



Public Services Reform (Scotland) Act 2010

Annual Statement 2019/20

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Public Services Reform (Scotland) Act 2010

Statement on Measures to Support Sustainable Economic Growth – 2019/20

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 2019/20. 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. A further RTS Delivery Plan annual summary was approved by the Board in June 2019.

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. Throughout 2018/19 and 2019/20 Tactran continued to actively participate in the Community Planning Partnerships in all 4 partner Council areas.

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 2019/20 which contributed to LOIP outcomes included:-

- **supporting sustainable economic growth** – continued proactive support of the two City Region Deals covering the Tactran area: the Stirling/Clackmannanshire and Tay Cities Region Deals. Tactran provided technical and financial support for the Tay Cities Regional Transport Model and through participation in the Heads of Economic Development Group has assisted in developing the Tay Cities Economic Strategy Delivery Plan. Similarly, officers have been supporting project development in the Stirling/Clacks City Deal. 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 provide the medium for consultation on the Strategic Transport Projects Review (STPR2) proposals to improve strategic road and rail network connectivity nationally and regionally. This support continued through 2019/20 with stakeholder consultation events including for Board members undertaken. At the end of February STPR Case for Change reports were issued including National Case for Change; Tay Cities Case for Change and Forth Valley Case for Change. The STPR will continue to be developed through 2020/21, with Tactran providing the secretariat for the Tay Cities RTWG. Tactran continues to work with Highlands and Islands Airports Limited (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; 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 [‘Get on the Go’](#) social media campaign; and developing regional strategies for emerging technologies such as the Tactran Regional EV Strategy and securing funding for a MaaS (Mobility as a Service) project.
- **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 further develop the Travelknowhow Scotland web-based travel planning toolkit; development and piloting of Travelknowhow Scotland App (Right Track); promoting the Liftshare platform to reduce the costs and environmental impact of travel; and progressing Freight Quality Partnership initiatives aimed at more sustainable transport of goods including timber transport and regional Lorry Route mapping for haulage companies and businesses with HGV/LGV fleet.

- 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 further development and promotion of Travelknowhow Scotland website as a nationally available resource provides 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 \(Emissions Reduction Targets\) \(Scotland\) Act 2019](#), which amends the [Climate Change \(Scotland\) Act 2009](#), sets targets to reduce Scotland's emissions of all greenhouse gases to net-zero by 2045 at the latest, with interim targets for reductions of at least 56% by 2020, 75% by 2030, 90% by 2040.
- 1.19 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.
- 1.20 Part 4 of the Climate Change (Scotland) Act 2009 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.
- 1.21 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.
- 1.22 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.
- 1.23 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 2019/20. This includes the development of the Tactran Regional Electric Vehicle Strategy, in partnership with our constituent Councils, which sets out a strategy to assist in meeting the [Climate Change \(Emissions Reduction Targets\) \(Scotland\) Act 2019](#) net-zero targets,
- 1.24 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.
- 1.25 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. Continued development

and promotion of the Travelknowhow Scotland resource working in partnership with Transport Scotland and all other RTPs, has extended the reach and benefits of investment in Travel Planning.

- 1.26 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.
- 1.27 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. Tactran has incorporated SSN feedback each year and has submitted annual Climate Change Reports to SSN in November 2017, 2018 and 2019.

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 2019/20 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. In line with its statutory Key Agency role in Development Planning, Tactran contributed to and commented formally during 2019/20 on the following Development Planning and other relevant consultations:-
 - Stirling Council Supplementary Guidance on Transport and Access for New Developments;
 - Perth & Kinross Council Supplementary Guidance on Developer Contributions and Green and Blue Infrastructure; and
 - Perth & Kinross Council Local Development Plan 2: Draft Delivery Programme.
- 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 (RES). Tactran was involved in the development of the strategy building on the work undertaken as part of the RTS Delivery Plan update and TAYplan Action Plan. The updated Tay Cities Regional Economic Strategy was published in September 2019 and Tactran continues to be involved in developing the associated Delivery Plan through participation in the Heads of Economic Development group.

