

ANNUAL REPORT

2016/17

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FOREWORD

We are delighted to present Tactran's Annual Report for **2016/17**.

A major focus for the Partnership during the year was completing the review and updating of the Regional Transport Strategy Delivery Plan following on from refresh of the statutory Regional Transport Strategy (RTS), which gained Ministerial approval in July 2015.

These updates to the Partnership's key policy and delivery documents to reflect changing needs and circumstances and various national, regional and local policy developments since approval of the original RTS in 2008 were undertaken through extensive consultation with our key stakeholders, including our 4 partner Councils, various Community Planning partners and numerous other key stakeholders. This included comprehensive re-mapping and alignment of RTS policies and delivery priorities with all relevant national, regional and local strategies, plans and action programmes, including those supporting Community Planning and Strategic and Local Development Plans.

Our 2016/17 RTS Programme totalling £283,997 supported progress on the Strategic Connectivity; Active Travel; Health & Transport; Travel Planning; Travel Information; Buses; Rail and Freight elements of the RTS. In addition our Active Travel partnership with Sustrans and a similar new strategic alliance with Cycling Scotland delivered Community Links funding support for the development and delivery of walking and cycling infrastructure and facilities, commencement of a programme of Active Travel Audits in key settlements and communities, and significant progress in expanding the availability and reach of national and local cycle training and development programmes across the region.

Tactran continued to be proactive in supporting both Community Planning and Development Planning. Our RTS priorities and delivery activity are fully aligned with supporting achievement of economic, environmental, social and health and wellbeing outcomes locally, regionally and nationally. Playing a similarly supportive role in informing, supporting and resourcing emerging City Deals became, and is likely to remain, an increasing focus moving forward. The City Deals represent a significant new focus and opportunity to advance delivery of strategic priorities already identified in the RTS and Delivery Plan.

We wish to acknowledge and offer our sincere thanks and appreciation for the commitment and contribution made by the Partnership's Board Members, staff, Proper Officers, partner Council staff and the many public and private sector stakeholders who have contributed to supporting the work of Tactran throughout the year.

More information on Tactran, our Regional Transport Strategy and related activity can be found at www.tactran.gov.uk



Councillor Brian Gordon
Chair of Tactran



Eric Guthrie
Tactran Director

1. PARTNERSHIP BOARD & GOVERNANCE



Tactran is the statutory Regional Transport Partnership covering the Angus, Dundee City, Perth & Kinross and Stirling Council areas,

The Partnership's principal statutory duties are to :-

- create, maintain and oversee delivery of the statutory Regional Transport Strategy;
- engage proactively as a statutory Community Planning partner and support the achievement of Community Planning outcomes;
- engage as a Key Agency in the Development Planning process at a regional and local level;
- support the achievement of statutory Climate Change objectives as set out in the Climate Change (Scotland) Act 2009 and associated Guidance; and
- to meet the requirements of the Equality Act 2010 and the Equality Act (Specific Duties) (Scotland) Regulations 2012.

The Partnership Board consists of 10 Councillor Members appointed by our 4 partner Councils plus 5 non-Councillor Members who are appointed by the Partnership with endorsement by Scottish Ministers.

BOARD MEMBERSHIP DURING 2016/17 WAS :-

ANGUS COUNCIL

Councillor Marie Evans (until June 2016)
Councillor Lynne Devine (from June 2016)
Councillor Ronnie Proctor

DUNDEE CITY COUNCIL

Councillor Bill Campbell
Councillor Will Dawson (Chair)
Councillor Brian Gordon

PERTH & KINROSS COUNCIL

Councillor Mike Barnacle
Councillor John Kellas
Councillor Alan Livingstone

STIRLING COUNCIL

Councillor Danny Gibson
Councillor Alycia Hayes

NON-COUNCILLOR MEMBERS

Ms Trudi Craggs
Mr Mark Craske
Mr James (Doug) Fleming
(Deputy Chair)
Mr Gavin Roser
Mr David Scotney

Councillor Members of the Partnership were appointed in June 2012 following the Local Government elections in May of that year, with these appointments ordinarily extending until the Local Government elections in May 2017.

Non-Councillor member appointments are made by the Partnership subject to endorsement of appointment by Scottish Ministers. These appointments are generally made for two-yearly terms of office with extension subject to review and agreement by the Partnership. During the year the Partnership agreed to extend the appointments of Trudi Craggs and David Scotney for a further two years until 30 September 2018. These extensions of appointment were endorsed by the Minister for Transport and the Islands.

PARTNERSHIP BUSINESS

The Partnership Board meets quarterly. During 2016/17 meetings were held on :-

- **14 June 2016 in Perth**
- **13 September 2016 in Stirling**
- **6 December 2016 in Forfar**
- **14 March 2017 in Dundee**

An Executive Committee, consisting of one member from each partner Council and one non-Councillor member, deals with any matters of urgency or requiring decision or approval between the quarterly Partnership meetings. The Executive Committee members were :-

- **Councillor Dawson (Chair)**
- **Councillor Proctor**
- **Councillor Gibson**
- **Councillor Kellas**
- **Mr Fleming (Deputy Chair)**

During 2016/17 business dealt with by the Executive Committee included :-

- approving for publication the Partnership's 2015/16 Annual Report; and
- approving for publication the Partnership's Public Sector Equalities Duties reports by April 2017;

Information on the Partnership Board, its meetings, Agendas and related business can be accessed at www.tactran.gov.uk

GOVERNANCE

The Partnership has an approved suite of corporate Governance policies and procedures which are periodically reviewed and updated to take account of new duties, legislation and statutory guidance.

