

TAYSIDE AND CENTRAL SCOTLAND TRANSPORT PARTNERSHIP**16 SEPTEMBER 2025****BUS INITIATIVES UPDATE****REPORT BY PROJECTS MANAGER**Purpose

This report provides the Partnership with updates on the bus infrastructure fund (BIF), and of wider bus initiatives within the Tactran area.

The report asks the Partnership to note the progression of applications to Transport Scotland under BIF, the development of projects as confirmed by TS, and ongoing support for the delivery of these initiatives at Alliance and Local Authority levels.

Summary

The series of bus-oriented initiatives recently developed, and previously reported to the Partnership, have been progressed at the Tayside Bus Alliance, Forth Valley Bus Alliance, and Local Authority level. These include a combination of projects under the Bus Infrastructure Fund (BIF) and the Tactran People and Place programme. This report updates the progress of these initiatives.

1 RECOMMENDATIONS

1.1 That the Partnership:

- (i) notes progress in the funding and delivery of the various bus initiatives detailed;
- (ii) notes the outcome of various project submissions; and
- (iii) supports the continued development of bus initiatives by the Bus Alliances and Local Authorities.

2 BACKGROUND

2.1 The Partnership at its meeting on the 17 June 2025 updated the board in relation to ongoing bus initiatives across the Tactran region (RTP/25/20 refers). The partnership was provided with a list of bus project submissions being forwarded under the BIF by both the Tayside Bus Alliance and the Forth Valley Bus Alliance.

2.2 Confirmation was received at a meeting with Transport Scotland on the 14 July 2025 that a number of Tayside projects were being taken forward for funding, but not all. No further confirmation has been received from Transport Scotland in respect of the Forth Valley Bus Alliance project.

- 2.3 A series of questions were exchanged between Tactran and TS in respect of project cost, date, and deliverability, culminating with a confirmed list of Tayside Bus Alliance projects likely to be supported. An updated tabulation of bus alliance projects is included in appendix A.
- 2.4 A further series of discussions between Tactran, the Bus Alliances, and Local Authorities has been ongoing to confirm precise details of each project, project management structures, and delivery mechanisms to ensure funded projects are able to complete within the timescale and funding requirements set by TS.

3 DISCUSSION

- 3.1 The submission of projects to the BIF allows for Tactran and the Bus Alliances to support a series of bus infrastructure activities across the region. Potential benefits are identified in the proposals and reported to the partnership at previous meetings. Funded projects reinforce the planning and strategic roles of the partnership and the Bus Alliances themselves.
- 3.2 A discussion between Tactran, the alliances, and the local authorities has followed to confirm the total costs, task and management aspects of each supported project.
- 3.3 The projects would also be mirrored and supported by Match in Kind (MIK) activities, as including, but not limited to, bus operator support and investment, coordination, and integration of planning between projects.
- 3.4 In parallel to the development and potential reopening of bus infrastructure support, bus sustainable transport has also been integrated into People and Place (P&P), reported to the Partnership at the meeting on 17 June 2025 (RTP/25/20 refers).

4 CONSULTATIONS

- 4.1 The report has been prepared in consultation with the relevant Local Authority transport officers, and with the Tayside and Forth Valley Bus Alliances.

5 RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS

- 5.1 The application under BIF includes support for the continued administration of the Tayside Bus Alliance, covering all operational, support, and administrative costs, including resource and partner support.

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 the above Report:

Report to Partnership RTP/24/36, Director's Report, 10 December 2024

Report to Partnership RTP/25/09, Bus Initiatives Update, 18 March 2025

Report to Partnership RTP/25/20, Bus Initiatives Update, 17 June 2025

TAYSIDE BUS ALLIANCE
Bus Infrastructure Fund Proposal Form
Updated August 2025

Bus Infrastructure Fund - Summary Table of Voluntary Partnership Proposals – Tayside Bus Alliance

Partnership Priority	Project Name	Brief Project Description	Indicative funding from BIF	Confirmed funding from BIF
1. Network enhancement, priority development, integration, design and user enhancement	Tayside Bus Alliance management project manager 1 x FTE PM	Oversight and coordinating role for Tayside Bus Alliance, to include staffing and administrative costs critical to the coordination and maintenance of the alliance, network, joint priority and project integration not chargeable to an individual corridor.	£ 48,000 via PKC Dunkeld Road project	Inc DRC
2. Sustainable transport corridor development, design, user enhancement	Arbroath Road, Dundee Corridor priority infrastructure	Design, development, and integration of bus priority measures, as integral to a sustainable transport corridor, for RIBA stages 0-3 of design and associated business cases. To include: Bus Lane, Bus stop infrastructure, information, priority signals. (Awarded under BIF Dundee Transformation Corridors offer letter BIF2526/DCC/001)	£ 360,000	£ 360,000
2a.	Lochee Road, Dundee Corridor priority infrastructure	Design, development, and integration of bus priority measures, as integral to a sustainable transport corridor, for RIBA stages 0-3 of design and associated business cases, as per no 2. (Awarded under BIF Dundee Transformation Corridors offer letter BIF2526/DCC/001)	£ 384,200	£ 384,200
2b.	Dunkeld Road, Perth Corridor priority infrastructure	Design, development, and integration of bus priority measures, as integral to a sustainable transport corridor, for RIBA stages 0-3 of design and associated business cases, as per no 2	£ 384,976 Inc TBA PM	TBC
3. Bus stop infrastructure improvement	Angus - Dundee route corridor enhancements, bus stop improvements	Development of bus stop infrastructure and route user facilities upgrades to support sustainable corridor improvement. Bus stop shelters, design, information	£ 212,550	£212,550
3a.	NHS Ninewells Hospital, targeted enhancements, accessibility, infrastructure and interchange	Design and construction, bus stop facilities, shelters, accessibility features, information displays, and layout enhancements	£ 112,000	TBC

3c.	Perth city bus stop enhancement, including Bus gate and bus lane development modal filters, public realm	Design, development, delivery of bus lane and integration of bus priority measures to support prioritisation of bus journeys over private car use.	£ 340,000	TBC
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FORTH VALLEY BUS ALLIANCE
 Bus Infrastructure Fund Proposal Form

Bus Infrastructure Fund - Summary Table of Voluntary Partnership Proposals – Forth Valley Bus Alliance

Partnership Priority	Project Name	Brief Project Description	Total cost	Funding being sought from the Bus Infrastructure Fund
	Forth Valley Real-Time Digital Information Project	This project will deliver ten interactive digital information kiosks and 40 Real-Time Passenger Information (RTPI) screens across key public transport hubs and bus corridors in Forth Valley.	£ 500,000	£ 500,000