

TAYSIDE AND CENTRAL SCOTLAND TRANSPORT PARTNERSHIP

Minute of Meeting of the Tayside and Central Scotland Transport Partnership held in Committee Room 1, 14 City Square, Dundee on Tuesday 29 April 2008 at 10.30 am.

Present: Councillor John Whyte (Angus Council); Councillors Fraser Macpherson, Brian Gordon and Bailie Roderick Wallace (Dundee City Council); Councillors Alan Jack, John Kellas and Ann Gaunt (Perth and Kinross Council); Councillor Andrew Simpson (Stirling Council); Bill Wright, Robert Andrew and Gavin Roser (Members).

In Attendance: E Guthrie (Director); M Cairns and N Gardiner (TACTRAN), E Lawson (Angus Council); M Galloway (Dundee City Council); J Symon, J Valentine, J Cockburn, A Wilson and V Jones (Perth and Kinross Council); L Goodfellow (Stirling Council); M Richardson and A Borrows (External Auditors Henderson Loggie).

Apologies for absence were received from Councillor I Gaul (Angus Council), Councillor J Thomson (Stirling Council) and Professor Malcolm Horner.

Councillor Macpherson, Chairperson, Presiding.

1. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

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

2. MINUTE OF MEETING 30 JANUARY 2008

The Minute of Meeting of the Partnership of 30 January 2008 was submitted and approved as a correct record subject to inclusion of Councillor Ian Gaul (Angus Council) submitting his apologies.

3. MATTERS ARISING

Item 8 (iii) Non-Councillor Members – Reappointment Process

The Chair advised that successful appraisals had been undertaken in respect of Professor Malcolm Horner; Mr Robert Andrew and Mr Bill Wright and that the relevant documentation on these had been forwarded to the Scottish Government for Ministers to endorse the reappointment of all three members for a further period of two years until 30 April 2010.

4. REVIEW OF REGIONAL TRANSPORT STRATEGY AND DELIVERY PLAN

There was submitted a report by the Director (RTP/08/07) seeking approval (i) of a revised Regional Transport Strategy (RTS) for submission to Scottish Ministers; and (ii) to a proposed process for reviewing and refinement of the RTS Delivery Plan, in consultation with partner Councils and other key stakeholders.

The Director advised that the RTS had been reviewed and amended in line with the request by Ministers that RTPs should remove specified Interventions from their Strategies and place these within a separate RTS Delivery Plan. He reported that the core essence of the Strategy, as previously approved by the Partnership in consultation with constituent Councils and other key stakeholders, remained unchanged from that which had been submitted to Ministers on 30 March 2007. The principal changes were deletion of the previous Chapter 6 on Interventions; amending related cross references in the text within Chapter 5 and the Appendices; and amending the previous Chapter 7 on Strategy appraisal, to reflect the fact that Interventions were no longer detailed within the document. In addition Chapter 3 had been amended to reflect the Government's new Strategic Objectives and National Outcomes, with an additional Appendix C being added to map the RTS Vision and Objectives with the national Objectives and Outcomes. The opportunity had also been taken to update the content of the document to reflect any changed circumstances since its original submission in March 2007.

The Director also outlined the proposed process for developing a revised RTS Delivery Plan which would set out the key delivery priorities in the short, medium and long term during the 10 to 15 year period of the Strategy. Following further development in accordance with the process detailed in the report it was intended that a revised Draft Delivery Plan would be submitted to the Partnership for consideration on 24 June 2008, to enable formal consultation with Councils and other key stakeholders prior to the next Partnership meeting in September.

Resolved:

- (i) The revised RTS, as set out in Appendix A to Report RTP/08/07, be approved for submission to Scottish Ministers.
- (ii) The process for developing a revised RTS Delivery Plan, in consultation with partner Councils and other key stakeholders, as outlined in Report RTP/08/07, be approved.

5. REGIONAL TRANSPORT STRATEGY SUB-STRATEGIES – PROGRESS UPDATE

There was submitted a report by the Director (RTP/08/08) providing an update on progress with the development of four RTS sub strategies.

M Cairns and N Gardiner made presentations to the Partnership on the Buses Strategy and Community and Demand Responsive Transport Action Plan; Park and Ride Strategy; Travel Information Strategy; and Walking and Cycling Strategy which highlighted the emerging work on each sub-strategy. Officers agreed to circulate copies of the presentations to Partnership members for information.

In relation to all four sub-Strategies members requested that these be informed by available evidence of best practice not only in the UK but also from mainland Europe. The need to address potential conflicts between

pedestrians and cyclists; safety and security whilst travelling by cycle and public transport; the role of demand responsive transport and park & ride in promoting a more integrated transport system; and the potential contribution of park & ride in promoting tourism access were all highlighted in discussion.