A comprehensive review and updating of all of the Partnership's core governance policies and procedures was undertaken and approved by the Partnership at its meeting on 6 December 2016. In doing so the Partnership noted that the Code of Conduct would be reviewed further during 2017/18 to take account of anticipated new legislation and guidance on succession planning and gender balance on public boards.

The Partnership also approved a draft Information Governance Policy and Records Management Plan for submission to The Keeper of Records of Scotland in accordance with the Public Records (Scotland) Act 2011, which required listed public bodies to submit their Records Management Framework and Plan to The Keeper of Records by 30 December 2016.

In accordance with good practice the Partnership actively reviews and updates its Risk Register annually.

Further information on the Partnership's governance policies and procedures can be found on the [website](#).

EQUALITIES DUTIES AND REPORTING

The Equalities Act 2010 requires the Partnership to periodically publish a Mainstreaming Report, setting out how it is using employee information to better inform its equality duties and responsibilities, and an Equality Outcomes Report, setting out how it is taking steps to involve people who share a protected characteristic, as defined under the Act and related guidance.

The Partnership published its initial Mainstreaming Report and Equality Outcomes Report in April 2013 and was required to publish updated progress reports by 27 April 2015 and 30 April 2017, having regard to any further statutory or non-statutory guidance issued during the interim. The updated reports, as approved by the Executive Committee for submission by 30 April 2017 can be viewed on the [website](#).

PUBLIC SERVICES REFORM REPORTING

The Public Services Reform (Scotland) Act 2010 requires Regional Transport Partnerships to publish specified financial and other information annually. Separate statements must be published as soon as practicable after the end of each Financial Year on :-

- certain categories of financial information, including expenditure on public relations; external consultancy; all payments in excess of £25,000; overseas travel and hospitality and entertainment;
- steps taken to promote and increase sustainable economic growth through exercise of the Partnership's functions; and
- steps taken to improve efficiency, effectiveness and economy in the exercise of the Partnership's functions.

The Partnership approved the relevant statements for 2016/17 at its meeting on 13 June 2017, which can be viewed on the [website](#).

PUBLIC SECTOR CLIMATE CHANGE DUTIES

The Climate Change (Scotland) Act 2009 places specific duties on public bodies in relation to Climate Change. In exercising their statutory functions listed public bodies must act in a way :-

- best calculated to contribute to delivery of emissions reduction targets;
- best calculated to support delivery of any statutory adaptation programme; and
- they consider to be most sustainable.

RTPs are defined as "major players" in supporting Government's climate change objectives and, as such, are required to report on compliance with climate change duties under the 2009 Act. The first mandatory reports were due for submission by 30 November 2016, with "major players" invited to submit a trial report for 2014/15 by 30 November 2015.

A Public Sector Climate Change Reporting Template has been developed by the Sustainable Scotland Network (SSN) covering 56 reportable activities and associated carbon emissions. As agreed in consultation between SSN and all RTPs, Tactran reports annually on 20 of these activities.

Tactran submitted a trial report for 2014/15 in November 2015. Feedback provided by SSN on this indicated that the reporting was generally satisfactory but requested more information on Adaptation. In response to this advice the Partnership approved a Climate Change Adaptation Policy Statement at its meeting on 13 September 2016. The Partnership's first mandatory report for 2015/16 was duly submitted in November 2016. These reports and related documentation can be viewed on the [website](#).

2. PARTNERSHIP RESOURCES



EXECUTIVE TEAM

During 2016/17 the Partnership undertook a comprehensive review of its core staffing establishment in response to a number of planned and unplanned changes in staffing and to take account of other external influences.

Within the constraints of available funding the opportunity was taken to review and adapt the staffing structure to take account of earlier and further anticipated revisions to the transport and wider public sector policy and delivery landscape. This includes a comprehensive review of the National Transport Strategy and associated review of national, regional and local public sector and other transport agency roles and responsibilities, which is due for completion in summer 2019; emerging City Deals and the potential for new models of regional governance to arise from these processes; the Planning Review; and the Enterprise & Skills Review, all of which have the potential to influence or impact upon the future delivery of regional transport planning and Tactran's other statutory duties and responsibilities.

The revised structure and staff in post at **31 March 2017** was :-

- **Partnership Director:** Eric Guthrie
- **Senior Partnership Manager:** Niall Gardiner
- **Senior Strategy Officer:** Vacancy
- **Strategy Officer:** Vacancy
- **Embedded Active Travel Officer:** Nina Gillespie
- **Embedded Regional Cycle Training & Development Officer:** Marianne Scott
- **Office Manager/PA to Director:** Ashley Roger
- **Administrative Assistant:** Muriel Muirhead

In 2014 the Partnership entered into a strategic alliance with sustainable transport charity Sustrans. Under this partnership Tactran funds appointment of an embedded Active Travel Officer whose role is to work with Tactran, Sustrans, partner Councils and other stakeholders to develop strategies and facilities to encourage increased walking and cycling in support of national, regional and local active travel strategies, including the Cycle Action Plan for Scotland (CAPS), the Regional Active Travel Strategy and local Active Travel Strategies approved by our partner Councils. Through this alliance Sustrans allocates Capital funding of at least £100,000/annum from the national Community Links budget to support Active Travel infrastructure development and delivery. This partnership operated initially on a 2-year pilot basis with continuation subject to review. At its meeting on 6 December 2016 the Partnership approved the continuation of this strategic alliance until June 2018.

