

**TAYSIDE AND CENTRAL SCOTLAND TRANSPORT PARTNERSHIP****EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE****11 JULY 2006****NATIONAL TRANSPORT STRATEGY – A CONSULTATION****Report by Director Designate**

This report seeks the Executive Committee's approval of a response to the National Transport Strategy Consultation Paper.

**1 RECOMMENDATION**

The Executive Committee is asked to consider the revised draft response to the Scottish Executive's National Transport Strategy consultation, as set out in Appendix 1, and to agree a final response for submission to the Executive.

**2 INTRODUCTION**

2.1 On 20 April 2006 the Scottish Executive published "Scotland's National Transport Strategy: A Consultation" which provides an opportunity for all stakeholders to comment on the key strategic issues for transport in Scotland. At its meeting on 27 June 2006 the TACTRAN Board considered a report by the Chair of the Management Group (Report No. RTP/06/22), which included a proposed draft response to the consultation, based on comments received at that time.

2.2 The Board agreed that a revised draft response to the consultation, taking account of comments still to be submitted by Dundee City Council and Stirling Council, and any comments from individual Board Members, should be remitted to the Executive Committee for consideration and approval.

2.3 A revised draft response, incorporating comments received from Councils and individual Board Members is set out in Appendix 1. Changes and additions to the previous draft response are highlighted.

**3 DISCUSSION**

3.1 The majority of textual changes take the form of amplification and added emphasis to the points made in the previous draft response. However, in a few cases, there are differences of view on the response which should be submitted and these are highlighted below :-

**(i) Question 31 : Need for Change in the Bus Market**

There are some differences of view on the relative merits of bus deregulation and whether there is a need to introduce change. The revised response highlights the fact that the experience of bus deregulation is by no means uniform and suggests that there may be a case for considering some change to the operating environment, where bus deregulation has not delivered improvements in bus services.

(ii) **Question 43 : Parking Policy**

There has been some support for the concept of legislation to permit Workplace Parking charges. This was considered during the development of the Transport (Scotland) Act 2001 and was rejected by the Scottish Executive, because of concerns over potential impact on the economy. It is suggested that the issues associated with Workplace Parking can now more appropriately be addressed through Travel Planning and the Transport Management Organisation (TMO) concept, as raised in answer to Questions 24 and 25.

(iii) **Questions 46 – 49 : Road Pricing**

There is general support for the position that Road Pricing should only be adopted as a national approach. Most views support the case for this being at a UK-only level, with no separate scheme in Scotland (Question 49). However, there was one view in support of a Scotland-only scheme being considered in the absence of a UK-wide approach.

- 3.2 The Executive Committee is asked to consider the response set out in Appendix 1 and the specific areas highlighted above, with a view to agreeing a finalised response, for submission to the Scottish Executive by their 13 July deadline.

#### **4 CONSULTATION**

- 4.1 The revised draft response takes account of comments submitted by individual Board Members and Councils. This has been re-circulated to Council Lead officers. Any further comments will be reported orally to the Executive Committee.

#### **5 RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS**

- 5.1 There are no resource implications arising directly from this report.

**Eric Guthrie**  
**Director Designate**

For further information email [ericguthrie@pkc.gov.uk](mailto:ericguthrie@pkc.gov.uk) or tel. 07786 190357

#### **NOTE**

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

Scotland's National Transport Strategy: A Consultation