

## **TAYSIDE AND CENTRAL SCOTLAND TRANSPORT PARTNERSHIP**

Minute of the Meeting of the Tayside and Central Scotland Transport Partnership held virtually via Microsoft Teams on Tuesday 15 June 2021 at 10.30am.

Present: Provost Ronnie Proctor and Councillor Mark McDonald (Angus Council); Councillors Mark Flynn, Richard McCready and Steven Rome (Dundee City Council); Councillors Alasdair Bailey, David Illingworth and Andrew Parrott (Perth & Kinross Council); Heather Anderson, Dr Jonathan Berg, Paul Cronin, Bryan Doyle and Amy McDonald (Members).

In Attendance: M Speed (Director); N Gardiner, J Padmore, A Roger and M Scott (Tactran); S Hendry (Secretary); W Scott (Angus Council); E MacNaughton and E Gourlay (Dundee City Council); D Coyne and A Deans (Perth & Kinross Council) S McDougall (Stirling Council).

Apologies for absence were received from: Councillors Danny Gibson and Jim Thomson (Stirling Council).

Councillor Richard McCready, Chair, Presiding

The Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting and advised of the protocol regarding the virtual meeting and noted a change in the running order with Item 8 now rescheduled for after Item 11.

### **1. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

None.

### **2. MINUTE OF MEETING OF 16 MARCH 2021**

The minute of the meeting of the Tayside and Central Scotland Transport Partnership of 16 March 2021 was submitted approved as a correct record.

### **3. SCOTRAIL UPDATE**

There was [presentation](#) by Ewan Tait, Business Development Executive, ScotRail which provided an update on services following Covid-19 Pandemic, May 2021 timetable changes and looking to 2022 and beyond.

Councillor Bailey asked whether there would be increased calls at local stations such as Invergowrie and Gleneagles. E Tait noted that the Glasgow to Dundee route is served by a mixture of Intercity services and a semi-fast local service. The local service could potentially increase calls at local stations, but unable to commit to additional services being introduced in May 2022 timetable.

A McDonald noted that there has been a significant increase in car travel since travel restrictions have been eased and asked if ScotRail had information on rail commuter and leisure travel in the Tactran region and what is being done to promote rail use. E Tait noted that the granularity of the data collected by ScotRail does not currently allow detailed analysis, but they are working on this. However, there is a significant amount of off-peak travel and passenger numbers were very fluid at present, which makes forecasting difficult. Regarding promoting rail travel he will be meeting ScotRail commercial team shortly to discuss but suspects that more measures than just advertising rail travel will be required.

Councillor Parrott asked about the new station at Kintore opening, its use and whether there was a conflict with fast intercity journey times. E Tait said there has been approximately 13,000 passengers at Kintore Station since its opening up until May 2021 but noted this did not include any ticketless travel.

Councillor Rome queried the average amount paid per passenger journey and how this was invested. He also queried whether E Tait anticipated a step change in investment following ScotRail change to Operator of Last Resort (OLR). E Tait noted that cost per passenger was £4.08 paid by passenger and £11.29 by Government and other sources. The low cost paid by passenger was in part due to short journeys in Strathclyde affecting the average. E Tait did not expect investment to increase because of OLR and that the focus was to fill capacity and manage it across the day and also decarbonisation of the rail network will require significant investment. Councillor Rome asked whether there was any investigation into fare prices and E Tait said he was not aware of any work ongoing.

Dr Berg said for commercial and business travel the rail service needs to be fast and convenient and queried the links to Edinburgh airport. E Tait noted that for Intercity services there needs to be fast journey times to be competitive and there needs to be a balance between Journey times and stopping services. The local services between Perth - Edinburgh and Dundee - Edinburgh provide calls at Edinburgh Gateway station.

Provost Proctor asked about improving freight on the railways. E Tait confirmed ScotRail's role was to provide passenger transport but agreed that there needs to be a balance between freight and passenger journeys involving all operators.

Councillor McDonald noted the need for passengers to interchange at Montrose station and asked about improving the station environment. E Tait said there had been work carried out recently at Montrose station and he would forward information on this. Councillor McDonald also said that the ticketing system was off-putting to passengers and more should be done to provide e-tickets.

