

TAYSIDE AND CENTRAL SCOTLAND TRANSPORT PARTNERSHIP**16 JUNE 2020****ACTIVE TRAVEL CAPITAL GRANTS****REPORT BY SENIOR STRATEGY OFFICER**

This report asks the Partnership to approve allocation of funding from Regional Active Travel Development Fund and the Tactran Active Travel Grant.

1 RECOMMENDATIONS**1.1 That the Partnership:**

- (i) approves the allocation of funding from the Regional Active Travel Development Fund 2020/21 to the projects as outlined within the report;
- (ii) approves the allocation of funding from the Tactran Active Travel Grant 2020/21 to the projects as outlined within the report;
- (iii) delegates authority to the Director and Treasurer to agree further projects and award funding for the remainder of the Active Travel Grant Fund 2020/21; and
- (iv) notes the submission of a monitoring proposal to Sustrans Spaces for People Fund.

2 BACKGROUND

- 2.1 Tactran and Sustrans have been working in partnership to promote and deliver active travel projects in the Tactran region through the Active Travel Grant (ATG) scheme since 2014/15. The ATG has been designed to reflect and support Sustrans' Places for Everyone scheme and associated criteria. Funding comes to Tactran from Sustrans.
- 2.2 Since 2018/19 Transport Scotland have made available a Regional Active Travel Development Fund (RATDF) available to the RTPs to progress the regional walking and cycling network.
- 2.3 The Partnership Board of March 2020 approved the criteria for identifying suitable projects for RATDF and ATG funding in 2020/21 ([Report RTP/20/15 refers](#)).
- 2.4 In May 2020, the Scottish Government announced the Spaces for People fund to bring forward temporary active travel measures that enable social distancing in the light of Covid-19.

2.5 In 2016 the Partnership commenced the joint funding with Cycling Scotland of a Regional Cycle Training and Development Officer to deliver Cycling Scotland programmes across the Tactran region.

3 DISCUSSION

Regional Active Travel Development Fund (RATDF) 2020/21

3.1 A grant offer letter was received from Transport Scotland on 30 April 2020 confirming the award of £133,400 to Tactran.

3.2 The criteria for identifying suitable RATDF projects approved by the Partnership in March 2020 is that the RADTF funding will be utilised to either:

- take forward the recommendations of the 13 active travel audits undertaken at key settlements across Angus, Dundee, Perth & Kinross and Stirling Council areas;
- develop and implement key routes within the Tactran Regional Walking and Cycling Network (TRWCN);
- develop and implement access to key regional services within the Tactran Region

3.3 Discussions with all four Local Authorities have identified the following projects that will progress the implementation of the Regional Walking & Cycling Network:

Organisation	Project	Proposed Grant
Angus Council	Sidlaw Path Network: Links Kirriemuir/Coupar Angus to Dundee (RTS Delivery Plan Project AT3.18 and AT3.19)	£30,000
Perth and Kinross Council	Aberargie Path Development - Phase 5: The Aberargie Phase 5 project is the continuation of a multi-phase project to link Bridge of Earn with Abernethy and a wider project to connect Newburgh to Bridge of Earn (RTS Delivery Plan Project AT3.7) (Balance of grant provided by ATG)	£63,400
Stirling Council	Kings Highway: Feasibility study looking at the corridor options between Stirling and Drymen (RTS Delivery Plan Project AT3.7).	£40,000
Total		£133,400

3.4 The Partnership is asked to approve the total allocation of £133,400 funding to these three projects.

Tactran Active Travel Grant (ATG) 2020/21

- 3.5 On 23 April 2020 Tactran received confirmation from Sustrans that a minimum of £100,000 is available for the Tactran ATG.
- 3.6 The ATG has been designed to reflect and support Sustrans' Places for Everyone scheme and associated criteria, and in March 2020 the Partnership agreed to focus the ATG on improved access to NHS facilities and access to all tiers of Educational establishments.
- 3.7 Discussions with all four Local Authorities have identified the following projects that meet the ATG criteria:

Organisation	Project	Proposed Grant
Dundee City Council	Active Travel Audit Development: Further phases of Active Travel Audits covering Strathmartine Ward, Maryfield Ward and the East End Ward (RTS Delivery Plan Project AT6)	£30,000
Perth and Kinross Council	Aberargie Path Development - Phase 5: The Aberargie Phase 5 project is the continuation of a multi-phase project to link Bridge of Earn with Abernethy and a wider project to connect Newburgh to Bridge of Earn. (RTS Delivery Plan Project AT3.7) (Balance of grant provided by RATDF)	£9,100
NHS Tayside	Cycle Parking, Royal Victoria Hospital, Dundee	£10,914
Total		£50,014

- 3.8 The Partnership is asked to approve award of grant funding to the above projects.
- 3.9 Tactran Officers will continue to liaise with partners regarding the allocation of the remainder of the fund and the Partnership is asked to delegate authority to the Director and Treasurer to agree further projects and award funding.

Spaces for People

- 3.10 As part of the response to Covid19, to better enable physical distancing, the Scottish Government announced the £10m Spaces for People fund on 28 April, which has subsequently been increased to £30m, and invited applications. The new infrastructure programme fund for pop-up walking and cycling routes or temporary improvements to existing routes is to be administered by Sustrans.

3.11 Each of the four constituent Councils are making bids to Sustrans Spaces for People fund to provide temporary measures that allow safe walking and cycling whilst social distancing. To complement these proposals, Tactran is developing a monitoring proposal in conjunction with the Council officers from all 4 Local Authorities to:

- Assess impact of temporary active travel infrastructure measures put in place by each Council, including parallel routes;
- Assess short, medium and long term multi-modal trends in our cities/towns; and
- Undertake behaviour and attitude monitoring.

Bikeability

3.12 The principal task of the Regional Cycle Training and Development Officer is to promote the Bikeability cycle training across Tactran. Whilst the demand for cycling appears to have gone up due to a number of factors during the 'lockdown' as a result of the Covid-19 pandemic, it is likely that there will be issues in getting the cycle training programme up and running when restrictions are sufficiently lifted by the Scottish Government. Recognising this:

- The Regional Cycle Training & Development Officer is working with each local authority co-ordinator to discuss plans and the possibility of reallocation of the funding that supports the bikeability programme (Support Plus Funding)
- The guidelines, risk assessments and procedures will be specific to those delivering Bikeability. Cycling Scotland are advising local authorities and partner organisations to follow current local, national and NHS guidelines for any activity they plan to carry out. In addition, Cycling Scotland has created a range of resources and guidance around Covid-19 which can be accessed here: <https://www.cycling.scot/covid19-information>

4 CONSULTATIONS

4.1 This report has been prepared in consultation with Sustrans officers.

4.2 The Regional Active Travel Development Fund and Tactran Active Travel Grant projects have been developed in consultation with the Sustainable Travel Liaison Group, Transportation Officers Liaison Group, Public Transport Officers Liaison Group and other appropriate stakeholders.

5 RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS

5.1 Tactran has been awarded £133,400 from Transport Scotland for the Regional Active Travel Grant Fund in 2020/21.

5.2 Sustrans has confirmed a minimum allocation of £100,000 for the Tactran Active Travel Grant scheme in 2020/21.

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 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 this Report:

Report to Partnership 17 March 2020, '2020/21 Budget and Programme'
RTP/20/15

Tactran '[RTS Delivery Plan 2016–2021: 2018 Progress Report](#)'