

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 14 December 2021 at 10.30am.

Present: Provost Ronnie Proctor and Councillor Mark McDonald (Angus Council); Councillor Richard McCready (Dundee City Council); Councillors Andrew Parrott and David Illingworth (Perth & Kinross Council); Councillor Jim Thomson (Stirling Council); Dr Jonathan Berg, Paul Cronin, Bryan Doyle and Amy McDonald (Members).

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

Apologies for absence were received from: Councillors Mark Flynn and Steven Rome (Dundee City Council); Councillor Alasdair Bailey (Perth & Kinross Council); Danny Gibson (Stirling Council).

Dr Jonathan Berg and Amy Macdonald joined at 11am.

Councillor Richard McCready, Chair, Presiding

The Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting and advised of the protocol regarding the virtual meeting.

1. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

None.

2. MINUTE OF MEETING OF 14 SEPTEMBER 2021

The minute of the meeting of the Tayside and Central Scotland Transport Partnership of 14 September 2021 was submitted and approved as a correct record.

3. TACTRAN ANNUAL REPORT 2020/21

There was submitted a report by the Director (RTP/21/27) introducing the Tactran Annual Report for 2020/21.

Resolved:

- (i) To approve for publication and submission to Scottish Ministers the Tactran Annual Report for 2020/21.

4. 2021/22 BUDGET AND MONITORING

There was submitted a joint report by the Director and Treasurer (RTP/21/28) 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.

Resolved:

- (i) To note the position regarding Core Revenue expenditure as at 31 October 2021 as detailed in Appendix A;
- (ii) To note progress on and approve the revised 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.

5. 2022/23 CORE REVENUE BUDGET

There was submitted a joint report by Director and Treasurer (RTP/21/29) seeking the Partnership's approval of a proposed 2022/23 Core revenue Budget.

Resolved:

- (i) To approve the proposed 2022/23 Core Revenue Budget as detailed in Appendix A to the report;
- (ii) To request that partner Councils make provision for their proposed respective funding contributions within their 2022/23 Revenue Budgets; and
- (iii) To agree to receive a report with a finalised 2022/23 Core Revenue Budget and proposed 2022/23 Regional Transport Strategy Revenue Programme Budget at its next meeting.

6. LOCAL RAIL DEVELOPMENT FUND UPDATE

There was submitted a report by the Senior Strategy Officer (RTP/21/30) updating the Partnership on progress on the Stirling Strategic Park & Ride Strategy, Bridge of Earn Transport Appraisal and Tay Cities Park and Choose Strategy being funded by Transport Scotland's Local Rail Development Fund.

The Chair asked for details of the approval process for the final Detailed Appraisal reports. N Gardiner confirmed that approval will be sought for the Stirling Park & Ride Strategy at Stirling Council committee and for Bridge of Earn Transport Appraisal at Perth and Kinross Council committee. Tay Cities Park and Choose Strategy is at the Preliminary Appraisal stage and approval for this stage will be sought by officers of the Tay Cities Regional Transport Working Group.

Councillor Parrott asked to be reminded when the Bridge or Earn proposal is reaching the next stage. N Gardiner noted that Detailed Appraisal is due to be completed in January 2022 and may be required to go to Perth & Kinross

Council committee in March 2022. N Gardiner is meeting with Perth & Kinross Council officers to confirm requirements.

Resolved:

- (i) To note progress against the three Local Rail Development Fund studies funded by Transport Scotland.

7. DIRECTOR'S REPORT

There was submitted a report by the Director (RTP/21/31) asking the Partnership to note the resignation of Heather Anderson; providing updates on the Bus Alliances, MaaS ENABLE project, ScotRail timetable consultation and Strategic Transport Projects Review. The Partnership was also asked consider responses to various ongoing consultations.

Councillor Parrott noted this it may be attractive to keep options open for recruitment of a non-elected member at present. He suggested recruitment is undertaken post-election in May 2022 as this may attract new interested parties.

Amy Macdonald noted that the elections will happen regardless and considered that this should not prevent the opportunity for potential new applicants to come forward before that date in May 2022. This may delay an appointed member until August 2022 and she suggested advertising in January 2022 instead. Councillor Proctor supported the suggestion that someone is appointed soon.

Chair noted that there were competing viewpoints and acknowledged both sides. A consensus was suggested. Councillor Parrott confirmed he is happy to accede to the other viewpoint and that interviews should take place before the election. This would allow existing experienced members to conduct the interviews. It was therefore agreed that the position be advertised in January 2022.

The Director noted that there is also a vacancy in the Executive Committee for a non-elected member. Chair asked if anyone would like to come forward or recommend. Amy Macdonald volunteered and asked about time commitments in. The Board supported Amy to be appointed and Chair thanked her for her commitment.

It was agreed that the Director would write to Heather on behalf of the Partnership to thank her for her support and positive participation.

The Director noted the national recognition of Marianne Scott with a 'top 100 women in cycling 2021' award and the Chair congratulated her on behalf of the Board.