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 2019/20 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, 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 The Stirling and Clackmannanshire City Region Deal was formally signed on 26 February 2020, sealing a collective commitment to a £214m investment package, including a £7m commitment by Scottish Government to bring forward strategic active travel projects.
- 2.12 Tactran continues to support the development and implementation of the strategic connectivity, active travel and other relevant aspects of the Stirling & Clackmannanshire City Deal and the Forth Valley Regional Transport Working Group (RTWG). Work being progressed by Tactran which supports the objectives of the RTWG are the 'Stirling Strategic Park and Ride Study' and the work being undertaken in relation to active travel opportunities between Stirling and Plean.
- 2.13 In implementing the Tay Cities Region Deal, Tactran has retained the leadership and co-ordination of the Connected Tay projects and acts as the Secretariat for the Tay Cities Regional Transport Working Group. 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".
- 2.14 Work is continuing to progress the formal signing of the Tay Cities Deal.

Health and Transport

- 2.15 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.

- 2.16 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 Get On The Go marketing brand to promote travel alternatives to the car;
 - ongoing support for the annual Safe Drive/Stay Alive road safety campaign in all 4 Council areas;
- 2.17 During 2019/20 NHS Tayside has been undertaking the Transforming Tayside programme, a significant redesign of its acute services to support safe, affordable and sustainable services. The focus of this work is on adult acute care across three hospital sites: Ninewells Hospital, Perth Royal Infirmary and Stracathro Hospital.
- 2.18 Tactran officers are supporting NHS Tayside in the development of a NHS Tayside Transport and Access Strategy which considers the travel and access implications of the Transforming Tayside programme. The work involves supporting NHS Tayside:
- Undertake a Transport Appraisal which identifies the problems and opportunities, and assesses the feasibility and costs of interventions
 - Prepare a Sustainable Transport and Access Strategy which sets out the strategy and an action plan
- 2.19 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. As part of this initiative workshops and activity for the group were undertaken in to 19/20.

Active Travel and Travel Planning

- 2.20 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.
- 2.21 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.

2.22 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 £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. Due to a delay in one of the projects during 2019/20 the Partnership utilised an allocation of £85,000, funding 4 projects in various communities:

- Angus Council – All abilities access routes to Health Centres - £42,000
- Dundee City Council – Secure cycle parking for students - £16,000
- Dundee City Council/NHS Tayside – signage and wayfinding at Ninewells Hospital - £7,000
- Perth & Kinross Council – Green Routes to health facilities - £20,000

2.23 Transport Scotland also provided an additional grant to Tactran for Active Travel projects in the region of £233,300. This fund provided 100% funding for 6 Active Travel Projects in Dundee City and Perth & Kinross Council areas:

- Dundee City Council – Active Travel Audit Development - £5,300
- Dundee City Council – North East Campus access improvements - £30,000
- Dundee City Council – Ninewells Hospital footway upgrade - £30,000
- Dundee City Council – Wayfinding information signage at Dundee city centre - £43,000
- Perth & Kinross Council – Auchterarder Community School shared use path - £35,000
- Perth & Kinross Council – Aberargie Path Ph1, NCN Bridge of Earn to Newburgh - £90,000

2.24 Further financial support through a Transport Scotland grant for Regional Active Travel Development Fund was provided in two tranches of £133,400 each, giving a total of £266,800 available in 2019/20. This fund was available for 100% funding by bidding to take forward sections of Tactran Regional Walking & Cycling Network and to further develop Tactran Active Travel Audits. A further £46,600 was provided by Sustrans for a joint project, taking the total funding available in 2019/20 to £313,400. This fund was allocated to implement 5 projects throughout the Tactran region:

- Tactran/Sustran - Walking & Cycling Feasibility Study – £180,000
- Perth & Kinross Council - Aberargie Path Ph 2, NCN Bridge of Earn to Newburgh - £40,000
- Stirling Council – Stirling to Plean Active travel Route - £40,000
- Angus Council – Arbroath to Friockheim Feasibility - £15,000
- Dundee City Council – Active Travel Audit Development - £38,400

2.25 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

- 2.26 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.
- 2.27 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.
- 2.28 Tactran also supported the bid by Perth & Kinross Council to Transport Scotland through funding made available to support Low Emission Zones to extend the Real Time Passenger Information (RTPI) system on two corridors between Perth & Kinross Council and Dundee City Council.