At its meeting on 8 March 2016 the Partnership approved a further strategic Active Travel alliance with Cycling Scotland. This includes joint funding appointment of a regional Cycle Training & Development Officer to support promotion and development of national and local cycle training programmes for young people in schools and early stages nurseries and adult cycle training, with a view to encouraging more people of all ages to cycle more regularly for everyday journeys in support of RTS and CAPS aims and objectives. This post is operating initially on a 2-year pilot basis with continuation subject to review during 2018.

PROPER OFFICERS

The Partnership Board and Executive Team are supported and advised by 3 Proper Officers who provide Administration and Governance, Financial and Legal support under a Service Level Agreement with Perth & Kinross Council. They are :-

- **Secretary** – Gillian Taylor, Head of Democratic Services, Perth & Kinross Council
- **Treasurer** – Scott Walker, Chief Accountant, Perth & Kinross Council
- **Legal Officer** – Lisa Simpson, Head of Legal Services, Perth & Kinross Council

These Proper Officer appointments extend until the local authority elections in May 2017.

HEADQUARTERS

Tactran's operational and administrative headquarters is located centrally within the region in Perth at :-

Bordeaux House
31 Kinnoull Street
Perth
PH1 5EN

telephone – **01738 475775**

e-Mail – **info@tactran.gov.uk**

fax – **01738 639705**

FINANCIAL

Tactran's operational and delivery funding is provided by Scottish Government Grant in Aid supplemented by partner Council contributions towards Core operating costs. Individual Council funding contributions are determined in accordance with an agreed formula.

CORE BUDGET

The initially approved 2016/17 Core operating budget, covering the Partnership's day to day running costs, was **£431,285**.

Core funding contributions during the year were :-

Scottish Government Grant in Aid	325,715
Angus Council	23,595
Dundee City Council	29,265
Perth and Kinross Council	31,210
Stirling Council	18,950
Other Income	2,550
TOTAL	431,285

A detailed breakdown of actual Core expenditure for 2016/17 is provided in Table 1 below. During the year a number of revisions were approved to the Core budget to reflect changed funding needs and projections, including virement of £18,027 from the staffing budget to support the RTS Revenue Programme, generating a revised Core Budget of **£413,258**.

TABLE 1: CORE REVENUE BUDGET 2016/17

	APPROVED BUDGET	ACTUAL EXPENDITURE	VARIANCE
EXPENDITURE	£	£	£
Staff Costs			
Salaries	248,597	221,353	(27,244)
Superannuation	42,957	38,254	(4,703)
National Insurance	27,709	23,776	(3,933)
Training/Conferences	1,200	757	(443)
Subscriptions	330	250	(80)
	320,793	284,390	(36,403)

	APPROVED BUDGET	ACTUAL EXPENDITURE	VARIANCE
EXPENDITURE	£	£	£
Property Costs			
Energy, Repairs etc.	4,800	3,928	(872)
Cleaning	2,000	1,975	(25)
Maintenance	1,000	68	(932)
Rent	13,400	13,490	90
Rates	5,700	5,627	(73)
	26,900	25,088	(1,812)
Supplies & Services			
Office Consumables	4,125	4,512	387
Communications	3,500	2,524	(976)
Insurance	6,140	5,693	(447)
Information Technology	1,000	827	(173)
Hospitality	700	1,445	745
Board Expenses – Misc.	1,000	133	(867)
	16,465	15,134	(1,331)
Transport Costs			
Travel and Subsistence	2,000	2,682	682
Public Transport	2,200	1,956	(244)
Expenses – Board Members	1,000	1,582	582
	5,200	6,220	1,020
Third Party Payments			
Audit Fees External	9,900	9,778	(122)
PKC Finance Service	14,000	14,000	0
PKC Secretariat Service	8,000	8,000	0
Other Third Party Payments	12,000	9,837	(2,163)
	43,900	41,615	(2,285)
GROSS EXPENDITURE	413,258	372,447	(40,811)

A net underspend of **£40,811** on Core expenditure resulted primarily from staff turnover and related vacancy management and other minor underspends. The Partnership agreed to allocate this underspend to supporting the 2016/17 and 2017/18 RTS Revenue Budgets.

REGIONAL TRANSPORT STRATEGY REVENUE PROGRAMME

Scottish Government Grant in Aid of £197,035 was available to support development and delivery of the RTS during 2016/17. This amount was supplemented by £17,054 of budgeted income brought forward from 2015/16 and £18,027 from in-year Core savings plus other additional income, generating an initial RTS Revenue Programme Budget of £232,116.

This amount was supplemented during the year by additional Scottish Government Grant-in-Aid of up to £35,000 to support extension of the Partnership's Travelknowhow Travel Planning toolkit to become a nationally available resource in partnership with Transport Scotland and other RTPs, and a further £9,130 received from ScotRail to undertake rail passenger surveys on behalf of the Strathallan Community Rail Partnership.

At each quarterly Board meeting the Partnership Board monitored progress and expenditure and authorised revisions to the programme, as necessary, to take account of and manage delays with, or opportunities to advance, individual projects.

