

TAYSIDE AND CENTRAL SCOTLAND TRANSPORT PARTNERSHIP

10 SEPTEMBER 2024

MAAS UPDATE

REPORT BY STRATEGY OFFICER (SUSTAINABLE TRANSPORT)

Purpose

The purpose of the paper is to provide an update on the Tactran ENABLE Mobility as a Service (MaaS) programme and Integrated Mobility Partnership collaborative working with SEStran.

Summary

A MaaS platform and a model for successful dissemination of MaaS journey planning applications has been developed and tested across the Tactran region. MaaS journey planning tools support the achievement of climate change, air quality and social inclusion objectives by promoting awareness of, and enabling use of, sustainable transport opportunities for those with and without access to a car. This report provides an update on Transport Scotland's review of MaaS Investment Fund, procurement update and continued partnership working with SEStran.

1 RECOMMENDATIONS

1.1 That the Partnership:

- (i) notes updates on Transport Scotland's review of the MaaS Investment Fund programme and MaaS Scotland routemap; and
- (ii) notes the continuation of the Tactran ENABLE and Integrated Mobility Partnership MaaS programme and procurement update.

2 BACKGROUND

2.1 A budget of approximately £800,000 was available to develop and implement MaaS pilot schemes in the Tactran area between December 2019 and March 2023. The main source of the funding was from Transport Scotland's MaaS Investment Fund, but also included funding contributions from Tactran RTS revenue budget, Smarter Choices Smarter Places and Loch Lomond and Trossachs National Park.

2.2 The Mass ENABLE project involved developing a MaaS platform (the 'back office' enabling the planning, booking and paying of transport services) and associated touchpoints (apps and websites) for three pilots projects to assist users to access: (i) NHS Tayside facilities, (ii) Loch Lomond and the Trossachs National Park and (iii) Dundee & Angus College.

- 2.3 In 2021 SEStran was also awarded funding from Transport Scotland to develop MaaS tools. Since then, Tactran and SEStran have been increasingly working together on MaaS projects (Report RTP/23/04 refers) and a joint bid by Sustran and Tactran to the Paths for All Smarter Choices Smarter Places Fund was successful, with an award of £100,000 to Sustran. This allowed the MaaS programmes to be extended to April 2024 under a joint programme entitled the Integrated Mobility Partnership (IMPs).
- 2.4 Funding of £42,000 from Transport Scotland and £100,000 from Smarter Choices Smarter Places has been secured by Sustran to support the joint IMPs programme through 2024/25. It is proposed to continue to run, promote, test and evaluate the programme over the next three years, subject to funding.

3 DISCUSSION

- 3.1 As reported to the Partnership at its meeting in June 2024 (Report RTP/24/17 refers), the intention was to create a post of IMPs Project Officer to lead on both Tactran and SEStran projects. Tactran's Strategy Officer (Sustainable Transport) has now taken up this position, with funding of the post evenly split between the two RTPs. Progress since June is detailed below.

Evaluation of MaaS Investment Fund Programme

- 3.2 Tactran submitted the evaluation of the Tactran ENABLE project to Transport Scotland in October 2023. It is Transport Scotland's intention to review the full MaaS Investment Fund programme and associated pilots to inform their thinking on the future of MaaS (Report RTP/23/34 refers). This full review, and associated report, is expected by end of September 2024 and is expected to include details on any potential new funding.

Route Map

- 3.3 As reported to the Partnership on 11 June 2024, Tactran (on behalf of the three RTPs involved in the MIF programme i.e. Hitrans, SEStran and Tactran) submitted a bid to SCSP to fund a MaaS Scotland roadmap which will inform the medium-term advancement of MaaS in Scotland. This work is being delivered by MaaS Scotland and remains on course to be complete by December 2024.

Procurement

- 3.4 The success of the MaaS platforms was noted at the Tactran Partnership Board on 11 June 2024 (RTP/24/17 refers) as well as the intention to run the projects for a further three years to 2027/28, subject to funding.

- 3.5 The technical contract used, initially by Tactran, and latterly by SEStran to run the MaaS programme ends in September 2024. The process associated with the procurement of this service means that appointing a technical consultancy will not be feasible until October/November 2024 and rather than September, as previously reported. As a result, SEStran have extended the current technical contract with Ember until 31 December 2024 to ensure there is no down-time of the platforms.
- 3.6 The continuation of the programme is currently being progressed through a procurement exercise which is being led by Tactran on behalf of both RTPs. This is taking the form of two frameworks: Technical Services (single source) and Consultancy Services (multi source). The procurement of the technical services is being led with the support of Innovate UK who are conducting sifting through a public tendering exercise. The second framework will use Public Contracts Scotland to secure multiple suppliers for consultancy services which will support the project with: marketing and promotion; monitoring and evaluation; programme/skill support and expansion of project opportunities.
- 3.7 The Partnership at its meeting on 11 June 2024 agreed to delegate authority to the Executive Committee to approve the above contracts (RTP/24/17 refers).

Forward Planning

- 3.8 To accompany the ongoing procurement work, the IMPs Project Officer will also focus on the following over the next three months: funding opportunities, project expansion, open learning networking and marketing plans. There will also be regular governance meetings as well as meetings with partners and Transport Scotland.

4 CONSULTATIONS

- 4.1 This report has been prepared in consultation with SEStran and Local Authority transport officers.

5 RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS

- 5.1 The current post of Strategy Officer (Sustainable Transport) has taken on the post of IMPs Project Officer for the duration of the project. This post is now undertaking this project in its entirety, in conjunction with SEStran. 50% funding for the post is being provided to Tactran in the form of a Service Level Agreement (SLA) with SEStran.

6 EQUALITIES IMPLICATIONS

- 6.1 This report has been screened for any policy implications in respect of Equality Impact Assessment and no major issues have been identified.

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NOTE

The following background papers, as defined by Section 50D of the Local Government (Scotland) Act 1973 (and not containing confidential or exempt information) were relied on to a material extent in preparing this Report:

Report to Partnership RTP/23/04, Tactran ENABLE MaaS Programme, 14 March 2023

Report to Partnership RTP/23/34, Tactran ENABLE MaaS Programme, 12 December 2023

Report to Partnership RTP/24/17, MaaS Update, 11 June 2024.