

**TAYSIDE AND CENTRAL SCOTLAND TRANSPORT PARTNERSHIP****EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE****10 NOVEMBER 2025****PROGRAMME DESIGN UPDATE PEOPLE AND PLACE 2025/26****REPORT BY PROJECTS MANAGER****Purpose**

The purpose of the paper is to seek approval to update and take forward the People and Place programme for 2026/27, to develop a process for delivery partner engagement, and subsequent activities including the seeking approval from the Partnership Board for delivery in line with the programme and subsequent partner engagement.

**Summary**

The Tactran People and Place Programme 2026/27 follows as an updated version of the 2025/26 programme, RTP/25/12 refers. It has been developed to support behaviour change toward active and sustainable travel modes, previously approved by the Partnership Board, and is being delivered in the current financial year. An update to the design has been developed to account for lessons learned and is included in the appendix to this document.

**1 RECOMMENDATIONS**

- 1.1 That the Executive Committee approve the structure as set out in the appended proposal. To include four new elements as listed in the executive summary of the proposal.
- 1.2 Approve the continued development of the programme for 2026/27 as detailed in the proposal, including its timeline, and stages.

**2 BACKGROUND**

- 2.1 The underlying design of the People and Place programme has been described and approved in previous reports to the Executive Committee (Report RTP/25/01 and RTP/25/12 refers) and Partnership Board (Reports RTP/24/35 and RTP/25/08 refers).
- 2.2 The current proposal updates, rather than replaces, the existing programme structure. It proposes revisions as additional elements to reflect lessons learned over the course of the 2025/26 programme, as well as maintaining structures required of the Tactran programme by Transport Scotland.

- 2.3 Underlying principles of application and allocation were set out in the 2025/26 project design which remain and are included the two stages of expressions of interest and full application, whilst their timescale has been extended to reflect the experiences of 2025/26, and the desire to more fully integrate projects.
- 2.4 An additional funding layer has been added, at authority level, to further support the programme by encouraging more specific liaison and integration with local authority priorities. This additional layer does not impact on the themes of the programme, which remain unchanged, nor on its administration, which remains with Tactran.
- 2.5 As a result of the proposal we have proposed a timescale of delivery stages, set out in the accompanying document (Appendix A).

### **3 DISCUSSION**

- 3.1 The Tactran P&P programme follows the same underlying structures as proposed and approved for 2025/26. It has been developed following guidance from Transport Scotland.
- 3.2 The attached proposal updates the programme in line with lessons and includes funding specific to four spatial levels:
- As community funds, to grassroots organisations,
  - As locality funds, to projects delivered at a town or city level,
  - As authority funds, to projects delivered across / at an authority level, and
  - regional funds to projects crossing between and across local and regional boundaries.

In addition to spatial definitions, funding will also support resource and capacity development, including to Tactran and associated resource staffing.

- 3.3 Following Executive Committee consideration and approval, the programme will undertake the following actions shown below and set out in anticipated chronological order:
- Initial outreach identifying perspective new and continuing project partners
  - Delivery partner engagement and support, including advice on applications and delivery structures,
  - Local authority engagement, including the setting up of LA Liaison group, scope and process development
  - Reporting to Partnership Board on progress
  - Submission to Transport Scotland for funding in line with demonstrated need and liaison activities
  - Full project proposal, liaison, and confirmation stages
  - Recommendation to Executive Committee and/or partnership board, as dependent on timeliness of response from Transport Scotland

## **4 CONSULTATIONS**

- 4.1 Local Authority officers were included in the development of the proposal and assisted in the evaluation and the preparation of this report.

## **5 RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS**

- 5.1 All operating and administration costs have been included in the submission, Tactran will be able to source from Transport Scotland funds as allocated.

## **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/24/35, Active Travel Behaviour Change 2025/26, 10 December 2024

Report to Executive Committee RTP/25/01, Active and Sustainable Travel Behaviour Change 2025/26

Report to Partnership, RTP/25/08, Active and Sustainable Travel Update, 18 March 2025

Report to Executive Committee, RTP/25/12, Project partner allocations People and Place, 26 March 2025

## Proposal for Tactran People and Place Programme 2026/27

### **EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

This document sets out the proposed Tactran People and Place programme (P&P) for the year 2026/27. The proposal is based on, and updates, the existing five-year plan defined and approved by the Tactran board for the same programme in the current year.