The budgeted and final cash expenditure during the year, as reported in the 2016/17 Audited Annual Accounts Management Commentary, is shown in Table 2 :-

TABLE 2: RTS REVENUE PROGRAMME 2016/17

EXPENDITURE ON PROJECTS	BUDGETED	ACTUAL EXPENDITURE	VARIANCE
RTS Delivery Plan	10,000	10,694	694
Strategic Connectivity	13,500	8,729	(4,771)
Health & Transport	22,000	21,300	(700)
Active Travel	75,000	74,790	(210)
Travel Planning	35,000	75,518	40,518
Buses Strategy	10,000	21,800	11,800
Rail	5,371	14,532	9,161
Freight	5,000	5,000	0
Travel Information	3,000	3,000	0
Contingency	53,245	48,634	(4,611)
GROSS EXPENDITURE	232,116	283,997	(51,881)

As indicated above the year-end variance of **£51,881** was offset by additional income totalling **£44,130** secured during the year and the underspend in Core expenditure. The detailed financial statements for the year are presented in the Partnership's **2016/17 Audited Accounts**, which are available for inspection on the [website](#) or at the Partnership Headquarters.

Further information on progress on individual RTS priority strands and projects is given in section 3 of this Report.

ACTIVE TRAVEL GRANT SCHEME AND BUDGET

Under the strategic alliance with Sustrans Tactran receives a Capital grant of at least £100,000/annum from the national Community Links programme. This funding is available for partner Councils, Health Boards, National Parks, higher and further education establishments and community groups to apply for match funding to develop and create infrastructure that enables more people to cycle and walk for every-day journeys throughout the region.

Eligible projects include identification, development and construction of new cycling and walking routes; enhancements and extensions to existing cycling and walking networks; and improving cycle and pedestrian facilities at key destinations.

During 2016/17 the Active Travel Grant scheme delivered a total of £86,948 towards supporting the development and implementation of 6 projects, with a further £25,000 allocated to developing and undertaking a programme of Active Travel Audits in key settlements/communities across the region.

The following projects were supported by the **2016/17 Active Travel Grant**:-

Loch Lomond & the Trossachs Countryside Trust: Tyndrum Community Cycle Path construction	£30,000
Perth & Kinross Countryside Trust: Auchterarder Community Shared-Use Path design	£9,998
Perth & Kinross Countryside Trust: Tayside Way feasibility study	£15,000
Forward Coupar Angus: Strathmore Cycling Network feasibility and development	£10,000
Perth & Kinross Council: Inveralmond Industrial Estate shared-use link construction	£6,950
Blackford Community Council : Blackford Cycle Paths feasibility study	£15,000
Active Travel Audit programme contribution	£25,000
TOTAL SPEND	£111,948

3. DEVELOPING & DELIVERING THE REGIONAL TRANSPORT STRATEGY



Tactran's principal statutory role and duty is to develop and oversee delivery of the Regional Transport Strategy (RTS). The original RTS 2008 - 2023 received Ministerial approval in June 2008 with the RTS 2015 – 2036 Refresh gaining Ministerial approval in July 2015. These documents can be viewed on the Partnership's [website](#) along with an Easy Read version of the RTS Refresh.

The RTS Vision is to deliver and maintain :-

“a transport system shaped by engagement with its citizens, which helps deliver prosperity and connects communities across the region and beyond, which is socially inclusive and environmentally sustainable and which promotes the health and wellbeing of all.”

The RTS and associated Delivery Plan are designed to provide a balanced and integrated package of objectives, policies and proposed supporting actions and interventions, which aim to support and promote the 3 key strategic aims of supporting :-

- **regional economic prosperity;**
- **connected communities and social inclusion;**
- **environmental sustainability, health and wellbeing.**

During 2016/17 the Partnership completed a comprehensive review and updating of the RTS Delivery Plan which identifies the key transportation infrastructure, systems and service enhancements which are required to support fulfilment of the RTS Vision and Objectives, and contribute towards promoting sustainable, inclusive economic growth locally, regionally and nationally. The review and updating of the RTS Delivery Plan was undertaken in consultation and agreement with our partner Councils and involved consultation and engagement with over 180 key stakeholders, having regard to changed or new national, regional and local policies, strategies and related delivery priorities.

At its meeting on 14 June 2016 the Partnership approved the finalised **RTS Delivery Plan 2016 – 2021**. This captures all interventions which will be priorities for Tactran, our partner Councils and other delivery stakeholders over the 5 years to 2021. It identifies a range of transportation infrastructure, systems and service enhancements which are aimed at supporting delivery of the RTS Refresh, Community Planning Single Outcome Agreements (SOAs), Strategic and Local Development Plans, the current National Transport Strategy and National Planning Framework, and all other relevant local, regional and national plans and strategies.

The Delivery Plan is not a costed programme but takes the form of a framework for determining and agreeing Revenue and Capital programmes and priorities which may be implemented by the Partnership, its partner Councils, Scottish Government, Transport Scotland and/or other relevant delivery partners/agencies. Moving forward it is intended that progress on delivery of the RTS will be reported on annually.

The RTS Refresh and updated Delivery Plan have directly informed the identification of physical transport infrastructure, strategic connectivity, accessibility and related social inclusion needs and priorities within emerging City Deals for the Tay Cities and Stirling & Clackmannanshire City Regions.

