

TAYSIDE AND CENTRAL SCOTLAND TRANSPORT PARTNERSHIP

REPORT TO EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

29 NOVEMBER 2007

EQUALITIES SCHEME

Report by Director

<p>This report seeks Executive Committee members approval of an Equalities Scheme addressing the Partnership's various statutory duties in this regard.</p>

1 RECOMMENDATION

- 1.1 That Executive Committee members approve for publication the Equalities Scheme which forms the Appendix to this report.

2 BACKGROUND

- 2.1 The Partnership has a duty to publish schemes setting out its policies and arrangements for complying with statutory obligations in relation to Gender, Disability, Race and other equalities issues.
- 2.2 In order to comply with statutory requirements and deadlines the Partnership, at it's meeting on 23 October 2007, agreed to delegate authority to members of the Executive Committee to consider and approve for publication a TACTRAN Equalities Scheme (Report RTP/07/37 refers).

3 DISCUSSION

- 3.1 RTPs have developed a model scheme, which seeks to encompass the range of equalities obligations the Partnerships must comply with. A proposed TACTRAN scheme, which is based on the jointly developed RTP model, forms the Appendix to this report.
- 3.2 The proposed scheme sets out how TACTRAN will address its various obligations under Equalities legislation, and includes an Action Plan for the period 2007 – 2010, which sets out specific plans and targets for addressing equalities issues in developing and delivering the Regional Transport Strategy and other activity. It is proposed that an Equalities Forum is established to act as the main locus for consultation with relevant stakeholders and other affected interests on future policy development and delivery, including Equality Impact Assessments.
- 3.3 The approved Equalities Scheme will be the subject of detailed consultation with the proposed Equalities Forum. The membership of the Equalities Forum would initially be drawn from the TACTRAN Key Stakeholders grouping, which informed development of the RTS, and be expanded as necessary to include other relevant interests. The outcome of further

consultations, and any necessary amendments to the published scheme, will be the subject of reports to future meetings of the Partnership.

4 CONSULTATIONS

- 4.1 The proposed Equalities Scheme set out in the Appendix has been developed in consultation with other RTPs and TACTRAN's own Legal and Personnel advisers. The published scheme will be the subject of detailed consultation with the proposed Equalities Forum and the Equalities and Human Rights Commission.

5 RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS

- 5.1 This report has no direct resource implications.

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Director

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