel information
 - climate change
- 2.8 Projects and initiatives progressed and/or implemented during 2018/19 are highlighted below.

Strategic Connectivity

- 2.9 The Tactran region is an important and nationally significant strategic corridor which includes 3 of Scotland's 7 cities, Dundee, Perth and Stirling. The region lies at the heart of the strategic road and rail networks connecting all of Scotland's cities. Supporting and developing the efficiency and contribution of these strategic road and rail connections is crucial to ensuring that all of Scotland's 7 cities are well connected and remain vibrant contributors to local, regional and national economic growth and prosperity.
- 2.10 Tactran liaises on an ongoing basis with Transport Scotland, partner and neighbouring Councils, adjoining RTPs, the transport industry and a wide range of other stakeholders on the development of the strategic transport network. Also, through the development of RTS priorities and those Strategic Transport Projects Review (STPR2) proposals which are instrumental to enhancement of the region's road, rail, port and air connectivity.

- 2.11 Tactran continues to support the development and implementation of the strategic connectivity, active travel and other relevant aspects of the Stirling & Clackmannanshire City Deal. In line with the commitment made by the Board, financial support from the 2018/19 RTS Revenue Budget was provided to Stirling Council to support the 'Case for Change' stage of the STAG appraisal process in relation to forecast issues in and around M9 Junction 10 Craigforth and along the A91. This work will inform the work of the RTWG as well as Transport Scotland's Strategic Transport Projects Review (STPR2). Other work being progressed by Tactran which supports the objectives of the RTWG are the 'Stirling Strategic Park and Ride Study' and the feasibility work being undertaken in relation to active travel opportunities between Stirling and Plean/Cowie/Fallin and Larbert.
- 2.12 In implementing the Tay Cities Region Deal, Tactran has retained the leadership of the Connected Tay projects and the Senior Partnership Manager has been nominated as the Theme Advisor. In summary, the approved Connected Tay projects are:
- A Tay Cities Regional Transport Model in conjunction with Transport Scotland and Tactran.
 - £3.5 million from the Scottish Government in a low carbon and active travel transport hub.
 - £15 million from the Scottish Government in a Perth bus and rail interchange project.
 - £9.5 million investment from the Scottish Government 'in and around Dundee Airport'. Aimed at improving aviation facilities within the region, improving air traffic control modernisation, securing/marketing new routes and enhancing airport facilities to support passenger growth. Also includes consideration of the "opportunities arising from the Heathrow expansion".

Health and Transport

- 2.13 Working with NHS Tayside, NHS Forth Valley and the Scottish Ambulance Service, Tactran has developed the Tayside & Central Scotland Health & Transport Framework. This establishes a framework for addressing the key relationships between transport and health, namely :-
- promoting active travel as a means of improving personal health and wellbeing;
 - reducing the impacts of transport on health – for example air quality;
 - improving access to healthcare; and
 - encouraging more sustainable NHS employee/workplace travel.
- 2.14 Following earlier approval by the Partnership and endorsement by the Boards of NHS Forth Valley and NHS Tayside and Community Planning Partnerships within the region work continued on supporting development of locally and regionally relevant Health & Transport Action Plans under the auspices of CPPs, including :-

- promoting Active Travel generally and within designated communities in Angus, Dundee, Perth & Kinross and Stirling;
 - supporting ongoing development of Angus On The Go and Perth On The Go marketing brands to promote travel alternatives to the car;
 - ongoing support for the annual Safe Drive/Stay Alive road safety campaign in all 4 Council areas;
 - working with Liftshare, NHS Tayside and NHS Forth Valley to support the provision of Personalised Travel Plans (PTPs) for 4,500 staff in NHS Forth Valley and 8,500 staff in NHS Tayside.
- 2.15 NHS Tayside is implementing significant redesign of its acute services to support safe, affordable and sustainable services throughout 2018 and subsequent plans for the coming years. The focus of this work is on adult acute care across the three major hospital sites through a phased approach, which will evolve in partnership with local care and treatment models. During 2018/19 we have worked with NHS Tayside over the development of a Transport and Access Strategy which will support this service redesign and its transport implications.
- 2.16 Tactran has established a Health and Transport sub working group of the Stirling Community Planning Partnership. The aim of the group is to help Identifying transport activities in order to reduce health inequalities. Workshops and activity for the group is planned in to 19/20.