The finalised sub-strategies would be submitted to the next Partnership meeting of 24 June 2008

Resolved:

- (i) The progress on developing the four RTS sub-strategies as outlined in Report RTP/08/08, be noted.
- (ii) A further report on the completed sub-strategies be submitted to the Partnership meeting of 24 June 2008.
- (ii) The contents of a letter received from Stewart Stevenson, Minister for Transport, Infrastructure and Climate Change, providing details on the key outcomes of a High Level Bus Forum, as appended to the report, be noted.

6. REVENUE BUDGET 2007/08 AND 2008/09

There was submitted a joint report by the Treasurer and Director (RTP/08/09), (i) providing an update on the 2007/08 financial position; and confirming (ii) approval of the core revenue funding; and (iii) the award of Scottish Government revenue grant funding for 2008/09.

The Treasurer gave a verbal update on the anticipated year end final outturn for 2007/08 and confirmed Council approvals of their respective Revenue contributions towards the Partnership's Core running costs for 2008/09, in accordance with the Budget approved by the Partnership at its meeting on 30 January 2008 (Report RTP/08/04 refers). He also advised on the confirmation of award of Scottish Government Revenue Grant in Aid of £615,000 for Core running costs and RTS development, plus £104,000 for Travel Planning in 2008/09. He then addressed questions.

Resolved:

- (i) The projected core revenue budget for financial year 2007/08, as detailed in Appendix A to Report RTP/08/09, be noted.
- (ii) The projected outturn position for the RTS development programme budget for financial year 2007/2008, as set out in Appendix B to Report RTP/08/09, be noted.
- (ii) A contribution of £15,120 towards a Dundee Port freight railhead study, be endorsed.
- (iii) The level of revenue grant funding awarded by the Scottish Government for financial year 2008/2009, be noted
- (iv) Interim extension of the Sustainable Travel Grant Scheme to a maximum value of £20,000 as detailed in Section 3.18 of Report RTP/08/09, be approved.
- (v) The indicative RTS implementation revenue programme as set out in section 3.19 of Report RTP/08/09, be approved.

- (vi) The Partnership to receive quarterly monitoring reports on the revenue budget during 2008/09.

7. CAPITAL PROGRAMME

There was submitted a joint report by the Director and Treasurer (RTP/08/10) providing (i) an update on progress with the 2007/08 Capital Programme; and (ii) information in relation to constituent Councils' positions on the allocation of 2008/09 former RTP capital grant.

The Director advised that confirmation from Scottish Government officials had been received on the level of reduction in the Partnership's 2007/08 capital grant allocation in mid-February. As anticipated the finally agreed reduction in grant was £300,000. Measures for managing this reduction in grant with a minimum of impact on the approved 2007/08 Capital Programme, through a combination of utilisation of interest received on capital, capital funded from current revenue (CFCR), and minor slippage in various projects, had been agreed with constituent Councils and Scottish Government officials, and then approved by the Executive Committee, as outlined in Report RTP/08/10. The report sought the Partnership's endorsement of the measures put in place to achieve the Scottish Government's required saving. Subsequent to the approval of measures to achieve the savings, further adjustments had been agreed with Council officers to reflect final year end spend.

Resolved:

- (i) The projected outturn position for the 2007/08 Capital Programme as detailed in Appendix A to Report RTP/08/10, be noted.
- (ii) The arrangements for a managed reduction of £300,000 in the 2007/08 Capital Programme, as approved by the Executive Committee, and adjusted to reflect year end capital and revenue spend projections as detailed in report RTP/08/10, be endorsed.
- (iii) To receive progress reports on the development of the RTS Delivery Plan and associated Capital Programme at the next meeting of the Partnership on 24 June 2008.

8. SCOTTISH GOVERNMENT CONSULTATIONS

There was submitted a report by the Director (RTP/08/11) seeking endorsement of responses to various Scottish Government Consultations as approved for submission by the Executive Committee.

Resolved:

To endorse the responses which had been submitted to the Scottish Government's consultations on the National Planning Framework 2; the Scottish Climate Change Bill; and the Scottish Road Safety Strategy.

9. DIRECTOR'S REPORT

There was submitted a report by the Director (RTP/08/12) providing an update on various matters of interest and relevance to the work of TACTRAN.

Resolved:

To note the progress updates and other information provided in the report.

10. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

It was agreed that the next meeting of the Tayside and Central Scotland Transport Partnership would be held on Tuesday 24 June 2008 in Stirling.