Councillor Parrott said it would be very interesting to see the average fare paid per journey and average subsidy per journey for different service groups such as Strathclyde Suburban, Scottish Inter City and West & North Highland Lines. E Tait to provide more inform and send to the Director for circulation.

The Chair asked about ticketing and simplifying the ticketing and pricing structure. E Tait agreed the ticketing system and fare structure requires review but it would need to be a UK wide review.

The Chair thanks E Tait for his presentation and advised would continue to consider rail passenger usage and how to incentivise users to get back to using the rail network as opposed to the car.

The Director thanked E Tait and confirmed a further presentation would be received in the future.

#### **4. PUBLIC SERVICES REFORM ACT ANNUAL STATEMENTS 2021/21**

There was submitted a joint report by the Director and Treasurer (RTP/21/11) seeking the Partnership's approval of Annual Statements which require to be published under the Public Services Reform (Scotland) Act 2010.

##### **Resolved:**

- (i) To approve publication of the Public Services Reform Act Annual Statements for 2020/21 as detailed in the Appendices to the report.

#### **5. DRAFT UNAUDITED ANNUAL ACCOUNTS FOR 2020/21**

There was submitted a joint report by the Treasurer and Director (RTP/21/12) presenting the Draft Unaudited Annual Accounts for 2020/21 and summarising a change in the accounting treatment for the year-end surplus.

##### **Resolved:**

- (i) To approve the contents of the Draft Unaudited Annual Accounts for 2020/21; and
- (ii) To authorise the Treasurer to sign the Annual Accounts for submission to the Controller of Audit by 30 June 2021.

#### **6. 2021/22 BUDGET AND MONITORING**

There was submitted a joint report by the Director and Treasurer (RTP/21/13) providing a monitoring update on the Partnership's Revenue and Capital expenditure and seeking the Partnership's approval of a revised 2021/22 RTS Revenue Programme.

A McDonald asked that future finance reports consider highlighting any significant updates and quarterly year-end outturn forecasts and noted that reserves were not to be used for Business-as-Usual activity. The Director agreed to discuss these points with D Coyne for future financial reporting.

**Resolved:**

- (i) To note the position regarding Core Revenue expenditure as at 31 April 2021 as detailed in Appendix A;
- (ii) To note progress on and approve the 2021/22 RTS Revenue Programme and related expenditure as discussed within the report and detailed in Appendices B and C; and
- (iii) To note progress on the 2021/22 Capital Programme and related expenditure as discussed within the report and detailed in Appendix D.

**7. ACTIVE TRAVEL PROGRESS REPORT**

There was submitted a report by the Strategy Officer (Sustainable Transport) and the Regional Cycle Training and Development Officer (RTP/21/14) asking 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 provided an update on Spaces for People monitoring, Adult Cycling Project and Bikeability Scotland initiatives.

Dr Berg left the meeting.

Councillor Flynn welcomed M Scott update and asked about funding for cycle parking/storage. M Scott to provide details of Cycling Scotland funding scheme.

Councillor Flynn also asked about Spaces for People monitoring and ability to provide locality-based data. J Padmore advised this would be provided and there were two sets of data – monitoring/count data and attitudinal surveys.

A McDonald asked about the funding shortfall and how projects are to be prioritised. J Padmore advised Tactran are usually successful in receiving additional funding, however, each application would be assessed based on the criteria required and prioritised accordingly and funding would be awarded based on the outcome of that process.

**Resolved:**

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

## 9. DIRECTORS REPORT

There was submitted a report by the Director (RTP/21/16) asking the Partnership to delegate Tactran's response to Strathclyde Partnership for Transport (SPT) consultation on their draft Regional Transport Strategy Case for Change report to the Director. The Partnership was also asked to note updates on the Tactran office accommodation; equalities reporting and Regional EV Strategy.

A McDonald asked if the required EV Charging points for the national targets set had been identified and if there was a model for investment to offset the costs? N Gardiner advised that a baseline report and demand forecast had been undertaken when developing the Regional EV Strategy. In addition, further work had been undertaken to identify infrastructure milestones. N Gardiner to share this information with A McDonald. Regarding a model for investment N Gardiner noted that Transport Scotland has been working with Scottish Futures Trust (SFT) to review financing and delivery models.