Active Travel and Travel Planning

- 2.17 Tactran liaises closely with and supports partner Councils, Health Boards, Universities and other public sector bodies in the promotion and development of Active Travel modes and associated infrastructure, Travel Planning and behavioural change in favour of more sustainable modes of transport through its Sustainable Travel Liaison Group.
- 2.18 Work continued on supporting public bodies and private sector organisations in the development of Travel Plans which aim to improve efficient and sustainable access for workplace and other travel demands. Tactran funded and maintained the www.tactranliftshare.com lift-sharing website and initially developed the Travelknowhow travel plan implementer toolkit which was designed to support small and large public and private sector organisations in the development, ongoing implementation and monitoring of workplace and organisational Travel Plans. As outlined above, this has now been developed to become the nationally available www.travelknowhowscotland.co.uk resource working in partnership with Transport Scotland and all other RTPs. By March 2019, 181 public and private sector organisations across Scotland had taken up the support offered through Travelknowhow.
- 2.19 Through the Partnership's Sustainable Travel Grant Scheme provision of matched grant funding continued to support implementation of sustainable transport measures and facilities within partner Councils, Health Boards, Universities and other public sector and not for profit organisations.

- 2.20 An ongoing close partnership with transport charity Sustrans has been in place since 2014 helping to bring significant active travel funding to the region. This partnership attracts additional Capital grant funding of at least £100,000/annum from the Sustrans Community Links programme. This funding is available for partner Councils, Health Boards, other public sector bodies and community groups to bid into for match funding to support the development and implementation of active travel infrastructure and networks. During 2018/19 the Partnership fully utilised an allocation of £233,438, funding 6 projects in various communities. Work also continued on a regional programme of Active Travel Audits within key settlements.
- 2.21 In March 2016 the Partnership entered into a further pilot Active Travel partnership initiative with Cycling Scotland, under which Tactran part-funds the appointment of a regional Cycle Training & Development Officer whose role is to encourage modal shift towards sustainable travel through development of capacity and supporting provision of adult, school-age and early years cycle training, promotion and other development work. At its meeting on 27 March 2018 the Partnership agreed to continue to jointly fund this post on a permanent basis to support continued development of regional and local cycle training and development programmes.

Buses

- 2.22 The allocation of funding within the RTS revenue budget provides for bus support initiatives, such as maintenance and potential development of the regional Thistle Assistance Card and development of enhancements to infrastructure and services.
- 2.23 The Partnership funded ongoing maintenance of the Thistle Card assistance card, which alerts operational staff to the needs of people with disabilities when accessing bus services across the region, and partnered with other RTPs on the further development and implementation of an associated Thistle Card “app” for handheld and mobile devices.
- 2.24 Tactran also funded work on the implementation of a new and extended Real Time Passenger Information (RTPI) system which will replace and update existing RTPI in Angus and Dundee City, and will have the capability to extend to include bus services in Perth & Kinross.

Rail

- 2.25 The Tay Estuary Rail Strategy (TERS) sets out a comprehensive package of proposals for phased enhancements to regional and local rail services and infrastructure. TERS has been specifically developed to complement and supplement planned national improvements to rail connectivity between the north and north east of Scotland and the Central Belt, as set out in Transport Scotland's current Strategic Transport Projects Review (STPR1). Through our TERS work the Partnership seeks to ensure that rail connectivity and infrastructure meet current and future needs of the region, its local economies and communities.
- 2.26 During 2018/19, rail surveys were undertaken at a number of stations in the Tay Cities area to assist in developing the Tay Cities Regional Transport Model and a further contribution was made to include surveys at stations that will assist regional transport projects such as Perth Masterplan, development of Highland Main Line timetable and baseline figures for Revolution in Rail. This followed on from work in 2016/17 when Tactran part funded rail passenger surveys at Stirling station to assist with the Stirling Gateway project and also project managed further rail passenger surveys at Gleneagles, Bridge of Allan and Dunblane stations on behalf of the Strathallan CRP.
- 2.27 The Revolution in Rail 2018 initiative, announced by the Minister for Transport and the Islands in March 2016, offers the potential for further incremental implementation of significant improvements to local and intercity passenger rail services and connectivity as envisaged by TERS, including the hourly stopping service between Arbroath and Glasgow to complement the hourly intercity service between Aberdeen and Glasgow. Tactran continues to engage with the rail industry on informing and identifying opportunities to advance TERS and other rail strategy priorities through the Revolution in Rail initiative. It has been confirmed that these enhancements will be phased in from December 2018.
- 2.28 The Partnership continued to engage with ScotRail, Network Rail and Transport Scotland on informing proposals for enhanced passenger services including on the Aberdeen – Central Belt Rail Study that was announced as part of the Aberdeen City Regional Deal. The objective is to improve journey times along the route and the benefits from this study will support the outcomes of TERS.
- 2.29 On 19 March 2018, Transport Scotland launched a Local Rail Development Fund (LRDF) to assist in funding appraisal work and to potentially bring forward proposals aimed at tackling specific rail connectivity issues. Tactran submitted two bids to the Fund and were successful in securing £222,000 to undertake investigations into a Stirling Strategy Park and Ride study and a Bridge of Earn Transport Appraisal.