Development and implementation of the Strategy and supporting interventions is inevitably subject to resource availability. The City Deals represent a significant new focus and opportunity to bring forward delivery of a number of the key strategic priorities identified in the RTS and Delivery Plan. Progress on developing the RTS priorities during 2016/17 is outlined below.



STRATEGIC CONNECTIVITY



Tactran continued to liaise with Transport Scotland, the rail industry, partner Councils, City Deal promoters and other relevant agencies to advance road and rail infrastructure and other strategic connectivity priorities and proposals identified within the RTS, the national Strategic Transport Projects Review (STPR) and in emerging City Deal Action Plans/Programmes. A number of national strategic connectivity improvements are considered to be crucial to unlocking the region's full economic growth potential and maximising transport's contribution to achieving economic, social and environmental objectives.

These include :-

- **improving the A90 through or around Dundee**
- **strategic Park & Ride/Choose around Dundee, Perth and Stirling**
- **road safety and capacity improvements on the A9 between Stirling and Inverness**
- **improving rail services between Inverness/Aberdeen and the Central Belt including between Perth/Dundee/Stirling and Edinburgh/Glasgow**
- **extending electrification of the rail network northwards through Stirling, Perth and Dundee to Inverness and Aberdeen.**

During 2016/17 work commenced on development of a Regional Transport Model with the aim of supporting the development and appraisal of strategic connectivity enhancements and interventions within the emerging Tay Cities Deal and with the purpose of informing the future review of the national STPR.

Tactran continued to engage proactively with ScotRail, Network Rail and Transport Scotland on exploring the potential for further incremental enhancement of rail services and infrastructure in line with opportunities identified in our Tay Estuary Rail Strategy (TERS) and wider RTS priorities and proposals, with a view to embedding these within future franchise plans.

Tactran is an active member of East Coast Mainline Authorities consortium (ECMA) consisting of over 40 Councils, RTPs and other transport and economic development agencies from London to Aberdeen and Inverness, who have a shared interest in working with the UK and Scottish Governments and the rail industry to promote and make the economic case for increased investment in the East Coast Main Line. Tactran contributes development funding on behalf of the Partnership and its 4 constituent Councils to support the work of ECMA.

Tactran is an active member of the Dundee Airport Consultative Committee and a joint officer Steering Group consisting of HIAL, Transport Scotland, Scottish Enterprise, Dundee City Council and Tactran, which is investigating opportunities to develop the role and potential of Dundee Airport.



HEALTH AND TRANSPORT



The Regional Health & Transport strategy has been developed in collaboration with partner Councils, NHS Forth Valley, NHS Tayside and other Community Planning partners. This seeks to address the key relationships between transport and health :-

- **promoting active travel to improve health and wellbeing;**
- **addressing the impacts transport has upon public health; and**
- **improving access to healthcare.**

Work continued during 2016/17 on supporting development and implementation of locally relevant Health & Transport Action Plans which address and support relevant social, economic, environmental and health & wellbeing outcomes within SOAs. A key focus moving forward will be the review of the Health & Transport strategy to maintain alignment with the Local Outcomes Improvement Plans (LOIPs) which will replace existing SOAs during 2017/18, as required by the Community Empowerment (Scotland) Act 2015.

The Partnership continued to provide financial support of £12,000 towards the annual Safe Drive/Stay Alive road safety campaign in all four partner Council and Community Planning areas, in turn contributing to achievement of Community Safety objectives and outcomes.



The Partnership continued to maintain its strong commitment to promoting and encouraging Active Travel by allocating approximately 26% of its available RTS Programme budget to this key strand of the RTS. This included continued funding for the full costs of appointing the embedded Active Travel Officer in partnership with Sustrans, and a further contribution of £17,589 (45%) towards the costs of appointing the embedded regional Cycle Training & Development Officer in partnership with Cycling Scotland.

Revenue and Capital funding was allocated to commencing a regional programme of Active Travel audits, in partnership with Councils and Sustrans, with the aim of developing Active Travel Action Plans in key settlements/communities in all 4 partner Council areas, with a view to developing a pipeline of proposals and projects which are capable of securing delivery funding from the Community Links, Community Links Plus and other relevant funding sources. During 2016/17 Audits were commenced in 8 settlements/communities :-

- **Arbroath**
- **Forfar**
- **Monifieth**
- **Lochee, Dundee**
- **North East Dundee**
- **Crieff**
- **Bridgend, Gannochy and Scone, Perth**
- **Braehead, Stirling**

A further £10,174 was allocated to developing cycle monitoring infrastructure and capacity across the region.

As detailed in section 2 of this report, a total of £111,948 was secured through the Community Links Active Travel Grant programme which funded 6 projects and supported implementation of the Active Travel Audit programme. The Active Travel Officer also provided support and advice to a number of other groups and organisations in developing proposals for submission of bids to the 2016/17 and future Active Travel Grant and Community Links schemes.

The Cycle Training & Development Officer progressed uptake of and encouraged increased participation in a range of cycle training and development programmes, including Bikeability within schools; Nursery Play on Pedals; All Ability & Adult Cycling; Cycle Friendly Schools, Cycle Friendly Campus, Cycle Friendly Employer and Cycle Friendly Communities; and Practical Cycle Awareness Training for PCV/HGV drivers.