The document, set out below, reflects lessons learned, and changing contexts observed over the last year. The document also includes revisions to the structure of the wider programme, notified by Transport Scotland (TS); and proposes a methodology for project selection based on research undertaken and understanding of opportunity, capability, and motivational barriers, discussed below.

It is highlighted that the proposed programme follows the same thematic areas as in 25/26:

- Schools and Young People
- Workplaces
- Accessibility and inclusion
- Capacity and capability building

New elements to the 26/27 programme include:

- More precise definitions of sustainable transport,
- Multi-source funding,
- Greater integration between projects, and
- The definition of four funds at differing spatial scales: Community, Locality, Council area, and Regional

The proposal also includes a defined timetable for applications, set out below. Note: Project proposal stages are highlighted in **bold text**.

Action	Dates	Dependencies
Tactran comments	>26/10/2025	For development of proposal to Exec com.
LA and National Park authorities comments	>07/11/2025	For submission to Executive committee
Request to Tactran Executive Committee for approval	>17/11/2025	For issue via EOI
<b>Issue call for EOIs</b> Provide support for FAQs	<b>Issued w/c 17/11/2025</b> <b>Closing 15/12/2025</b>	Develops structure and identified project type / delivery / integration
Letters of receipt	15/12/2025	
Report to board	16/12/2025	
Responses to EOIs, initial engagement Project contacts and support for integration	>16/01/2026	
<b>Issue call for full applications</b>	<b>Issued 19/01/2026</b> <b>Closing 06/02/2026</b>	<b>Develops programme for delivery</b>
Responses to applications, advice, detailed engagement, project support and application integration to reflect opportunity and available funding	>28/02/2026	Proposed programme funding for approval by Tactran board, subject to TS funding confirmation
<b>Notices of award to project delivery partners</b>	c. 16/03/2026	Notice intended for start dates of 01/04/2026

Note: All dates shown are subject to Tactran board approval and confirmation of funding. Submission deadlines for applicants subject to exec/board approvals

1. Tactran programme development 2026/27

The 26/27 programme builds on the structure developed in the preceding year, and incorporates the lessons learned. These relate to:

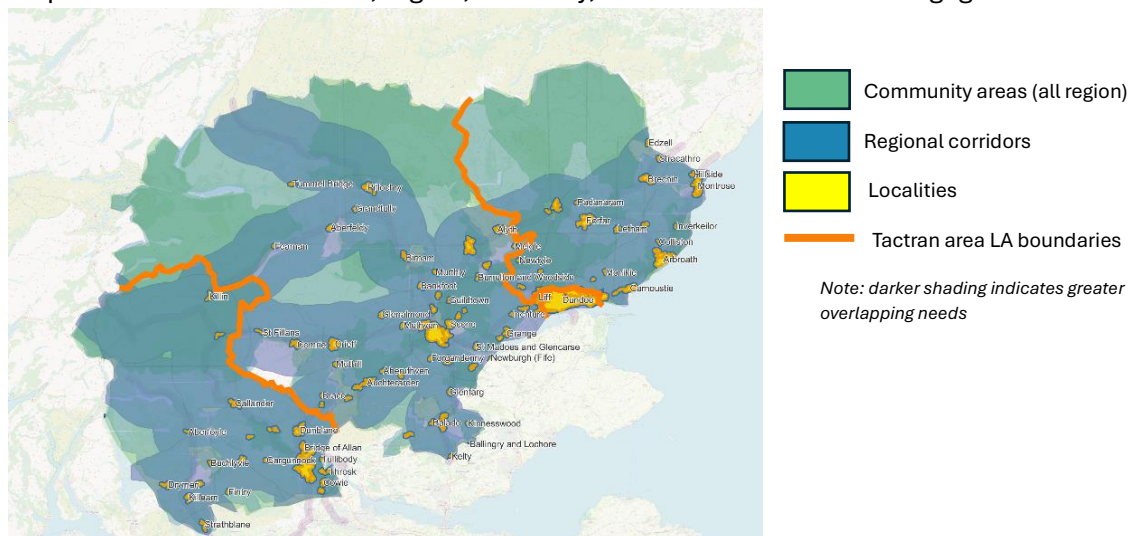
- The spatial location of projects;
- The integration of projects,
- Local authority support; and
- Project delivery and reporting.

