

TAYSIDE AND CENTRAL SCOTLAND TRANSPORT PARTNERSHIP**15 MARCH 2022****2022/23 BUDGET AND PROGRAMME****JOINT REPORT BY DIRECTOR AND TREASURER**

This report updates the Partnership on Scottish Government and partner Council contributions towards the Partnership's 2022/23 Revenue Budget and seeks approval of a 2022/23 Core Revenue Budget and proposed 2022/23 RTS Revenue and Capital Programmes.

1 RECOMMENDATIONS**1.1 That the Partnership:**

- (i) notes partner Councils' requested Revenue contributions towards the 2022/23 Core Budget;
- (ii) notes the award of Scottish Government Grant in Aid of up to £522,750 in 2022/23;
- (iii) approves the 2022/23 Core Budget as detailed in Appendix A;
- (iv) approves an initial 2022/23 RTS Revenue Programme budget as detailed in sections 3.5 – 3.35 of the report and agrees to consider approval of a finalised 2022/23 Programme at the Partnership's next meeting on 14 June 2022; and
- (v) notes the potential 2022/23 Capital Income, approves the criteria for identifying suitable projects and agrees to receive a further report at its next meeting.

2 BACKGROUND

- 2.1 At its meeting on 14 December 2021 the Partnership approved a Core Revenue Budget for financial year 2022/23 and agreed to request that constituent Councils make provision for their respective funding contributions within their 2022/23 Revenue Budgets (Report RTP/21/29 refers). At that time the Partnership also noted an anticipated Scottish Government Grant in Aid award of £522,750 in 2022/23, maintaining the current annual level of Grant in Aid funding.

3 DISCUSSION

2022/23 Core Revenue Budget

- 3.1 Tactran has received confirmation that Grant-in-Aid from Transport Scotland for 2022/23 will remain at up to £522,750. Partner Councils have now approved their 2022/23 Revenue Budgets. It is understood that all Councils have made provision for contribution of their respective shares of the Partnership's Core operating costs, based upon the 2022/23 Budget approved on 14 December 2021, as follows:

Angus Council	£ 23,595
Dundee City Council	£ 29,265
Perth & Kinross Council	£ 31,210
Stirling Council	£ 18,950

- 3.2 The 2022/23 Core Revenue Budget, as approved on 14 December 2021 is detailed in Appendix A.
- 3.3 The 2022/23 Core Revenue Budget remains unchanged from 14 December 2021. The assumptions used to establish the Core Budget have been revisited and, at the time of preparing this report, there is no justification to revise any of the budget lines.
- 3.4 The projected underspend in the 2021/22 Core Revenue Budget, as reported in the 2021/22 Budget and Monitoring report, increases the estimated opening 2022/23 Core Reserves balance to £38,537. The 2021/22 underspend includes £14,000 for staff relocation costs, which is earmarked in Reserves and the corresponding 2022/23 budget is included within Staff Costs. The remaining Reserves balance of £24,537 represents 4.8% of the Core Revenue Budget and remains in line with the 3% to 5% Reserves target.

2022/23 RTS Revenue Programme

- 3.5 The Regional Transport Strategy (RTS) Revenue Programme is funded from Scottish Government's Grant in Aid allocation, supplemented by any additional contributions identified or secured from other funding sources.
- 3.6 As noted above Transport Scotland has confirmed the award of Scottish Government Revenue Grant in Aid of up to £522,750 for 2022/23. This maintains for a further year the annual level of Grant in Aid received since 2012/13.
- 3.7 The 2022/23 Core Budget provides for £391,741 of Scottish Government Grant in Aid being allocated towards Core costs, leaving a balance of £131,009 Grant in Aid available to support RTS implementation.

- 3.8 The £131,009 Grant-in-Aid will be supplemented with currently projected Deferred Income of £52,861 arising from final variances in the 2021/22 Revenue Programme budgets, as discussed in the separate report on 2021/22 Programme and Monitoring. The provisional 2022/23 RTS Programme budget is therefore £183,870 subject to confirmation of final 2021/22 expenditure.
- 3.9 A proposed initial programme allocation of the anticipated budget of £183,870 which provides for maintaining momentum on existing RTS commitments and projects and anticipated emerging priorities over the coming year, is summarised in the table and paragraphs below:

RTS Project/Strategy	2022/23 Allocation
Development of RTS and Delivery Plan	£61,000
Strategic Connectivity	£12,500
Health & Transport	£12,000
Active Travel	£19,500
Travel Planning	£10,000
Buses	£3,000
Park & Ride	£5,000
Rail	£3,000
Freight	£5,000
Travel Information	£10,000
Climate Change	£5,000
Contingency	£37,870
Total	£183,870