- 2.30 The Partnership continued to offer support and advice to Community Rail Partnerships (CRPs) including the Highland Main Line CRP covering all stations north of Perth and south of Inverness; the West Highland CRP including all stations between Crianlarich and Mallaig; and the Strathallan CRP covering Gleneagles, Dunblane and Bridge of Allan stations.
- 2.31 Tactran also continued to work jointly with the other RTPs and through the High Speed Rail Scotland group on making the case for early extension of the proposed UK High Speed Rail network to Scotland, and ensuring that the potential economic benefits from improved cross-border rail connectivity and journey times extend to businesses and communities located within the region.
- 2.32 Tactran is a member of and contributed funding to support the activity of the East Coast Mainline Authorities (ECMA) consortium, which consists of local authorities and RTPs along the East Coast rail route and has been established to explore and promote the potential for developing the economic role of this key cross-border rail connection.

Freight

- 2.33 The Regional Freight Quality Partnership (FQP) continued to meet and explore and monitor opportunities to enhance the role and operation of freight transport and connectivity. The FQP has previously undertaken studies into Lorry Parking and Lorry Routeing to encourage more appropriate, safer and efficient routeing and parking of HGVs using the region's road network and when accessing key freight generators and destinations, including industrial estates, Ports etc.
- 2.34 Tactran supported the Rail Freight facility promoted by Highland Spring in the village of Blackford. Construction is now underway on the facility and the design has been optimised to remove a further two HGVs from travelling through the village. The size of each train will now be equivalent to 22 HGV's. The freight facility will enable the business to transport goods in an environmentally sustainable way, reduce our carbon footprint and remove approximately 40% of HGV movements from the village.
- 2.35 During 2018/19 Tactran continued to fund appointment of a Timber Transport Officer by the Stirling & Tayside Timber Transport Group.

Travel Information

- 2.36 Accessible and reliable travel information is a key part of an economically supportive, socially inclusive and environmentally efficient transportation system. Following extensive consultation and development in partnership with partner Councils, Visit Scotland, Health Boards, Traveline Scotland, bus and rail operators and a range of other stakeholders, an enhanced, regional multi-modal information website www.GoToo.com, focussed on supporting the lifestyle and mobility needs and choices of residents and visitors to the region, was launched in 2015 and this was maintained and developed during 2018/19.
- 2.37 Tactran also contributed to a "[Get on the Go](#)" travel information social media campaign in partnership with Angus, Dundee City and Perth & Kinross Councils, which is aimed at providing residents and visitors with sustainable and active travel information and choices to encourage healthier and more active travel lifestyles.

Tom Flanagan
Partnership Director
June 2019

Public Services Reform (Scotland) Act 2010

Statement of Efficiency, Effectiveness and Economy – 2018/19

1. Introduction

- 1.1 Tactran is the statutory Regional Transport Partnership covering the Angus, Dundee City, Perth & Kinross and Stirling Council areas. The Partnership's principal statutory duties are to :-
- create and oversee delivery of the statutory Regional Transport Strategy (RTS);
 - engage proactively in Community Planning and support implementation of Local Outcomes Improvement Plans;
 - engage as a Key Agency in the Development Planning process at a regional and local level; and
 - support the achievement of statutory Climate Change objectives, as set out in the Climate Change (Scotland) Act 2009 and associated Guidance; and
 - meet the requirements of the Equality Act 2010 and the Equality Act (Specific Duties) (Scotland) Regulations 2012.
- 1.2 The Public Services Reform (Scotland) Act 2010 requires listed public bodies to publish, as soon as reasonably practicable after the end of each financial year, a statement on the steps they have taken to promote efficiency, effectiveness and economy through the exercise of their functions. Regional Transport Partnerships (RTPs) are listed bodies within the Act.
- 1.3 This statement summarises the key areas of relevant Tactran activity during 2018/19. It should be read in conjunction with the separate statement on Sustainable Economic Growth and the financial information that is also published under the Act.
- 1.4 All of this information can be viewed on, or downloaded free of charge from, the Partnership's [website](#).

