



Tayside and Central Scotland
Transport Partnership



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Minister cuts the ribbon at Kinross Park & Ride

The new Kinross Park & Ride facility will be officially launched on Wednesday 17th October by Minister for Transport, Infrastructure and Climate Change, Stewart Stevenson.

Councillor Fraser Macpherson, Chair of TACTRAN (Tayside and Central Scotland Transport Partnership), Councillor John Kellas, Convener of Perth & Kinross Council's Environment and Infrastructure Committee and Robert Andrew, Regional Director of Stagecoach Scotland, will also be in attendance reflecting the partnership which worked to create the new facility.

The Park & Ride opened on 28 May this year, and provides improved public transport links for car drivers, local bus users and cyclists. Located on the western outskirts of Kinross a short distance from Junction 6 of the M90, the site is ideally situated to offer a convenient alternative for motorists using the M90 to travel to either Edinburgh or Perth, helping to relieve congestion on one of the busiest commuter routes in east Scotland.

Mr Stevenson said: "Situated on one of the busiest commuter routes in east Scotland, this new facility is absolutely vital. I want to see more Park & Ride schemes like this one right across the country.

"If we are to win the battle to tackle congestion, we must offer the commuter real alternatives to the car. We must encourage a change in the mode of transport used by the public to protect our environment and ensure our economy can develop without being constricted by an increasingly congested roads network.

"The new Scottish Government will build new rail lines, improve the bus network, encourage the use of park and ride facilities, and continue to promote cycling and walking as healthier and greener ways to travel.

“Well planned initiatives like this one in Kinross give people a real alternative to the car, helping them to avoid the jams, whilst relieving congestion on our roads network.”

Councillor Macpherson said: “I am delighted that TACTRAN has been able to provide the funding required to deliver the Kinross Park & Ride facility. Development of Park & Ride is one key element of the TACTRAN Regional Transport Strategy.

“Over the next few months we will be working on development of a regional Park & Ride strategy, which will build on and complement existing Park & Rides to deliver a regional network of edge-of-city and urban sites, particularly focused on our main urban centres of Dundee, Perth and Stirling. In taking this strategy forward we will continue to work in partnership with Scottish Government, our Councils and transport operators to deliver effective public transport options which will reduce congestion, improve accessibility and promote the use of more sustainable options for modern travel demands.”

Councillor Kellas said: “Through our Local Transport Strategy Perth & Kinross Council is committed to maintaining and improving public transport services and offering new and innovative alternatives to the car. By providing enhanced public transport links from Kinross to Perth and Edinburgh this facility will be beneficial to commuters and also those visiting the area. It will also take some pressure off our local and strategic roads by reducing car use.

“Certain local bus services in Kinross have also been re-routed via the Park and Ride to allow local residents access to the inter city coach system. With Stagecoach Fife routing Services 23 and 36B to specifically serve the Kinross Park & Ride site, and Service 201 operating to the adjacent supermarket, we hope that local residents will also be encouraged to leave their car at home and make their whole journey by public transport. Travellers can enjoy a more pleasant journey by coach and arrive relaxed without the need to find parking space”.

Robert Andrew added: “We are delighted to be working in partnership with TACTRAN and the Council to provide a local bus option between parts of rural Kinross-shire and the Kinross Park & Ride site. Hopefully many residents will use the bus to reach the interchange point with Scottish Citylink and megabus.com express coach services, from which two coaches operate every hour to Edinburgh during the majority of the day.

“We are continually monitoring public reaction and feedback to the service and this has led to the recent decision to provide links with Stagecoach Fife Service 747 at Ferrytoll Park+Ride, with through ticketing to/from Edinburgh Airport. We look forward to working in conjunction with the Council and TACTRAN to identify further opportunities to develop the role of the Kinross site and also other Park & Ride opportunities in the TACTRAN region”.

Notes for Editors

The Kinross Park and Ride site is adjacent to the Somerfield supermarket, off Station Road. The site was purchased by Perth & Kinross Council as part of a land deal for the Clashburn Site. The facility was designed by Consultants Mouchel Parkman and constructed by Tayside Contracts. The total construction cost of the facility was approximately £650,000.

The facility was funded by TACTRAN using Scottish Executive Capital Grant which was provided to the Regional Transport Partnership to support the delivery of strategic transport improvements which support emerging Regional Transport Strategy aims and objectives. The project complements TACTRAN's Regional Transport objectives of reducing congestion, improving accessibility and promoting use of more sustainable options for commuter and other demands.

Since opening usage has been increasing steadily to an average of around 35 – 45 cars per day. The construction of the car park allows for further extension as and when demand requires.

The car park has 126 parking spaces including 8 disabled bays for Blue Badge Holders. There are also 12 cycle lockers and a shelter and public transport information has been provided for passengers waiting for coaches.

Commuters, shoppers and day-trippers can park their cars or bikes free of charge, then travel onward by coach or bus. Fares to Perth and Edinburgh compare favourably with the cost of driving and paying for parking. Passengers are able to pre-purchase tickets or pay on the coach.

The site is served by Scottish Citylink and Megabus.com express coach routes operating between Edinburgh and Perth, with approximately 28 coaches in each direction every weekday. Stagecoach local bus services 23 and 36B also divert via the Park & Ride site.

The car park is open 24 hours a day and will be lit during the hours of darkness in the interests of security. The lighting has been carefully deigned to minimise light pollution. The site will be included in the Council's Car Parks Order which will allow enforcement by the Council's Parking Attendants.

For further information about Kinross Park & Ride site and the coach and bus services serving facility, please contact the Council's Public Transport Unit on 0845 30 111 30.

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