

TAYSIDE AND CENTRAL SCOTLAND TRANSPORT PARTNERSHIP

Minute of Meeting of the Tayside and Central Scotland Transport Partnership held in the Quality Hotel, Leonard Street, Perth on Tuesday 24 April at 11.00am.

Present: Councillor K Ritchie and Councillor D Selfridge (Angus Council); Councillor R Wallace and Councillor K Keenan (Dundee City Council); Councillor J Paterson (Stirling Council); Councillors A Livingstone, and J Mair (Perth and Kinross Council); G Roser, Professor M Horner and B Wright (Members).

In Attendance: E Guthrie (Director), G Chree and E Lawson (Angus Council); M Galloway and N Gardiner (Dundee City Council); J Cockburn, A Deans, J Valentine, G Taylor and V Goldthorp (Perth and Kinross Council); L Goodfellow and C Bell (Stirling Council); N Farrell (Scottish Executive).

Councillor Livingstone, Chairperson, Presiding.

Prior to commencement of business the Chair welcomed Gavin Roser recently appointed member to the TACTRAN Board.

1. APOLOGIES

Apologies for absence were intimated on behalf of Councillors F Grant, J Hulbert and G Thomson and M Duffy and R Andrew (TACTRAN Members).

2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest made in terms of The Code of Conduct.

3. MINUTE OF MEETING

The Minute of Meeting of the Partnership of 27 March 2007 was submitted and approved as a correct record.

4. CORPORATE GOVERNANCE ARRANGEMENTS

There was submitted a report by the Secretary (RTP/07/11) (i) seeking approval of a proposed Scheme of Delegation and Financial Regulations for the Partnership and (ii) providing information and clarification on other governance issues.

In respect of recommendation (f) to Report (RTP/07/11) the Director advised that three expressions of interest in becoming Advisors/Observers to the Partnership had been received and that, during the recent public consultation on the Draft Regional Transport Strategy, a number of other potential interests in becoming Advisors/Observers had been indicated, in relation to which the Director had requested that the individuals submit to him formally.

Resolved:

- (i) The Scheme of Delegation for the Partnership as detailed in Appendix 1 to report RTP/07/11 be approved subject to Item 7.1.5 to read “to issue press releases for publication and broadcasting on behalf of the Partnership in consultation with and with the approval of the Chair”;
- (ii) The Financial Regulations for the Partnership as contained in Appendix 2 to report RTP/07/11 be approved;
- (iii) Membership of the Partnership as set out in Paragraphs 3.3-3.5 of report RTP/07/11 be noted;
- (iv) The payment of remuneration to members of the Partnership as detailed in Paragraphs 3.6 and 3.7 to report RTP/07/11 be noted;
- (v) Payment of expenses to members of the Partnership as detailed in Paragraph 3.8 of report RTP/07/11 be approved;
- (vi) Consideration of the appointment of Advisors/Observers to the Partnership be deferred until after the appointment of Councillor Members to the Partnership following the Local Government Elections on 3 May 2007.

5. HUMAN RESOURCE POLICIES

The Chair advised the meeting that this item had been withdrawn from the agenda and would be submitted to the next meeting of the Partnership.

6. FINANCIAL UPDATE

There was submitted a report by the Treasurer (RTP/07/19) updating the Partnership on the 2006/07 financial position and providing information on the Scottish Executive’s level of funding confirmed for 2007/08.

A question was raised with regards to the appointment of the External Auditor for the Partnership and in response J Cockburn confirmed that Henderson Loggie had been appointed by Audit Scotland.

Resolved:

- (i) The projected outturn position for Revenue and Capital Budgets for the financial year 2006/07 as detailed in Appendix A to Report RTP/07/19 be noted;
- (ii) The level of funding notified by the Scottish Executive for both Capital and Revenue Budgets for financial year 2007/2008 as detailed in Appendix B to report RTP/07/19 be noted;
- (iii) The External Audit Plan for 2006/2007 as detailed in Appendix C to report RTP/07/19 be approved.

7 REGIONAL TRANSPORT STRATEGY

There was submitted a report by the Regional Transport Strategy Steering Group (RTP/07/21) seeking the Partnerships approval of the Regional Transport Strategy Consultation Report and Indicative Delivery Plan for submission to the Scottish Executive.

B Wright noted that Item 2.4.2 in Appendix A made reference to access to health care and he suggested that this should be highlighted as an area of greater importance. The Director advised that the importance of improving this aspect of accessibility was reflected in the main Strategy document, with specific Objectives and Interventions aimed at improving access to health facilities.

M Horner expressed support for the proposed monitoring arrangements and measures set out in Section 3 of Appendix B, but requested that consideration be given to standardising the terminology used to more clearly relate this to the extent of the problem being measured. It was agreed that this be delegated to officers to review and amend the presentation as appropriate, prior to submission to the Scottish Executive. Professor Horner also commented that the prioritisation of Interventions would require to be based on clearly established criteria and the Director advised that this would be addressed in the further refinement of the Delivery Plan, in consultation with Councils and other potential delivery partners, progress on which it was envisaged would be reported back to the Partnership in the autumn.

Resolved:

- (i) The finalised Regional Transport Strategy (RTS) submitted to the Transport Minister on 30 March 2007, as approved by the Chair and Director under delegated authority, be endorsed;
- (ii) The RTS Consultation Report as set out in Appendix A to report RTP/07/21 be approved and authority be delegated to the RTS Steering Group to agree related appendices and submit the Consultation Report to the Scottish Executive;
- (iii) The RTS Indicative Delivery Plan as detailed in Appendix B to report RTP/07/21 be approved and authority be delegated to RTS Steering Group to finalise Section 3 on Monitoring and submit the Indicative Delivery Plan to the Scottish Executive.

8. DIRECTOR'S REPORT

There was submitted a report by the Director (RTP/07/20) updating the Partnership on various matters of interest and relevance to the work of the Partnership and seeking agreement to participate in a proposed Timber Transport Project.

Resolved:

- (i) Authority be delegated to the Director to secure ad-hoc external support from CDU Limited as required;
- (ii) Participation in a proposed Timber Transport Project being led by the Confederation of Forest Industries be approved at a cost of £10,000, to be funded in two equal instalments of £5,000 in financial years 2007/08 and 2008/09; and;
- (iii) The updates given in the report be otherwise noted.

9. DATE OF FUTURE MEETINGS

It was agreed that the next meeting of the Partnership be held on Tuesday 19 June 2007 at 11.00 am in the Quality Hotel, Perth.

10. VALEDICTORY

The Chair expressed his gratitude to all members of the Partnership who had always displayed professionalism and dealt with matters in a respectful and courteous manner. He particularly wished Councillors G Thomson; J Paterson; F Grant; J Mair; K Ritchie and D Selfridge happy, healthy and fulfilling retirements.

The Director, on behalf of the officers, also expressed thanks and appreciation for the support and guidance given by Members of the current Partnership during this first term of the Partnership and offered best wishes to those Councillor members who were not standing for re-election.

M Horner spoke on behalf of non-Councillor members and endorsed the comments of thanks and appreciation by the Chair and Director and congratulated the Partnership and its officers on steering the development and delivery of the Regional Transport Strategy to a fruitful conclusion, against challenging deadlines.