Councillor Parrott asked if the proposed response to the Aviation Strategy consultation will be circulated to the Executive Committee for consideration before or after Christmas. N Gardiner noted that proposed response will be circulated to the Executive Committee in early January 2022 in order for it to be approved for submission by the 21 January 2022 deadline.

Resolved:

- (i) To note the resignation of Heather Anderson and for the Director to write a email of appreciation on behalf of the Partnership;
- (ii) To agree to appoint Amy McDonald as the non-elected member to the Executive Committee;
- (iii) To advertise for a non-elected member of the Tactran Board in January 2022;
- (iv) To note updates on the Bus Alliances, MaaS ENABLE project, ScotRail timetable consultation and Strategic Transport Projects Review;
- (v) To approve the response to NHS Scotland draft climate emergency and sustainability strategy consultation, as outlined in Appendix A;
- (vi) To delegate authority to the Executive Committee to consider and approve a response to Transport Scotland's consultation on Aviation Strategy;
- (vii) To delegate authority to Director to respond to Transport Scotland's NTS2 Delivery Plan Impact Assessment consultation and Sustran's RTS consultation; and
- (viii) To note the publication of the Draft NPF4 and to agree to consider and approve a proposed response at the next Partnership meeting in March 2022.

8. A NEW REGIONAL TRANSPORT STRATEGY: OPTION IDENTIFICATION

There was submitted a report by the Senior Strategy Officer (RTP/21/32) updating the Partnership on the development of a new Regional Transport Strategy. The report is seeking approval for a revised timescale, a stakeholder update note, draft impact assessment frameworks and submission of Strategic Environmental Assessment scoping report to SEA Gateway. A workshop was held at the meeting seeking the Partnerships input into identification of options.

Jonathan Padmore gave a presentation and led the workshop. He thanked participants for their support to date. It was noted that that Transport Scotland will be consulting on their draft STPR report in early 2022 for 12 weeks. There is a clash with undertaking the Tactran consultation at the same time. It was therefore recommended that the Tactran RTS timescales be revised to allow stakeholders and public to comment without confusing the two consultations. If the proposed RTS timescale for consulting on options is revised to occur after the May elections in 2022 this has the advantage of permitting a new Tactran Board to be more involved in the process.

The Director noted that it may be helpful for the Board to have comments at this stage as the time scale is important. Councillor Parrott is in favour of this amendment to timescale as this removes possibility of confusion and for most up to date Government work to be considered. This also acknowledges that the new revised Board members are involved. The Chair invited others to have comments. Amy Macdonald acknowledged that a conflict should be avoided and it is important that Tactran is aligned with Transport Scotland. It was agreed to revise the RTS consultation timescales.

Primary and secondary outcome interventions will be worked on with Council Officers to identify options for consideration. These will then be presented to Board members to consider. J Padmore suggested that a series of workshops are undertaken in January/February 2022.

Amy Macdonald approved of the sustainable hierarchy diagram and the investment focus on sustainable travel. This provided potential to quantify the scale of infrastructure investment and to measure progress e.g. routes etc. This cost could be phased in sensibly to 2045. This will support Tactran to track and for Local Authorities to plan annual contributions.

Provost Proctor noted that for rural communities the focus to reduce car use and ownership is not possible. As there is a lack of alternative modes, the use of private vehicles is required. He noted that Storm Arwen had resulted in households being without electricity for days and there was an essential reliance of private vehicles in these circumstances.

Councillor Illingworth noted that breaking society's obsession with the use of the private motor car is a huge task.

J Padmore noted there will be a gap analysis undertaken to determine options available to communities to reduce private car use. This will address the points made by the Board.

The Director noted that resilience is key to this piece of work and that the requirements of the rural population are different to those living in urban areas. The Director proposed that four workshops are conducted on the options, one for each the four draft RTS objectives. Members will be given two date options for each workshop. The Chair supported the suggestion and Councillor Proctor noted his support.

The Chair noted that the Board looks forward to this work being undertaken in the new year.

Resolved:

- (i) To approve the amendments to the indicative timescale for developing a new Regional Transport Strategy;
- (ii) To approve the 'A New Tactran RTS: Newsletter December 2020' for circulation;
- (iii) To approve submission of the Strategic Environmental Assessment Scoping Report to the SEA Gateway;
- (iv) To approve the draft Impact Assessment frameworks; and
- (v) To approve the next steps in developing a Regional Transport Strategy.

12. MEMBERS ISSUES AND AOCB

The Director thanked the board for the support over the past year.

The Chair thanked Tactran officers for hard work over the challenging time we have faced this last year, particularly during the ongoing pandemic and the associated challenges. He also thanked Perth and Kinross Council officers for providing administration, governance, financial and legal support.

All Board members were also thanked and were wished a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year.

13. DATES OF FUTURE MEETINGS

15th March 2022

14th June 2022

13th September 2022

13th December 2022