TRAVEL PLANNING



Work continued on engaging with and supporting a wide range of public and private sector organisations on supporting the promotion, development and implementation of corporate and workplace Travel Plans.

In March 2016 agreement was reached with Transport Scotland and the other 6 RTPs on proposed extension of the successful www.travelknowhow.org.uk/tactran online Travel Plan implementation toolkit to become a nationally available resource to support Travel Planning development across the public and private sectors across Scotland.

In September 2016 the national www.travelknowhowscotland.co.uk toolkit was launched. This offers public and private sector organisations throughout Scotland easily accessible and adaptable web-based support and materials, to enable them to develop, implement and maintain Travel Plans.

Promotion of the www.tactranliftshare.com lift-sharing website continued, including through social media and activity with major public and private sector employers increasing interest in and usage of the site, with over 4,600 members now registered.

The Sustainable Travel Grant scheme offers match funding to encourage and support implementation of effective Travel Plans. During 2016/17 the scheme supported Forth Valley College in updating its Travel Plan and establishing a Liftshare scheme; Abertay University in updating its Travel Plan and installing associated cycling facilities; NHS Tayside's purchase of pool bikes and other sustainable travel promotions.



BUSES STRATEGY



A further contribution of £5,000 was made as part of a 3-year funding commitment totalling £45,000 towards a partnership initiative with Angus Council, Stagecoach, NHS Tayside, Dundee City Council, Aberdeenshire Council and Nestrans which has significantly enhanced bus services in the Mearns area, including improved access and connectivity between local communities and Stracathro Hospital. This initiative is also contributing directly to delivery of the Angus CPP Health & Transport Action Plan.

In 2014 Tactran funded regional reintroduction of the popular Thistle Card assistance card, which alerts operational staff to the needs of disabled and other passengers who require assistance when travelling by public transport. Continued funding during 2016/17 included contributing jointly with other RTPs to the development of a Thistle Card "App" for mobile and other handheld devices.

In partnership with Transport Focus, Transport Scotland and the other RTPs Tactran also contributed towards the undertaking and expansion of the 2016 Scottish National Bus Passenger Survey.

PARK & RIDE/ CHOOSE STRATEGY



The Regional Park & Ride Strategy sets out proposals for developing and enhancing Park & Ride/Choose facilities around the region's 3 Cities, Dundee, Perth and Stirling. Proposals at Dundee and Stirling complement and aim to take forward national priorities for developing a network of strategic Park & Ride/Choose facilities around key strategic transport nodes within the Strategic Transport Projects Review (STPR).

Tactran has previously funded the development and implementation of planned and existing facilities working in partnership with Dundee City Council, Perth & Kinross Council, Stirling Council, Fife Council, SEStran and Transport Scotland. It is anticipated that further development of strategic Park & Ride/Choose facilities will be taken forward under the auspices of the Tay Cities and Stirling & Clackmannanshire City Deals, with technical input and expertise being provided by Tactran.

RAIL STRATEGY



The Tay Estuary Rail Study and strategy (TERS), developed working in partnership with the rail industry and Transport Scotland, has identified a positive business case for proposed short, medium and long-term enhancements to rail services operating within and through the region, coupled with opportunities to develop/enhance regional rail infrastructure.

Over recent years Tactran has successfully promoted and secured the delivery of incremental service and timetable improvements, including introduction of improved rail services at Carnoustie, Monifieth, Broughty Ferry, Invergowrie and Gleneagles. TERS also identified proposals for comprehensive enhancement of passenger and multi-modal interchange facilities at Gleneagles Station, which were delivered in partnership with Perth & Kinross Council, Transport Scotland and the rail industry for the Ryder Cup event in 2014.

During 2016/17 work was completed on an outline business case assessment of the potential relocation of Invergowrie station to a more accessible and less constrained site, in consultation with Transport Scotland, ScotRail, Network Rail, Perth & Kinross and Dundee City Councils. This work indicates a positive business case for a relocated station with the potential for significant passenger growth when coupled with an hourly passenger rail service.

The Partnership continued to engage with ScotRail, Network Rail and Transport Scotland on informing proposals for enhanced passenger services including further incremental delivery of an hourly stopping service between Arbroath and Glasgow, as envisaged by TERS, and the regular hourly frequency at Invergowrie which could support further investigation into the potential for station relocation.

The Revolution in Rail 2018 initiative, announced by the Minister for Transport and the Islands in March 2016, offers the potential for further incremental implementation of significant improvements to local and intercity passenger rail services and connectivity as envisaged by TERS, including the hourly stopping service between Arbroath and Glasgow to complement the hourly intercity service between Aberdeen and Glasgow. Tactran continues to engage with the rail industry on informing and identifying opportunities to advance TERS and other rail strategy priorities through the Revolution in Rail initiative. It is envisaged that these enhancements will be phased in from May 2018 to May 2019.

A previous jointly funded study with Perth & Kinross Council, Fife Council and SEStran, has investigated the demand potential for new/reopened stations between Perth and Edinburgh at Oudenarde (Bridge of Earn) and Newburgh. This work indicates a potentially positive Business Case for a new station at Oudenarde and/or Newburgh.

The Partnership continued to offer support and advice to Community Rail Partnerships (CRPs) including the Highland Main Line CRP covering all stations north of Perth and south of Inverness; the West Highland CRP including all stations between Crianlarich and Mallaig; and the Strathallan CRP covering Gleneagles, Dunblane and Bridge of Allan stations.

