

TAYSIDE AND CENTRAL SCOTLAND TRANSPORT PARTNERSHIP**15 JUNE 2021****ACTIVE TRAVEL PROGRESS REPORT****REPORT BY STRATEGY OFFICER (SUSTAINABLE TRANSPORT) AND
REGIONAL CYCLE TRAINING & DEVELOPMENT OFFICER**

This report asks the Partnership to note progress on developing projects for Regional Active Travel Development Fund (RATDF) and Tactran Active Travel Grant (ATG) and to delegate authority to the Executive Committee to approve allocation of projects in 2021/22. The report also provides an update on Spaces for People monitoring, Adult Cycling Project and Bikeability Scotland initiatives.

1 RECOMMENDATIONS

1.1 That the Partnership:

- (i) notes progress on developing projects on Active Travel (ATG) and Regional Active Travel Development Fund (RATDF) grants;
- (ii) delegates authority to the Executive Committee to agree projects and award funding for the ATG and RATDF 2021/22; and
- (iii) notes updates on Spaces for People monitoring, Adult Cycling Training and Bikeability Scotland initiatives and agrees to receive a comprehensive report on Spaces for People monitoring at its next meeting.

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 Covid 19 brought delays to funds allocated in 2020/21, however, all projects have now been delivered. Details on all projects funded and now delivered were reported to the Partnership at its meeting on 16 March 2021 (Report RTP/21/04 refers).
- 2.4 At its meeting in March 2021, the Partnership approved criteria for identifying suitable active travel projects in 2021/22 and agreed to receive a further report at its next meeting (Report RTP/21/05).

3 DISCUSSION

3.1 It was reported to the Partnership in March that it was anticipated that a minimum £100,000 would be provided by Sustrans for Active Travel Grant (ATG) and £133,400 from Transport Scotland for Regional Active Travel Development Fund (RATDF) in 2021/22. The grant offer letter was received from Transport Scotland on 23 April 2021 confirming the award of £133,400 to Tactran. Tactran is awaiting final confirmation from Sustrans.

3.2 At its meeting on 16 March, the Partnership also approved criteria for identifying suitable RATDF and ATG projects, that the funding be utilised to:

- A: Take forward the recommendations of the 13 active travel audits previously undertaken at key settlements across Angus, Dundee, Perth & Kinross and Stirling Council areas;
- B: Develop and implement key routes within the Tactran Regional Walking and Cycling Network (TRWCN);
- C: Develop and implement access to key services within the Tactran Region.

3.3 The table below identifies potential projects from discussions that have been held with all four Local Authorities, Sustrans and Transport Scotland:

Organisation	Project	Criteria	Proposed Grant
Angus Council	Brechin to Drumachilie Loan – further design work building on previous year’s work.	A + B	£30,000
	Community engagement to support previous feasibility study on the Sidlaw Path network		£30,000
Dundee City Council	Community Engagement building on design work previously supported by Tactran on Coupar Angus Road	A + B	£30,000
Perth and Kinross Council	Continuation of infrastructure works on Baiglie Straight, previously supported by Tactran	A + C	£30,000
Stirling Council	Business cases for previously carried out feasibility studies from Dunblane to Bridge of Allan and Alloa to Stirling link.	B	£60,000
Angus Council	Active travel infrastructure project, improving access to health centres, community centres and public	B	£40,000

	spaces and building on previously supported work Installation of cycle and walking counters, within the previously funded audited areas to support business cases for bringing forward audit recommendations. In conjunction with Cycling Scotland framework agreement.	B	£30,000
Dundee City Council	Design work and community engagement for new path linking Gardyne Road, college campus and NCN1 Development of a Cycle parking delivery plan which will include residential cycle storage and improved cycle storage throughout the city.	A + C C	£50,000 £30,000
Perth and Kinross Council	Improving accessibility of routes to school through a package of minor infrastructure improvements.	C	£50,000
Stirling Council	Installation of cycle and walking counters, within the previously funded audited areas to support business cases for bringing forward audit recommendations. In conjunction with Cycling Scotland framework agreement. Possible joint project bid with Dundee City Council/Angus. Development of Cycle parking strategy/methodology (including community engagement). Possible joint project approach with Dundee City Council.	B C	£30,000 £30,000