- 3.10 As indicated in the separate report on the 2021/22 budget and programme, this amount will be supplemented by further grant award income of up to £201,382 from the following sources:
- Scottish Government LRDF Grants for Stirling Strategic Park & Ride Study, Bridge of Earn Transport Appraisal, Tay Cities Park & Choose Strategy (£22,063, £18,618, £60,279 respectively).
 - ENABLE MaaS project Scottish Government grant, (£100,422).
- 3.11 In addition, it is anticipated that Scottish Government will provide up to £55,000 for maintenance and development of the Travelknowhow Scotland website. Paths for All will be managing the budget and discussions are currently underway regarding setting outcomes and objectives for the next 12 months.
- 3.12 Further opportunities for other income will be pursued throughout 2022/23.

Development of RTS and Delivery Plan

- 3.13 The proposed budget of £61,000 allows for annually recurring costs associated with statutory monitoring and reporting on the Regional Transport Strategy and Tactran's Digital Marketing Strategy and Website.
- 3.14 In addition, approximately £35,000 has been carried forward to complete the RTS Gap Analysis and Story Map work commenced in 2021/22 and a further allowance of £20,000 is proposed for consultancy support in developing the new Regional Transport Strategy.

Strategic Connectivity

- 3.15 Tactran officers will continue supporting Regional Transport Working Groups and City Deals for the Tay Cities and Stirling & Clackmannanshire city-regions, which it is envisaged the Partnership will have a key role in supporting during the months and years ahead.
- 3.16 The proposed budget of £12,500 makes provision for the Tay Cities Regional Transport Model. The Partnership has previously contributed a total of £155,000 towards the costs of developing the Tay Cities Regional Transport Model in partnership with the Tay Cities Deal Councils and Transport Scotland. It is anticipated that a further £12,500 will be required in 2022/23 to maintain the model.

Health & Transport

- 3.17 The proposed allocation of £12,000 provides for a recurring allocation towards the annual Safe Drive/Stay Alive road safety campaign in Stirling Council area. In the Tayside area the Tayside Road Safety Forum are investigating and developing an alternative educational resource for young and new drivers and have requested that the previous allocation for Safe Drive Stay Alive be allocated for this new resource.

Active Travel

- 3.18 The proposed allocation of £19,500 includes provision for continued full year costs towards appointment of an officer in partnership with Cycling Scotland.

Travel Planning

- 3.19 The proposed allocation of £10,000 allows for recurring costs for development and maintenance of regional and local Liftshare websites.

- 3.20 As outlined above it is anticipated that this budget heading will be supplemented by additional Scottish Government grant, now managed by Paths for All, of up to £55,000 to support continued maintenance and development of the Travelknowhow Scotland travel planning website.

Buses

- 3.21 The proposed allocation of £3,000 provides for maintenance and potential development of the regional Thistle Assistance Card.

Park & Ride

- 3.22 Tactran is continuing to progress two Local Rail Development Fund (LRDF) appraisals which include consideration of Park & Ride: Strategic Park & Ride at Stirling and Tay Cities Park & Choose Strategy which is considering Park & Choose opportunities along the Montrose – Perth Corridor for both rail and bus.
- 3.23 In addition, Tactran is continuing to play a significant role in the Tay Cities and Forth Valley Bus Alliances Bus Partnership Fund projects, both of which include an element of developing Park & Ride.
- 3.24 Given the significant external funding that has been awarded for Park & Choose projects, a limited £5,000 allocation has been provided within the RTS budget, should further support be required.

Rail

- 3.25 The proposed allocation of £3,000 provides for ongoing membership by Tactran and partner Councils of the East Coast Mainline Authorities (ECMA) consortium.
- 3.26 As noted in Section 3.10 of this report, the Rail budget will be augmented with £100,960 LRDF grant income to complete the appraisals for the Stirling Park & Ride Study, Bridge of Earn Transport Appraisal, and Tay Cities Park & Choose Strategy projects.

Freight

- 3.27 The proposed allocation of £5,000 allows for continuing support for Stirling and Tayside Timber Transport Group and other freight initiatives such as Lorry Route freight mapping in consultation with the Regional Freight Quality Partnership.

Travel Information Strategy

- 3.28 The proposed budget of £10,000 allows for the promotion of active and sustainable transport for Get on the Go social media campaign, supported jointly by Angus, Dundee City and Perth & Kinross Councils.

- 3.29 As noted in Section 3.10 of this report, the Travel Information budget will be augmented with £100,422 Transport Scotland MIF (MaaS Innovation Fund) grant to complete the Tactran ENABLE MaaS platform pilot.