During 2016 Tactran provided technical and managerial support for the undertaking of passenger surveys at Gleneagles, Dunblane and Bridge of Allan on behalf of the Strathallan CRP. The Partnership also contributed financial support for passenger surveys at Stirling Station to help inform proposals for a major Stirling Station Gateway development being led by Stirling Council.



FREIGHT TRANSPORT

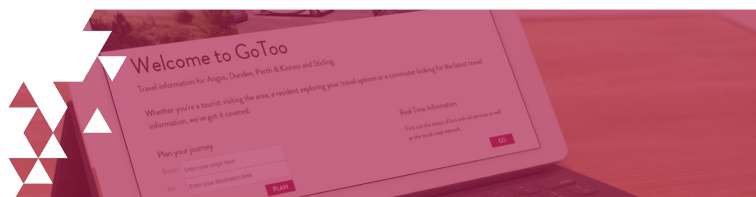


The Regional Freight Quality Partnership (FQP), includes representation from the Road Haulage Association (RHA), Freight Transport Association (FTA), Scottish Enterprise, Port of Dundee, Montrose Port Authority, Perth Harbour, Stirling & Tayside Timber Transport Group, ConFor, Highland Spring and partner Councils. The FQP oversees the development and implementation of an annual Regional Freight Action Plan.

During 2016/17 the Freight Action Plan and budget provided an ongoing contribution towards the costs of the Stirling & Tayside Timber Transport Groups' appointment of a regional Timber Transport Officer and a contribution of £3,000 towards a study commissioned by Montrose Port Authority into opportunities for diversification of the Port in light of the maturing oil and energy industry in north east Scotland.



TRAVEL INFORMATION



The Partnership maintained the www.GoToo.com multi-modal travel information website. GoToo is a lifestyle focussed travel information website portal, developed by Tactran in consultation with partner Councils and wider stakeholders interests including business, tourism, health, transport operators and information providers to offer travel information where and when it is needed. It operates across a range of platforms, including laptops, tablets and smartphones providing residents and visitors with tailored travel information to help them explore and get around the region and beyond, as well as providing a range of travel tools and options to ease and make the daily commute more sustainable.

4. REGIONAL TRANSPORT STRATEGY MONITORING



The RTS Monitoring Framework defines a range of Performance Indicators (PIs) which aim to monitor and measure progress towards achieving our RTS Objectives. These incorporate Scottish Government priority indicators for contribution towards relevant national transport outcomes, including:-

- **reducing traffic congestion;**
- **increasing the proportion of journeys made by public or active transport;**
- **increasing the proportion of cycling and walking journeys to school; and**
- **reducing numbers killed and seriously injured in road accidents.**

A number of key data sources used, such as the Scottish Household Survey (SHS), are published bi-annually. In addition, a number of Indicators are intended to measure trends over the longer term, with improvements likely to take place gradually over the period of the RTS and beyond, and thus are not expected to change significantly year on year.

The RTS Monitoring Framework has been reviewed and updated during 2016/17 following earlier review and approval of the RTS 2015 -2036 Refresh and completion of the RTS Delivery Plan review in June 2016.

At its meeting on 13 September 2016 the Partnership approved an updated **Monitoring Framework** which reflects and incorporates updating of the RTS Objectives and sub-Objectives in light of national and regional planning and policy changes, Community Planning /SOA developments and in response to consultations undertaken on the RTS Refresh and review of the RTS Delivery Plan.

The revised Monitoring Framework maps the various Delivery Plan actions against RTS Objectives and sub-Objectives together with identifying available Performance Indicators, associated data sources and proposed frequency of collection and reporting, which will be used to monitor and report on progress moving forward.

This framework is to be reviewed further during 2017/18 in light of emerging Community Planning LOIP and related delivery priorities and action plans, with the intention that formal reporting based upon an updated RTS Monitoring Framework will commence from and be included in the 2017/18 Annual Report.

5. CONTRIBUTING AND INFLUENCING LOCALLY, REGIONALLY AND NATIONALLY



COMMUNITY PLANNING

RTPs are statutory Community Planning agencies with a duty to contribute positively and directly to supporting economic growth, equality, environmental and sustainability outcomes in each CPP area. This duty has been reinforced by the designation of RTPs as statutory Community Planning Partners, Public Service Authorities and Relevant Authorities in Schedules 1, 2, and 3 respectively of the Community Empowerment (Scotland) Act 2015.

As outlined earlier in this report, the RTS Refresh policies and objectives and RTS Delivery Plan proposals and interventions have been designed and comprehensively mapped and aligned with supporting the Scottish Government's Strategic Objectives and National Outcomes and with local priorities identified in SOAs.

Tactran remains fully committed to actively supporting Community Planning across the region and is a formal signatory to the earlier SOAs for the Angus, Dundee City, Perth & Kinross and Stirling areas. Partnership officers sit on and contribute actively to each of the Community Planning Partnerships and their relevant thematic/delivery groups.