*Spatial Location*

The 25/26 programme introduced the concept of locality, regional, and community scales of engagement. In the 26/27 programme these are enhanced by the addition of an authority overlay, allowing for further development in collaboration to, and integrated with, Local Authority priorities; including Behaviour Change plans, currently under development, and wider authority development priorities, as notified and developed through authority liaison groups, see below.

The new ‘*Authority*’ layer is illustrated in Map 1, below. It adds an additional spatial definition, and is further defined in the fund allocation as including linkages to local infrastructure, local authority priorities, and opportunity-based models (reflecting COM-B principles), via an authority liaison group. As a result of the additional layer, project delivery partners, including the authorities themselves, will be invited to make submissions to one or more of four funds: community, locality, authority, and/or regional, dependent on the nature of the project. It is noted that the authority scale is available for applications across any project provider and is aimed specifically at projects that integrate local provision to infrastructure and stated policy outcomes.

Map 1: Tactran communities, region, authority, and localities scales of engagement



### *Integration*

Further integration, between projects and in line with local and regional priorities has been seen as a positive outcome in the current programme. The 26/27 programme continues and expands on this theme. Further integration will be achieved through discussions and agreement at the application stage. It will include: coordinated delivery across projects, coordinated support across multiple funding sources where appropriate to the delivery of the project; and coordinated delivery in line with Local and Regional Transport initiatives. Illustrative examples are set out below.

Focus of integration	Description	Illustration
User based integration	Where two, or more, projects identify links for individual users or groups of users to move from one project to another, typically following completion of the first.	Access to bikes, as initial entry point, with signposting to cycle training, repair, or similar support activity as follow on
Project collaboration	Where two, or more, projects identify links for common delivery, an example being the colocation the delivery of cycle training collocated with new cycle infrastructure; or the integration of a common road safety element into both cycling and walking projects.	Colocation Collaborative delivery
Funding integration	Where individual projects may be appropriate to multiple sources of support funding.	Support in linked funding applications across funders, and common aspects including joint reporting as appropriate to each funder

Whilst previous years have observed a level of collaboration at an organic level, the extent of promoted and planned integration remains small. It is proposed that the 26/27 programme actively promotes collaboration and integration.

### *Local Authority support / Liaison*

Integral to the delivery of the 24/25 programme was the inclusion of links with active and sustainable transport teams in Tactran local authorities. This engagement allowed for the inclusion of local contexts, including ongoing infrastructure development, service support, and local priorities for behaviour change.

Local authority liaison groups were developed and contributed to steering project delivery, whilst it was also acknowledged that a greater level of engagement would be beneficial in the 26/27 programme, and its design.

The 26/27 programme will expand coordination with the four authorities, by strengthening the role and engagement with authority liaison groups to encompass:

- The link between potential and outcome need be expanded, and ensure that all of the four scales of delivery are addressed
- That gaps between LA and RTP outcomes need be further addressed
- That some LAs would benefit from a more direct input to project delivery

In acknowledging and seeking to address each of the areas of need the P&P programme will engage with LA officers in its design, in the selection and integration process, and in providing ongoing support in the delivery of projects in the 26/27 programme.

Project selection will also draw on local authority expertise and expand upon previous engagement in this process. A selection methodology will be developed addressing all areas of behaviour change, to include, but not be limited to:

- i. Demonstration of capability, opportunity and motivation barriers for the target groups (project recipients),
- ii. Demonstrated project components that then actively speak to the barriers identified to achieve capability and opportunity, and
- iii. Demonstrated project components that actively speak to Motivations (to bring about a sustained modal shift)

A defined structure for project selection will be developed in agreement across Tactran local authority partners and applied with the involvement of authority officers.