Climate Change

- 3.30 The proposed budget of £5,000 provides an allowance to support the continued development and implementation of the Regional Electric Vehicle Strategy and Delivery Plan, in partnership with all 4 constituent Councils.
- 3.31 In addition, Tactran's Transport Carbon Assessment identifies 6 key priority mitigation areas where Tactran has significant potential to contribute to or support reduction in transport carbon emissions, as follows: low carbon vehicles and infrastructure; eco-driving; Travel Planning; supporting road based public transport; supporting rail improvements; influencing travel demand and behaviour.
- 3.32 Many of these are cross-cutting and the budget allocations under Health and Transport, Active Travel, Travel Planning, Buses and Rail will contribute towards achieving Tactran's Climate Change duties.

Contingency

- 3.33 It is proposed that the balance of £37,870, around 20% of budget, is retained as a general RTS Revenue Budget contingency to accommodate other emerging priorities and opportunities that may occur, including support for RTS development, further development of MaaS, Hydrogen Vehicles and Bus Alliances support.
- 3.34 Proposals for full allocation of the available RTS Programme Budget for 2022/23, incorporating the final position in relation to underspend from 2021/22 and other anticipated income will be reported to the Partnership's next meeting on 14 June 2022.
- 3.35 The Partnership is asked to approve the indicative 2022/23 RTS Revenue Programme, as detailed above.

2022/23 Capital Income

Active Travel Grant and Regional Active Travel Development Fund

- 3.36 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, and implementation of the Tactran Regional Strategy Refresh 2015-2036, in particular Strategy 5.3 Active Travel. To date the ATG has awarded approximately £975,000 grant funding.

- 3.37 In addition, since 2018/19 Transport Scotland has provided £992,000 funding directly to Tactran for active travel projects awarded through Regional Active Travel Development Fund.
- 3.38 Discussions are continuing with both Sustrans and Transport Scotland to secure further funding in 2022/23 and it is anticipated that Capital funding will be available to Tactran for Active Travel projects in 2022/23.
- 3.39 Following discussions with Sustrans, Transport Scotland and our Local Authority officers it is proposed that the criteria for both Active Travel Grant and Regional Active Travel Development Fund will remain as in previous years and is for projects that will:
- take forward the recommendations of the 13 active travel audits previously 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 services within the Tactran Region
- 3.40 The Partnership is asked to approve the criteria for identifying 2022/23 Active Travel projects.
- 3.41 A further report on progress in identifying and agreeing projects will be provided at the next Partnership meeting.
- 3.42 In addition to the potential Capital Income set out above for Active Travel, Scottish Government provides continued grant funding to our constituent Councils to implement Cycling, Walking and Safer Routes (CWSR) projects and through Sustrans' Places for Everyone fund.

4 CONSULTATIONS

- 4.1 The report has been prepared in consultation with the Tactran Regional Transport Liaison Group.

5 RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS

- 5.1 The main resource implications are addressed within the report.

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.

Mark Speed
Director

Scott Walker
Treasurer

Report prepared by Niall Gardiner. For further information contact email niallgardiner@tactran.gov.uk or telephone 07919 990370.

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 Partnership RTP/20/42, 2021/22 Core Revenue Budget and RTP/20/41, 2020/21 Budget and Monitoring, 15 December 2020.

Report to Partnership RTP/21/29, 2022/23 Core Revenue Budget, 14 December 2021

Tactran Core Revenue Budget

Approved 2022/23 Budget £

Income

Scottish Gov Grant Revenue	391,741
Council Req's Revenue	103,020
Interest Received	0
	494,761

Expenditure

Staff Costs

Salary GP	325,131
Salary Supn	52,892
Salary NI	35,613
Training/Conferences	1,200
Subscriptions	330
	415,166

Property Costs

Energy	4,290
Cleaning	2,000
Maintenance	500
Rent	13,490
	20,280

Supplies and Services

Office Consumables	4,125
Communications	2,500
Insurance	7,100
Information Technology	2,200
Hospitality	700
Board Expenses - misc.	500
	17,125

Transport Costs

Travel and Subsistence	1,500
Public Transport	2,800
Expenses - Board Members	500
	4,800

Third Party Payments

Audit Fees External	16,340
PKC Finance Service	14,000
PKC Secretariat Service	8,000
PKC Legal Services	3,000
PKC IT Services	8,250
Other Third Party Payments	1,800
	51,390

Gross Expenditure	508,761
-------------------	----------------

Net Income/(Expenditure)	(14,000)
--------------------------	-----------------

Opening Core Reserves	38,537
-----------------------	---------------

Funding to/(from) Earmarked Reserves	(14,000)
--------------------------------------	-----------------

Closing Core Reserves	24,537
-----------------------	---------------