

## TAYSIDE AND CENTRAL SCOTLAND TRANSPORT PARTNERSHIP

19 MARCH 2019

## LOCAL RAIL DEVELOPMENT FUND UPDATE

## REPORT BY SENIOR STRATEGY OFFICER

This report provides an update to the Partnership on Transport Scotland's Local Rail Development Fund.

**1 RECOMMENDATIONS**

1.1 That the Partnership:

- (i) notes the progress of the Stirling Strategic Park & Ride study and the Bridge of Earn Transport Appraisal; and
- (ii) endorses officer discussions with constituent councils and community groups to identify any potential bids to the second call for Local Rail Development Funding.

**2 BACKGROUND**

- 2.1 On 19 March 2019 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 (Report RTP/18/23 refers).
- 2.2 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 (Report RTP/18/33 refers).
- 2.3 On 28 February 2019, Transport Scotland announced a second round of LRDF funding, requesting bids by 28 June 2019.

**3 DISCUSSION**Current LRDF Transport Appraisals

- 3.1 Tactran received LRDF monies to work with Stirling Council on a Stirling Strategic Park and Ride Study and Perth & Kinross Council on a Bridge of Earn Transport Appraisal.
- 3.2 The LRDF requires a three stage appraisal process, namely:
  - Case for change
  - Initial Appraisal

- Detailed Appraisal

3.3 The Case for Change reports will be submitted to Transport Scotland in April, where they will be reviewed and a decision made by Transport Scotland as to whether the studies will receive funding to progress to the next stage, i.e. Initial Appraisal. All three stages must be completed by end of March 2020.

#### LRDF 2<sup>nd</sup> Call

3.4 On 28 February the Local Rail Development Fund (LRDF) [re-opened](#) for further applications from community led initiatives. This follows on from the first round, which saw almost £700,000 awarded to ten organisations/communities to take forward development works which will consider rail solutions to local transport issues.

3.5 If following discussions with constituent Councils and community groups, proposals for further LRDF submissions are proposed, these will be presented to the Partnership Meeting of 18 June prior to any submission by 28 June.

## **4 CONSULTATIONS**

4.1 The report has been prepared in consultation with the Transportation Officers Liaison Group and the Public Transport Officers Liaison Group.

## **5 RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS**

5.1 Tactran has been awarded £222,000 from Transport Scotland's Local Rail Development Fund. The report has no further direct resource implications other than staff time.

## **6 EQUALITIES IMPLICATIONS**

6.1 This report has been screened for any policy implications in respect of Equality Impact Assessment and no major issues have been identified.

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## **NOTE**

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

Report to Partnership, RTP/18/23, Rail Update, 26 June 2018

Report to Partnership, Report RTP/18/33, Local Rail Development Fund, 25 September 2018