2. Progress and Activity During 2018/19

- 2.1 During the year a number of operational and/or cost efficiency initiatives were implemented, developed or maintained.

Public Sector Efficiency

- 2.2 Over previous years the Partnership has generated cumulative, recurring efficiency savings in its Core operating budget. As a small strategic body the scope and opportunities for achieving year on year efficiency savings, whilst maintaining the capacity and capability to fulfil and deliver on the Partnership's various and increasing statutory duties and obligations, is now limited. This was highlighted in the KPMG Audit Report for 2017/18:

“Operationally, Tactran works with a small and efficient body of staff. As reflected in the prior year audit report, efficiency savings have been identified in the past seven years, with limited opportunities for further significant savings. The Partnership Board minutes and reports demonstrate an ongoing commitment to reviewing the staffing and operating model to ensure activities are delivered as efficiently as possible.”

Staffing and Related Resources

- 2.3 During 2017/18 following a review of its staffing establishment, the Partnership was able to recruit to the team and for the 2018/19 financial year had a full complement of staff in place. Within the constraints of available funding the opportunity was taken to review and adapt the staffing structure to take account of earlier and further anticipated revisions to the transport and wider public sector policy and delivery landscape.
- 2.4 The full staff complement coupled with the agreed Local Government pay settlement for 2018/19 of an increase of 3.5 per cent for everyone earning up to £80,000 (for those earning above this a flat rate of £1600 will apply), meant that there was an increase in the Core Budget for the Partnership. Nevertheless, the Partnership retained a cash standstill of contributions in terms of the Scottish Government Grant-in-Aid and the financial contributions from partner Councils.
- 2.5 For planning purposes the pay award for both 2019/20 and 2020/21 is an agreed increase of 3 per cent. This will present further pressure on the Core Budget and given the cash standstill position for financial contributions will result in a decreased allocation for RTS delivery.

Shared Services

Administrative Support & Equipment

- 2.6 Tactran receives Secretariat, Financial, Legal and IT support services, including cyber resilience, from Perth & Kinross Council. These services are provided to a high standard at rates which are considerably more competitive than could be achieved through external procurement of these statutorily necessary support services.
- 2.7 An earlier review of the division of administrative responsibilities undertaken by Tactran's own staff and support staff provided by Perth & Kinross Council resulted in a recurring 10% cost saving/annum.
- 2.8 Similarly, the contracts for desktop and office equipment are procured via Perth & Kinross Council. The reduction in desktop printers and refresh of the MFD (multi-functional device) along with enforced black-and-white printing for internal documentation has led to a considerable saving in 2018/19.

Rent, Rates & Utilities

- 2.9 Through assiduous negotiation, the rent for the Tactran office located in central Perth has remained the same for the next occupation period within the terms of the lease. The rates have reduced to nil following a review of the rateable value. Additionally, there have been a series of savings on utility bills that have supported the push for greater efficiency in terms of the operational costs for the Partnership.

Procurement

- 2.10 Supplies, services and contracts to provide support for RTS project development and delivery and other Partnership activity are submitted to competitive tender in accordance with the Partnership's Financial Regulations and through Public Contracts Scotland. Tactran is a member of Scotland Excel and Public Contracts Scotland.
- 2.11 In delivering specific project initiatives use is made of Transport Scotland and partner Councils' Term or Framework consultants in appropriate cases, resulting in work being undertaken at competitive rates secured through partner agencies' tendered framework agreements where these exist.
- 2.12 Increasingly, Tactran is acting as an 'agent' for procurement on behalf of other RTPs on national projects, many through the support of external grant funding, and application of the Partnership's Financial Regulations and procurement protocols ensures good value for money.

External Grant Income

- 2.13 In recent years Tactran has been successful in securing external grant income to support the delivery of RTS projects and supplement the core grant and partner Council's financial contributions. For the financial year 2018/19 the external grant income included £252k to support the delivery of projects within the RTS programme, and £233k for Active Travel Grant schemes. In addition, Transport Scotland confirmed the award of £367k Active Travel funding which will be used to progress schemes in early 2019/20.