#### *Project delivery*

The 26/27 programme is proposed at four spatial levels:

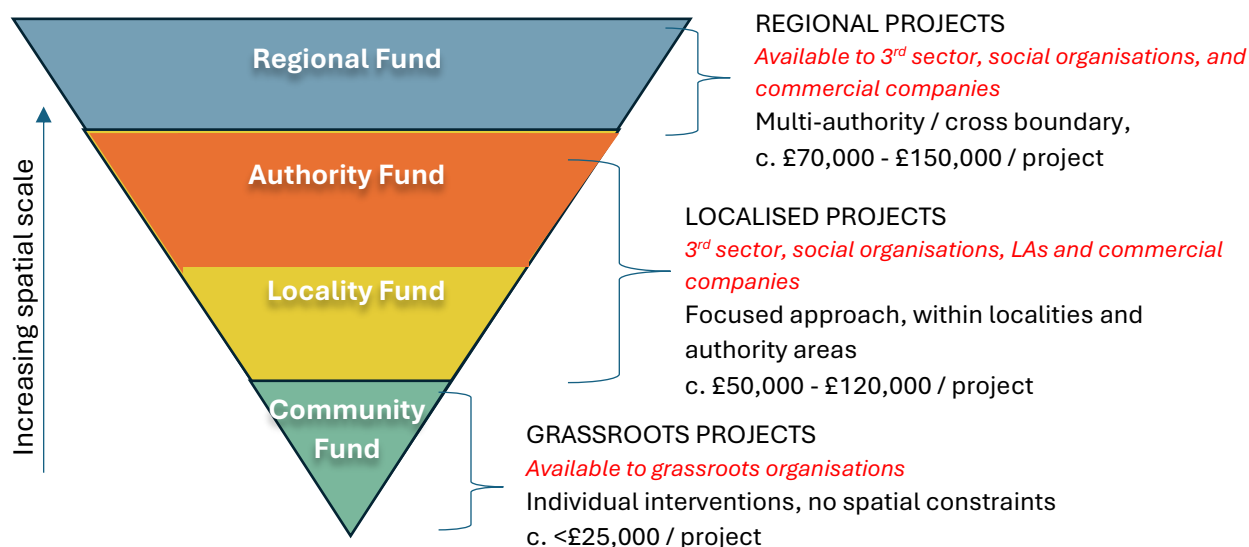
- Community,
- Locality,
- Authority, and
- Regional.

The differing funds will be focused on specific areas and delivery patterns, set out below in order of increasing scale.

The community fund is focused on small-scale projects delivered by grassroots organisations. The locality fund is focused on priority interventions at local levels, delivered by experienced organisation in the social and third-sectors. The authority fund is similarly available to social and third sector organisations, for projects linked to identified priorities at an authority level. It is noted that the authority fund is not intended for authority use specifically, but rather to deliver projects at an authority level (scale). The regional fund is focused on complex and multi-authority projects, see figure 1.

The programme does not exclude applications from commercial companies, nor from councils, but is anticipated to be focused around local, social and third-sector organisations in the main. Community funds are reserved for smaller scale grassroots groups, social enterprises, clubs, and associations with a direct interest in the community they serve.

Figure 1: Programme fund allocation by scale of engagement



## 2. Programme updates for FY2026/27

The proposal for 26/27 introduces a number of includes number of new elements:

- The addition of a fund at authority level focused on integration with local priorities
- The extension of programme support to include specific multi-funder activities
- Integration between and across projects
- More detailed engagement and liaison with local authorities throughout the programme in providing support and guidance to project delivery partners.

Programme management responsibilities remain with Tactran, with a strengthened liaison role built in for local authorities.

Approaches to monitoring and evaluation tasks will also be updated to reflect the lessons learned in previous years. It is anticipated that these would update, rather than replace, the structure applied in 25/26, and will:

- Include a more detailed focus on outcomes,
- Develop a fully centralised approach to surveys, minimising time effort for project partners,
- Allow for the further application of social impacts assessment, and

Additionally, we will build in the ability, but not a requirement, for local authorities to include measurements of local impacts in addition to those identified in the existing M&E framework. Likewise there will be no barrier to projects undertaking their own review processes in addition to those of the programme itself.