Rail

2.29 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.

- 2.30 The Revolution in Rail 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. During 2019/20 the Revolution in Rail project has incurred delays and it is anticipated these enhancements will be fully phased in by December 2020.
- 2.31 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 Stakeholder Group that was announced as part of the Aberdeen City Regional Deal. The objective is to improve journey times and frequency along the route and the benefits from this study will support the outcomes of TERS.
- 2.32 Tactran continued to progress two Local Rail Development Fund (LRDF) projects which commenced in 2018/19, undertaking investigations into a Stirling Strategy Park & Ride study and a Bridge of Earn/South Perth Transport Appraisal and was also successful in attracting £147,000 in round two of LRDF to progress a Tay Cities Park & Choose Strategy.
- 2.33 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.
- 2.34 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.
- 2.35 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

- 2.36 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.

- 2.37 Tactran supported the feasibility of a Rail Freight facility promoted by Highland Spring near the village of Blackford. Construction is now underway on the facility with the aim of it being operational by first quarter of 2021. The rail freight facility will enable the business to transport goods in an environmentally sustainable way, reduce the carbon footprint and remove approximately 40% of HGV movements from Blackford.
- 2.38 During 2019/20 Tactran continued to fund the appointment of a Timber Transport Officer by the Stirling & Tayside Timber Transport Group.

Travel Information

- 2.39 Accessible and reliable travel information is a key part of an economically supportive, socially inclusive and environmentally efficient transportation system. As part of its Digital Marketing Strategy, Tactran undertook a review of its GoToo multi-modal travel information website and other available travel information websites and Apps and concluded that Tactran's resources would be better focussed on the 'Get on the Go' social media campaign for sustainable transport, as other websites, such as Traveline Scotland and Google provide a more recognised source of journey planning and travel information.
- 2.40 Tactran therefore contribute to and provide a co-ordinating role for the '[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.

Mark Speed
Partnership Director
June 2020

Public Services Reform (Scotland) Act 2010

Statement of Efficiency, Effectiveness and Economy – 2019/20

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 :-

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2. Progress and Activity During 2019/20

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 2018/19:

“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 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 2019/20 of an increase of 3 per cent for everyone earning up to £80,000 (for those earning above this a flat rate of £1,600 applied), contributed towards 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 2020/21 is an assumed 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

- 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.

Rent, Rates & Utilities

- 2.8 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

- 2.9 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.
- 2.10 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.
- 2.11 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

- 2.12 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 2019/20 the external grant income included £288,000 to support the delivery of projects within the RTS programme and £630,000 for Active Travel Grant schemes.

Travel Planning and Active Travel

- 2.13 The Partnership's Strategy Officer (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.
- 2.14 The Travelknowhow Scotland web-based Travel Plan implementer toolkit is available to all public and private sector organisations to support their own development and ongoing implementation of workplace Travel Plans. Nationally more than 180 and regionally more than 40 public and private sector bodies, including Councils, Health Boards and a number of major private sector employers are registered members.

- 2.15 In 2019/20 Transport Scotland continued to provide additional Grant in Aid funding to the Partnership to manage and promote Travelknowhow Scotland on behalf of Transport Scotland and all RTPs.
- 2.16 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.
- 2.17 A partnership agreement with transport charity Sustrans attracts a Capital grant allocation of £100,000/annum from the Sustrans Places for Everyone 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 2019/20 the Active Travel Grant budget, due to a delay in one project, was not fully allocated, with an allocation of £85,000 supporting development and implementation of 4 projects within communities. However, further Active Travel Grants from Transport Scotland provided approximately £500,000 for a further 11 Active Travel projects to be delivered throughout the Region,

Travel Information

- 2.18 During 2019/20 Tactran was successful in developing a Mobility as a Service (MaaS) proposal securing £550,112 funding from Transport Scotland’s MaaS investment Fund and commenced the project in early 2020.

