

**TAYSIDE AND CENTRAL SCOTLAND TRANSPORT PARTNERSHIP****18 DECEMBER 2007****DIRECTOR'S REPORT**

This report updates the Partnership on various matters of interest and relevance to the work of TACTRAN and seeks the Partnership's endorsement of actions taken by the Executive Committee in approving an Equalities Scheme and participation in a series of awareness raising Community Roadshows.

**1 RECOMMENDATIONS**

- 1.1 That the Partnership:-
- (i) endorses the Executive Committee's approval of an Equalities Scheme for publication;
  - (ii) endorses the Executive Committee's approval of participation in a series of Community Roadshows to be held in January and February 2008; and
  - (iii) notes the progress updates and other information provided in this report.

**2 DISCUSSION****Forum of Chairs of Regional Transport Partnerships**

- 2.1 The last meeting of the RTP Chairs Forum was held in Dumfries on 7 December. This included the Chairs' 6-monthly liaison meeting with the Confederation of Passenger Transport (CPT), which discusses progress on buses and other public transport aspects of National and Regional Transport Strategy delivery.
- 2.2 The Draft Minute of the meeting will be submitted to the Partnership for information, when available. The group's review of the role and function of the Chairs Forum forms a separate item on the Agenda. A number of discussion items are summarised below.

**RTP Chairs Meeting with Cabinet Secretary**

- 2.3 As reported on 23 October the Chairs wrote jointly to John Swinney, Cabinet Secretary for Finance and Sustainable Growth, requesting a meeting with him and Ministerial colleagues. As outlined in the separate progress report on the Regional Transport Strategy, a meeting involving the Cabinet Secretary, Minister for Transport, Infrastructure and Climate Change and COSLA is being held on 11 December, the outcome of which will be reported orally.

**Proposed RTP's Conference**

- 2.4 At its meeting on 21 August 2007 the Partnership agreed to contribute a sum of £2,500 towards the costs of a proposed Regional Transport Partnerships

conference, to be held in spring 2008 (Report RTP 07/26 refers). Detailed arrangements for this are being progressed on behalf of all RTPs by SEStran.

- 2.5 The proposed date and venue for the Conference is 17 March 2008 in the SAS Raddison Hotel, Edinburgh. A detailed programme and series of joint RTP papers to be presented to the Conference are being developed in consultation with Holyrood Conferences and further details of these will be reported to the Partnership's next meeting.

### **Equalities Scheme**

- 2.6 At its meeting on 23 October 2007 the Partnership 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).
- 2.7 A scheme setting out how TACTRAN will address its various obligations under Equalities legislation, including 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, was approved by the Executive Committee in late November. The published scheme can be viewed on the Partnership's website at [www.tactran.gov.uk](http://www.tactran.gov.uk).
- 2.8 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. The membership of the Equalities Forum will 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.

### **Promotional DVD and Community Roadshows**

- 2.9 The Partnership Board has previously raised and supported the need to increase public awareness of the Partnership and its activities. The development of an ongoing Communications Strategy is currently under discussion with Media and Communications advisors and will be the subject of a report to the next meeting.
- 2.10 An opportunity to raise public awareness through a series of Community Roadshows in main Shopping Centres in the TACTRAN region during late January/early February 2008 has arisen. These events are to be held in the 3 main shopping centres in Dundee and Perth, which each have a weekly footfall of between 120,000 – 250,000, providing an opportunity to raise public awareness of the Partnership and its activities with a significant proportion of the region's population.
- 2.11 Each roadshow involves the display of a professionally produced promotional DVD in the main concourse of the Shopping Centres, with the DVD running a minimum of 500 times at each location. In addition staff will be on hand to distribute promotional material and undertake any market research that may be required by clients throughout the week.
- 2.12 A discounted cost of £10,000 was negotiated for the production and display of a 60-second promotional DVD in all 3 events. This price includes subsequent

extension of the initial 60-second promotional DVD to 90 seconds in length, to take account of the anticipated approval of the Regional Transport Strategy. The promotional DVD will also be used to enhance the Partnership's website and for other promotional/media events, including any subsequent Roadshow at the Thistle Centre, Stirling.

- 2.13 The production company's deadline for scripting and production of promotional DVD's for the events in January/February 2008 required a commitment to purchase by 7 December 2007 and the matter was referred to the Executive Committee for approval in light of these deadlines.

### **3 RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS**

- 3.1 The costs of producing the promotional DVD and participating in the Community Roadshow events can be accommodated from a projected underspend of £150,000 in the Partnership's 2007/08 Core Revenue Budget, as reported to the Partnership Board on 23 October 2007 (Report RTP/07/32 refers).

- 3.2 This report has no other direct financial or resource implications.

**Eric Guthrie**  
**Director**

For further information email [ericguthrie@tactran.gov.uk](mailto:ericguthrie@tactran.gov.uk) or tel. 01738 475771

### **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 Executive Committee on 21 November 2007 on Equalities Scheme

Report to Executive Committee on 3 December 2007 on Promotional DVD and Community Roadshows