B Doyle advised cost information for the provision of infrastructure is required and asked if the EV Strategy work included this and N Gardiner confirmed it did.

Provost Proctor advised Angus Council has set an EV tariff of 23p per kWh. N Gardiner advised the Local Authorities in the Tactran region either had tariffs in place or were considering introducing tariffs in the near future – the Regional EV Strategy steering group had developed a tariff calculator which set out the costs and issues that need to be considered when setting targets. In addition each of the Local Authorities are aware of each other's tariff development work. Provost Proctor said a similar rate would be a good aim. N Gardiner confirmed that the intention was to have a measure of consistency.

Councillor Illingworth mentioned utilising swap battery technology in future.

The Director said Electric Vehicles could be considered for a more substantial item at a future meeting if that would be helpful.

Councillor Flynn welcomed the suggestion of a presentation. He also considered that Local Authorities should ensure all new properties should have a charging point and it would be helpful to see what is happening across the region.

Councillor Parrott noted that there were several domestic charging options and was concerned about whether the domestic supply could cope with the charging point requirements.

The Chair said he was looking forward to an update in the future.

**Resolved:**

- (i) To delegate the response to the Strathclyde Partnership for Transport (SPT) consultation on their draft Regional Transport Strategy Case for Change report to the Director; and
- (ii) To note the updates on the Tactran office accommodation; equalities reporting and Regional EV Strategy.

**10. MOBILITY AS A SERVICE UPDATE**

There was submitted a report by the Senior Strategy Officer (RTP/21/17) providing an update on the process for delivering a Mobility as a Service (MaaS) pilot in the Tactran region.

**Resolved:**

- (i) To note progress with the Tactran ENABLE pilot; and
- (ii) To approve the delegation of the award of necessary contracts relating to MaaS Investment Fund (MIF) Round 2 award to the Executive Committee.

**11. BUS ALLIANCES UPDATE**

The Director advised feedback from Transport Scotland on both the Forth Valley and Tayside Bus Alliances' bids for Bus Partnership Funding has been delayed so unable to provide a presentation update. He suggested scheduling a drop-in session once Transport Scotland had provided feedback.

A McDonald noted the need to benchmark climate change targets.

**Resolved:**

- (i) To provide a drop-in session outlining Forth Valley and Tayside Bus Alliance Bus Partnership Fund Bid.

Councillors Bailey and Flynn and Provost Proctor left the meeting,

## **8. A NEW REGIONAL TRANSPORT STRATEGY: UPDATE**

There was submitted a report by the Senior Strategy Officer (RTP/21/15) updating the Partnership on the work to produce a new Regional Transport Strategy for the Tactran region and asking the Partnership to endorse the next stages of developing the strategy.

A McDonald suggested that the strategy should focus on what we can deliver or influence.

### **Resolved:**

- (i) To notes progress on developing a new Regional Transport Strategy; and
- (ii) To endorse the next steps in developing a Regional Transport Strategy.

## **12. MEMBERS ISSUES AND AOCB**

N Gardiner advised the following consultations have recently commenced:

- (i) Dundee City Council [Consultation](#) on Proposed Low Emission Zones and a meeting is scheduled for 24 June at 4.30pm. N Gardiner advised he will share details of this meeting and provide contact details of the Board Members so an email invitation can be issued. The Consultation response is due by Friday 6 August.
- (ii) East Coast Main Line Consultation on May 22 timetable – a response is due by Thursday 5 August.

### **Resolved:**

- (i) To delegate authority to the Executive Committee to approve the consultation response to the Dundee City LEZ Consultation; and
- (ii) To delegate authority to the Executive Committee to approve the consultation response to the East Coast Main Line May 2022 Timetable consultation.

## **13. DATES OF FUTURE MEETINGS**

The Chair confirmed the dates for 2021 and advised the meeting scheduled for 14<sup>th</sup> September will be held via Microsoft Teams and the options for future meetings will be discussed and agreed in due course. KPMG 'In Camera' Session at 10am.

14<sup>th</sup> December 2021 at 10.30am