Specific Community Planning priorities and outcomes which the Partnership and its RTS delivery activity and priorities contribute directly and indirectly to locally and nationally include our work on :-

- **enhancing strategic infrastructure and connectivity;**
- **promoting Active Travel and Travel Planning;**
- **Health & Transport and related Action Planning under the auspices of CPPs;**
- **Tay Estuary Rail Strategy;**
- **Park & Ride/Choose Strategy;**
- **Travel Information Strategy;**
- **Freight Quality Partnership;**
- **supporting road accident reduction and road safety education campaigns; and**
- **promoting more sustainable movement of passengers and freight generally in support of public sector Climate Change duties and transport carbon abatement.**

During 2016/17 Tactran contributed to the development of emerging Council area-wide Local Outcomes Improvement Plans (LOIPs) that will replace SOAs during 2017, as required under the Community Empowerment (Scotland) Act 2015. This will include contributing to and supporting Locality Action Plans developed by local communities.

LAND USE AND TRANSPORT PLANNING

Reflecting the importance of ensuring that strategic Land Use and Transportation policy and planning are properly aligned and integrated in a manner which supports sustainable economic growth, the Regional Transport Partnerships are designated as statutory "key agencies" in Development Planning.

The RTS strongly promotes the principle that development should be directed to the most economically and environmentally sustainable locations, supported by sustainable transport systems and solutions, and that new and existing development should adopt and promote increasingly sustainable approaches to addressing and meeting transport demands.

Contributing to, supporting and influencing the TAYplan Strategic Development Plan (SDP) for the Dundee City, Angus, Perth & Kinross and North East Fife region, and the Local Development Plans (LDPs) covering each of our 4 partner Council areas plus the Cairngorms National Park and the Loch Lomond and The

Trossachs National Park, remained a significant area of activity and resource commitment during 2016/17. Work on the RTS Refresh was aligned with development of the second TAYplan SDP and the period covered by the approved RTS 2015 - 2036 Refresh was deliberately aligned to coincide with that for the updated SDP.

RTS and STPR delivery priorities are incorporated within the relevant SDP and LDP Action Programmes and this alignment of action programming, monitoring and delivery of complementary land use and transport policy planning has continued through the review and updating of the RTS Delivery Plan during 2016/17.

Development Planning consultations responded to during 2016/17 included :-

- **Angus Local Development Plan Draft Supplementary Guidance and Draft Planning Advice**
- **Stirling Local Development Plan 2 Proposed Plan**

INFLUENCING POLICY NATIONALLY AND LOCALLY

The Partnership and its officers continued to engage proactively in the development of transport and other related policy nationally, regionally and locally. Consultations and publications responded to and commented on during 2016/17 included :-

- **Scottish Government:** Places, People and Planning consultation
- **Scottish Government:** Draft Gender Representation on Public Boards (Scotland) Bill
- **Scottish Government:** Consultation on amendments to the Councillors Code of Conduct
- **Transport Scotland:** National Transport Strategy Review Early Engagement consultation
- **Stirling Council:** Draft Active Travel Strategy
- **Stirling Council:** Local Transport Strategy Main Issues Report

Tactran continues to collaborate and coordinate with the other RTPs on strategic policy development and delivery at a regional and national level through participation in the RTP Chairs Forum and the RTP Lead Officers Group.

The Partnership's officers continued to contribute to national policy and professional development through active engagement in the following professional bodies and associations :-

- **Society of Chief Officers of Transportation in Scotland (SCOTS)**
- **Association of Transport Coordinating Officers (ATCO)**
- **ACT Travelwise**

In publishing its Programme for Government in September 2016 the Scottish Government reaffirmed its commitment to reviewing the National Transport Strategy followed by a full review and updating of the STPR, and to bringing forward a Transport Bill which will include measures to improve bus services, better regulate road works, promote responsible parking and advance Low Emissions Zones.

The reviews of the NTS and STPR are being undertaken over a period extending into 2019/20 and are expected to be progressed in alignment with a new Planning Act and updating of the National Planning Framework (NPF4).

As outlined earlier in this report, the NTS review includes a review of future transport governance roles, responsibilities and arrangements. Inputting to and influencing these major policy developments over the 12 -18 months ahead will be a key priority for the Partnership during 2017/18 and beyond.

6. GLOSSARY



ATCO

Association of Transport Co-ordinating Officers

CoSLA

Convention of Scottish Local Authorities

CPP

Community Planning Partnership

CPT

Confederation of Passenger Transport

CRP

Community Rail Partnership

CTLR

Cross Tay Link Road

DfT

Department for Transport

DRT

Demand Responsive Transport

ECMA

East Coast Mainline Authorities Consortium

ECML

East Cost Main Line

FCC

Freight Consolidation Centre

FQP

Freight Quality Partnership

HIAL

Highlands and Islands Airports Ltd

LDP

Local Development Plan

LOIP

Local Outcomes Improvement Plan

NCN

National Cycle Network

NTS

National Transport Strategy

PI

Performance Indicator

QBC

Quality Bus Corridor

RPP2

Report on Policies and Proposals

RTP

Regional Transport Partnership

RTS

Regional Transport Strategy

SCOTS

Society of Chief Officers of Transportation in Scotland

SDP

Strategic Development Plan

SHS

Scottish Household Survey

SOA

Single Outcome Agreement

STPR

Strategic Transport Projects Review

SULP

Sustainable Urban Logistics Plan

TERS

Tay Estuary Rail Strategy/Study

This document can be translated on request into Chinese, Urdu, Hindi, Punjabi or Gaelic, or can be made available in large print, audio or Braille.

If you need assistance please contact **Tactran on 01738 475775**.

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