### 3. Programme process

Following approval of the proposed structure (this document) Delivery Partners will be invited to make application(s) to one or more of the funding streams described above.

The process will include Expression of Interest (EOI) and full application stages. Applications will be supported by individual project discussions to provide answers to common questions, and individual project guidance. Project by project support will also be provided to encourage integration between projects, with individual project negotiations following the main application deadline to optimise funding allocations and address issues where funds available are unable to cover all requested support.

Further support will be offered to grassroots organisations, and it is recognised that such organisations may require additional support in the application process, the evaluation process, and in terms of capacity and capability skills. These will be provided as integral to the application process as appropriate to each organisation.

Following successful application delivery partners will be responsible for all aspects of delivery as included in their application and offer letter and would normally be expected to have a direct input to the delivery of their projects.

### 4. Budget and allocation

Table 1 sets out the illustrative budget, which applies the same funding levels as made available in the current year. Any additional support confirmed by Transport Scotland will result in an increase in the amounts available, whilst any reduction of funding will also impact on the amounts available for allocation.

Allocations across the region have been made by applying the same formula previously used. Distribution to specific funds is based on the balance observed in the current programme. The figures are intended to be available for virement, where flexibility between project type and location is included to ensure optimal use of the funds available. Virement also allows for the reallocation of underspend amongst projects where this occurs.

Table 1: Indicative budget allocation  
subject to confirmation

FY2026/27 Proposed P&P budget				No change on 25/26	
SUPPORT BY FUND / LOCATION					
		Capital	Revenue	Sub Total	TOTALS
<b>Community scale project</b>	All Authorities	£ 121,818.18	£ 60,000.00	£ 181,818.18	£ 181,818.18
<b>Locality scale projects</b>	- Angus	£ 97,565.70	£ 48,054.75	£ 145,620.45	
	- Dundee	£ 120,248.25	£ 59,226.75	£ 179,475.00	
	- PKC	£ 134,080.40	£ 66,039.60	£ 200,120.00	
	- Stirling	£ 80,001.05	£ 39,403.50	£ 119,404.55	£ 644,620.00
<b>Authority scale project</b>	- Angus	£ 136,591.99	£ 67,276.65	£ 203,868.64	
	- Dundee	£ 168,347.55	£ 82,917.45	£ 251,265.00	
	- PKC	£ 187,712.56	£ 92,455.44	£ 280,168.00	
	- Stirling	£ 112,001.46	£ 55,164.90	£ 167,166.36	£ 902,468.00
<b>Regional scale projects</b>	All Authorities and programme	£ 182,727.27	£ 90,000.00	£ 272,727.27	£ 272,727.27
Resource / staffing / capacity MaaS, centrally resourced projects	Programme	£ 192,678.30	£ 94,901.25	£ 287,579.55	£ 287,579.55
<b>Totals</b>		£ 1,533,772.71	£ 755,440.29		£ 2,289,213.00

Total amount and split between revenue and capital unchanged on 25/26

### Project summary

Fund	Indicative Total amount (rounded)	Indicative amount per project	Project types	Integration
Community Scale	£182,000	<£25,000	Small community focused projects across any of the themes. Not delivered by larger organisations.	Limited, possible joint funding.
Locality scale	£645,000	£50,000-£120,000	Mainstream projects, associated with defined themes and limited to a locality or groups of localities. Focused on primary themes. Primary delivery by community or socially oriented companies, can include commercial providers.	Between projects. Between providers. Between funders.
Authority scale	£900,000	£50,000-£120,000	Mainstream projects allied to LA priorities. LAs may apply to fund and/or support specific provision. Focused on primary themes, must be integrated to LA priorities. Primary delivery by community or socially oriented companies, can include commercial providers and LAs.	Must be integrated to LA priorities. May further integrate with: Between funders. Between projects Between providers
Regional scale	£270,000	£70,000-£150,000	Complex projects across boundaries, different LAs and or different RTPs	As per place fund