- 3.4 The total cost for projects identified above is estimated at £440,000. This is in excess of the minimum of £233,400 and Tactran Officers will continue to liaise with partners regarding the allocation of projects to match the funding available.
- 3.5 The Partnership is asked to delegate authority to the Executive Committee to approve the allocation of projects in 2021/22 to the minimum £233,400 funding available.

- 3.6 Sustrans have indicated that, looking forward to 2022/23 onwards the grant parameters will move towards a rebranding to be “Regional Development Grant” which will support future infrastructure projects and may require a review of grant criteria.

Spaces for People

- 3.7 As part of the response to Covid19, to better enable physical distancing, the Scottish Government announced the £30m Spaces for People (SfP) fund to be administered by Sustrans.
- 3.8 Each of the four constituent Councils made bids to the fund to provide measures that allow safe walking and cycling whilst social distancing. To complement these proposals, an initial award of £250,000 was granted to Tactran to monitor the Spaces for People Programme across the region in 2020/21. This grant has subsequently been increased to extend the monitoring into Autumn 2021.
- 3.9 The monitoring programme has consisted of:
- Speed and volume counts (pedestrians, cyclists and motor vehicles) at locations where SfP were being considered;
 - Modal share cordon counts around areas where packages of SfP measures have been considered (typically town centres);
 - Videos to enable analysis of social distancing at selected locations; and
 - Attitudinal survey programme to understand peoples (changing) views on travel, active travel and the SfP measures
- 3.10 The counts have been undertaken in October/November 2020, February 2021 and May 2021, whilst the modal share counts have just been undertaken in May 2021. The attitudinal surveys have been undertaken on a monthly basis since August 2020. The [monthly attitudinal reports](#) are available on the Tactran website.
- 3.11 The additional award of £52,000, will permit a final round of speed and volume counts in September and two more waves of the attitudinal survey. Given the extension to the programme, a final report on the monitoring programme will not be available until October or November. However, as the purpose of the data is to inform Council’s decisions in 2021/22 regarding making measures permanent and/or introducing new active travel measures, a report will be produced in July which includes the surveys up to May 2021 and reported to Board in September.

Adult Cycling Project – Community, Workplace and Families

- 3.12 Adult Cycling skills opportunities are promoted and offered across the Tactran region as an introduction to independent cycling, using Essential Cycling Skills training and Learn to Ride training.

3.13 Four courses are offered:

- Absolute beginners
- Introduction to on-road
- Advanced on-road
- Family sessions

3.14 The offer was made to all local authority active travel contacts, forums, active travel hubs, registered Cycling Friendly employers and community groups, and included NHS Tayside and NHS Forth Valley and local authority health and social care partnerships across Tactran.

3.15 Between October 2020 to May 2021, 55 participants completed the sessions across Angus, Dundee, Perth & Kinross, and Stirling and a further 36 individuals are interested in participating in the future.

Bikeability Scotland update

3.16 There has been continued funding and support for Bikeability Scotland and a rise in the number of schools and pupils participating during the pandemic. The below gives a summary of participation levels in the Tactran region:

- Angus – 34 schools with 740 pupils participating
- Dundee – 24 schools with 1294 pupils participating
- Perth & Kinross – 16 schools with 356 pupils participating
- Stirling – schools 25 with 823 pupils participating

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 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 2021/22.

5.2 Sustrans is anticipating a minimum allocation of £100,000 for the Tactran Active Travel Grant scheme in 2021/22. To be confirmed by June 2021.

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:

Reports to partnerships, RTP/21/04 Budget and Monitoring and RTP/21/05, 2021/22 Budget and Programme, 16 March 2021