

TAYSIDE AND CENTRAL SCOTLAND TRANSPORT PARTNERSHIP**20 FEBRUARY 2007****TRAVEL PLAN STRATEGY AND ACTION PLAN****REPORT BY DIRECTOR**

This report seeks the Partnership Board's approval of a Travel Plan Strategy and Action Plan for the TACTRAN Region.

1 RECOMMENDATIONS

That the Partnership Board :-

- (i) approves the Travel Plan Strategy and Action Plan as set out in the Appendix; and
- (ii) authorises expenditure of the Scottish Executive Travel Plan Grant funding for financial year 2006/07 as outlined in the report and Appendix.

2 BACKGROUND

- 2.1 At its meeting on 17th August 2006 (RTP/06/28) the Partnership Board approved the appointment of a Travel Plan Officer on a permanent basis, to fulfil specific travel planning objectives, which are set as conditions of Scottish Executive Grant funding for travel planning in financial years 2006/07 and 2007/08, and to develop longer term initiatives in line with emerging Regional Transport Strategy objectives.
- 2.2 At its meeting on 16th January 2007 the Partnership Board agreed to receive a report on a proposed Travel Plan Strategy and Action Plan to be implemented by the Travel Plan Officer. Specific objectives and targets of the Travel Plan Strategy and Action Plan will be developed through consultation with constituent Councils and key stakeholders between February 2007 and April 2008.
- 2.3 All Regional Transport Partnerships were required to submit a Travel Plan Strategy and Action Plan to the Scottish Executive by 31st Dec 2006. This condition determines continued funding available through the Scottish Executive Travel Planning grant.
- 2.4 The Scottish Executive granted TACTRAN an extension for submitting the draft Travel Plan Strategy and Action Plan, pending appointment of a Travel Plan Officer. The Travel Pan Officer took up post in 1st January and a Draft Strategy and Action Plan was submitted to Scottish Executive officials on 1st February 2007, on the understanding that this remained subject to the approval of the TACTRAN Board on 20th February 2007.

3 DISCUSSION

- 3.1 On 29th June 2006 the Scottish Executive confirmed the award of Revenue Grant of up to £65,000/annum to TACTRAN in financial years 2006/07 and 2007/08. The Director and Partnership Treasurer confirmed acceptance of the Grant by 27th July, as required by the Conditions of Grant offer.
- 3.2 The Grant Letter indicates that a maximum of £30,000 in each financial year should be used to appoint and fund a dedicated Travel Plan Officer, with the balance of the £65,000 to be used to support Travel Plan activity. As appointment to the post of Travel Plan Officer occurred towards the end of the current financial year, spend on this year's staffing element of the grant will be approximately £14,000. It has been agreed with Scottish Executive officials that the balance of this year's grant, amounting to around £51,000, can be used to fund travel plan activity.
- 3.3 The key deliverable by the end of the two-year funding period is to ensure that effective Active Travel Plans have been established for all four local authorities, main hospitals and Health Boards in the whole TACTRAN region. The development of this strategy and supporting development of travel plans will form the main role for the Travel Plan Officer during the current and next financial years. Additionally, an element of this post will involve marketing and promotion of sustainable travel and travel choice across the region.
- 3.4 The draft Travel Plan Strategy and Action Plan attached as an Appendix outlines deliverable measures based on best practice activity within local authorities. Of this financial year's available budget, approximately £30,000, is being suggested for upgrading of the DundeeLiftshare.com, car and lift sharing scheme, to become a regional scheme, branded TactranLiftshare.com. This is already included as an intended Intervention in the draft Regional Transport Strategy IV_C2 – Promote Regional Car Sharing Schemes. This proposal builds on the existing, successful Dundee scheme and will be compatible with neighbouring Liftshare-based schemes within SEStran, Nestrans and Hitrans. As a development of an existing scheme, procurement will be based on negotiated extension of existing licence arrangements, rather than competitive tendering.
- 3.5 The draft Travel Plan Strategy and Action Plan outlines aims and objectives in line with the Scottish Executive Guidelines on establishing Travel Plans for local authorities and Health Boards. This corresponds to themes in the draft Regional Transport Strategy. In order to implement these initiatives and travel plan objectives, commitment from all local authorities and Health Boards in the region is required.

4 CONSULTATION

- 4.1 The report has been prepared in consultation with Council Officers and Scottish Executive Officials.

5 RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS

- 5.1 The cost of upgrading the DundeeLiftshare.com scheme to become a regional system is anticipated to be in the order of £30,000, which will be met from the Scottish Executive Travel Plan Grant for financial year 2006/07. Upgrading

the scheme will create a “home page” for each local authority and may therefore require annual contributions in the region of £1,500 from each local authority for the purpose of subscription fees.

- 5.2 The remaining £21,000 allocation for 2006/07 is proposed to be spent on promotion and advertising of the upgraded site. This will consist of a combination of marketing material including leaflets, posters, and possible billboard and cinema advertising.

Eric Guthrie
Director

Report prepared by Merry Scott, Travel Plan Officer

For further information email merryscott@pkc.gov.uk or tel: 01738 476542

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; (list papers concerned)

None