Travel Planning and Active Travel

- 2.14 The Partnership's Strategy Office - Sustainable Transport and Cycle Training & Development Officer are available to partner Councils, Health Boards, Community Planning Partnerships and other public and private sector agencies and organisations, offering specialist expertise, advice and staffing support in the development of Travel Plans and Active Travel strategies and measures, including the development and implementation of sustainable travel policies, practices and projects.
- 2.15 The Travelknowhow web-based Travel Plan implementer toolkit, developed by Tactran in partnership with consultants, is available to all public and private sector organisations to support their own development and ongoing implementation of workplace Travel Plans. Within the region, more than 40 public and private sector bodies, including all partner Councils, Health Boards and a number of major private sector employers are registered members.
- 2.16 In 2018/19 Transport Scotland continued to provide additional Grant in Aid funding to the Partnership to support the roll-out of Travelknowhow as a nationally available resource, to support similar progress on Travel Planning activity across Scotland, working in partnership with all other RTPs. The resultant www.travelknowhowscotland.co.uk resource was launched in September 2016 and is being supported by continued collaborative working across all 7 RTP regions in partnership and consultation with Transport Scotland.
- 2.17 The www.tactranliftshare.com website provides a regional trip-sharing facility for private individuals and public/private sector organisations. It also functions as a regional "umbrella" facility for localised Liftshare schemes and trip-matching for Councils, Health Boards and other public and private sector bodies.

- 2.18 Under a partnership agreement with transport charity Sustrans, this attracts a minimum Capital grant allocation of £100,000/annum from the Sustrans Community Links programme. This budget is available for partner Councils, Health Boards and other public sector bodies to bid into as matched funding to support the development and delivery of walking and cycling infrastructure and networks. During 2018/19 the Active Travel Grant budget was again fully allocated, with an increased budget of £233,4638 supporting development and implementation of a further 6 projects within communities. Work also continued on the development of a programme of Active Travel Audits in key settlements across the region.

Strategic Transportation Planning and Liaison

- 2.19 Tactran represents and liaises on behalf of its partner Councils with Transport Scotland, the Department for Transport, rail industry, Confederation of Passenger Transport, Road Haulage Association, Freight Transport Association, Sustrans, Cycling Scotland and various other relevant bodies on matters of national and regional policy and strategic transportation and connectivity interest.
- 2.20 The Regional Freight Quality Partnership provides a locus for engagement between the Partnership, its constituent Councils and the relevant freight sector provider and user interests.
- 2.21 The regional Sustainable Transport Liaison Group provides a forum for engagement with partner Councils, Health Boards, higher/further education establishments, Cycling Scotland, Sustrans and other relevant agencies on the development of regional and local Active Travel strategies and initiatives, including joint and partner funding of schemes and other activity.
- 2.22 The Tactran Regional Rail Partnership provides a regular quarterly forum for key stakeholder engagement and consultation on rail passenger and freight developments and proposals, with input from ScotRail, Network Rail, Caledonian Sleeper, Community Rail Partnerships, rail freight providers and customers.

Tom Flanagan
Partnership Director
June 2019

Public Services Reform (Scotland) Act 2010
Financial Information Statement
Period covering 1 April 2017 - 31 March 2018

1 Public Relations Statement

Category	Supplier	External Costs - Invoiced	Total
Promotional - Tactran/GoToo	Dundee City Council	5,963.00	7,705.00
Promotional - Thistle Cards	DC Publishing	334.00	334.00
Promotional - Travelknowhow Scotland	Shona Drummond Marketing	1,197.00	1,197.00
Promotional - Tactran	Forth Environment Link	4,800.00	4,800.00
			14,036.00

2 Overseas Travel

Nil Return

3 Hospitality & Entertainment

Nil Return

4 External Consultancy

Supplier	Project/Service	Total	Supplier Total
Liftshare Ltd.com	NHS Tayside/Forth Valley MyPTP	9,305.00	
	Liftshare Website	8,143.00	17,448.00
Ove Arup & Partners	Active Travel Audits	74,238.93	74,238.93
Shona Drummond Marketing	Travelknowhow Scotland	27,096.00	27,096.00
Steer Davies Gleave	GoToo SLA	3,000.00	
	Tactran Website redesign	6,500.00	9,500.00
Systra Ltd	Migration to TRACC	4,975.00	
Systra	Regional Modelling Development	3,800.00	
Systra	Tay Cities Deal Support	2,693.00	6,493.00
			134,775.93

5 Payments over £25k

Payee	Reason	Total	Supplier Total
Dundee City Council	Tay Cities Regional Transport Model	50,000.00	50,000.00
Ove Arup & Partners	Active Travel Audits	74,238.93	74,238.93
Perth & Kinross Council	Support Services	33,250.00	33,250.00

6 Members or Employees who received remuneration in excess of £150,000

Nil Return