Rail

- 2.19 Development of Stirling Strategic Park & Ride Study and Bridge of Earn/South Perth Transport Appraisal continued funded by Transport Scotland’s Local Rail Development Fund and a further bid was successful in securing £147,000 from the fund to commence the Tay Cities Park & Choose Strategy.

Strategic Transportation Planning and Liaison

- 2.20 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.
- 2.21 The Regional Freight Quality Partnership provides a forum for engagement between the Partnership, its constituent Councils and the relevant freight sector provider and user interests.

- 2.22 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.
- 2.23 The Tactran Regional Rail Partnership provides a regular quarterly forum for key stakeholder engagement with input from ScotRail, Network Rail, and Transport Scotland.

Mark Speed
Partnership Director
June 2020

Public Services Reform (Scotland) Act 2010
Financial Information Statement
Period covering 1 April 2019 - 31 March 2020

1 Public Relations Statement

Category	Supplier	External Costs - Invoiced	Total
Promotional - Liftshare	Liftshare.com Ltd	28,000.00	28,000.00
Promotional - Get on the Go	Miconex	11,330.00	11,330.00
Promotional - Tactran	Miconex	3,080.00	3,080.00
Promotional - Tactran	Lightpress Media	960.00	960.00
Promotional - Tactran	Holyrood Magazine	642.86	642.86
Promotional - Thistle Cards	DC Publishing	700.00	700.00
Promotional - Travelknowhow Scotland	Abbotshall Communications	400.00	400.00
Promotional - Travelknowhow Scotland	Connect Publications	500.00	500.00
Promotional - Travelknowhow Scotland	Distinctive Publishing	2,799.00	2,799.00
Promotional - Travelknowhow Scotland	Shona Drummond Marketing	491.00	491.00
		Total	48,902.86

2 Overseas Travel

Nil Return

3 Hospitality & Entertainment

Nil Return

4 External Consultancy

Supplier	Project/Service	Total	Supplier Total
2020 Consultancy	Regional Walking & Cycling Feasibility Study	164,285.00	164,285.00
David Smith Consulting	Mobility as a Service	4,950.00	4,950.00
Liftshare Ltd.com	Liftshare Licence	8,978.00	8,978.00
Merry Scott Consulting	Strategy Officer (Sustainable Transport) Paternity Cover	6,500.00	6,500.00
Nationwide Data Collection	Modal Shift Project	11,300.00	
Nationwide Data Collection	Regional Walking & Cycling Feasibility Study	7,860.00	19,160.00
Shona Drummond Marketing	Right Track Pilot	97,000.00	
Shona Drummond Marketing	Travelknowhow Scotland	54,329.75	151,329.75
Steers Group	Maintenance of Tactran website	1,000.00	1,000.00
Sympatric Ltd	Mobility as a Service	17,975.00	17,975.00
Systra Ltd	Local Rail Development Fund - Stirling	23,889.00	
Systra Ltd	Local Rail Development Fund - Bridge of Earn	24,400.00	
Systra Ltd	Modal Shift	8,040.00	56,329.00
Urban Foresight	Regional Electric Vehicle Strategy	10,000.00	10,000.00
York Aviation Ltd	Tay Cities Aviation Study	27,530.00	27,530.00
			468,036.75

5 Payments over £25k

Payee	Reason	Total	Supplier Total
2020 Consultancy	Regional Walking & Cycling Feasibility Study	164,285.00	164,285.00
Liftshare.com Ltd	Liftshare Promotional Work	28,000.00	
Liftshare.com Ltd	Liftshare Licence	8,978.00	36,978.00
Shona Drummond Marketing	Right Track Pilot	97,000.00	
Shona Drummond Marketing	Travelknowhow Scotland	54,329.75	151,329.75
Systra Ltd	Local Rail Development Fund	48,289.00	
Systra Ltd	Modal Shift Project	8,040.00	56,329.00
Perth & Kinross Council	Support Services	33,250.00	33,250.00
York Aviation Ltd	Tay Cities Aviation Study	27,530.00	27,530.00

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

Nil Return