

**TAYSIDE AND CENTRAL SCOTLAND TRANSPORT PARTNERSHIP****16 MARCH 2010****2010/11 REVENUE BUDGET****JOINT REPORT BY TREASURER AND DIRECTOR**

This report provides an update on the Partnership's Revenue funding for Financial Year 2010/11 and seeks approval of proposed Revenue Programme expenditure.

**1 RECOMMENDATIONS**

1.1 That the Partnership :-

- (i) notes the position regarding anticipated Revenue funding contributions for 2010/11;
- (ii) agrees to suspend Financial Regulation 22 and delegates authority to the Director and Treasurer to approve the award of a contract to TPi for the development of a web-based Travel Planning toolkit at a cost of up to £30,000;
- (iii) approves an initial allocation of £15,000 towards supporting development of Travel Information Strategy initiatives in 2010/11; and
- (iv) agrees to receive a further report on a detailed 2010/11 Revenue Programme utilising anticipated Scottish Government Grant in Aid at its meeting on 15 June 2010.

**2 BACKGROUND**

- 2.1 At its meeting on 15 December 2009 the Partnership approved a Core Revenue Budget for financial year 2010/11 and agreed to request that constituent Councils make provision for their respective funding contributions within their 2010/11 Revenue Budgets (Report RTP/09/47 refers).
- 2.2 At its meeting on 23 June 2009 the Partnership approved a 2-year RTS Implementation Programme for 2009/10 and 2010/11, utilising allocated and anticipated Scottish Government Grant in Aid funding (Report RTP/09/30 refers). Progress on the 2009/10 Programme is discussed in a separate report.

**3 DISCUSSION**2010/11 Core Revenue

- 3.1 Councils agreed their 2010/11 Revenue Budgets in early February 2010. It is understood that all 4 partner Councils have made provision for their respective shares of the Partnership's Core operating costs, as set out in the 2010/11 Core Budget approved on 15 December 2009, within their approved 2010/11 Revenue Budgets.

- 3.2 As reported on 15 December 2009, it is anticipated that Scottish Government Revenue Grant in Aid of up to £615,000, in line with the amount awarded in 2008/09 and 2009/10, will continue in 2010/11. This Grant award contains Scottish Government's contribution towards Core operating costs, which is budgeted at £230,000 next year. Scottish Government officials have indicated that confirmation of the amount of award will be provided within the next few weeks.

2010/11 RTS Revenue Programme

- 3.3 The RTS Revenue Programme is largely funded from the Scottish Government Grant in Aid allocation, supplemented by any additional contributions which can be identified from other funding sources. Allowing for the budgeted contribution towards Core costs, an anticipated budget of £385,000 is available to fund RTS implementation work next financial year.
- 3.4 As indicated in 2.2 above a 2-year RTS Revenue Programme was approved on 23 June 2009. Allowing for known revisions in relation to costs such as OS Mapping Licences etc. the provisional allocations for 2010/11 are as follows :-

| RTS Project                 | Provisional<br>2010/11<br>Allocation |
|-----------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| Ordnance Survey Mapping     | £9,000                               |
| Accessibility Planning      | £26,000                              |
| RTS Monitoring Framework    | £20,000                              |
| Regional Transport Model    | £100,000                             |
| Tay Estuary Rail Study      | £20,000                              |
| Park & Ride Strategy        | £20,000                              |
| Demand Responsive Transport | £30,000                              |
| Travel Planning             | £75,000                              |
| Freight Quality Partnership | £20,000                              |
| Communications              | £10,000                              |
| Stakeholder For a           | £6,000                               |
| Unallocated                 | £49,000                              |
|                             | <b>£385,000</b>                      |

- 3.5 At the time of writing confirmation of the award of Government Revenue Grant for 2010/11 is awaited. In addition the funding requirements for a number of continuation projects in 2001/11 – e.g. Regional Transport Model; TERS; Park & Ride; and DRT – will be dependent on the conclusion of ongoing feasibility work and studies. It is, therefore, intended that a revised 2010/11 RTS Implementation Programme will be developed, in consultation with partner Councils, and submitted for consideration at the Partnership's next meeting on 15 June 2010. In the meantime the Partnership is asked to approve two proposals for initial spend, as discussed below.

## Travel Planning

- 3.6 A provisional allocation of £75,000 exists to fund ongoing development and activity on Travel Planning. As has been noted in various progress updates, a considerable amount of successful collaborative activity has been undertaken in this area with Councils, Health Boards, Further Education establishments and, increasingly, other public and private sector employers, including through the Sustainable Travel Grant Scheme.
- 3.7 Arising from regional and national recognition of the Partnership's successful work on Travel Planning, a proposal has been received from the TPi consultancy to work collaboratively on the development of a web-based Travel Plan implementation tool. This would provide a range of downloadable material to support employers in the development of their own organisational Travel Plans across the region. It would also provide information on promoting other initiatives in support of Travel Planning, for example Bike to Work weeks, In Town without my Car days, etc.
- 3.8 This type of support would be particularly beneficial in supporting organisations who do not employ dedicated travel-plan staff and would assist the Travel Plan Officer in providing advice to and supporting the growing number of public and private sector organisations who are demonstrating an interest in adopting Travel Plans.
- 3.9 Discussions are ongoing with TPi regarding a possible project which would have an overall cost of around £30,000 to develop the proposed web-based toolkit. The Partnership is asked to agree to suspend Financial Regulation 22 and to delegate authority to the Director and Treasurer to approve the entering into a contract with a value of up to £30,000 with TPi, subject to satisfactory conclusion of negotiations with TPi on project outcomes and deliverables.

## Travel Information Strategy

- 3.10 Progress on implementation of the RTS Travel Information Strategy during 2009/10 is discussed in a separate report. Subject to the Partnership's agreement of proposals contained in that report, regarding implementation of the proposed Tactranconnect travel information system, initial marketing and ongoing development and maintenance costs estimated at approximately £15,000 will require to be met from the 2010/11 Revenue Budget.
- 3.11 No specific allocation exists within the provisional 2010/11 Revenue Programme budget for these costs. It is proposed that these are met from the currently unallocated amount of £49,000 shown in the table above.

## **4 CONSULTATIONS**

- 4.1 None.

## **5 RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS**

- 5.1 The main resource implications are addressed within the report.

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### **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 Partnership RTP/09/30, 2009/10 and 2010/11 Revenue Programme, 23 June 2009

Report to Partnership RTP/09/36, Revenue Budget Monitoring 2009/10, 22 September 2009

Report to Partnership RTP/09/45, Revenue Programme Monitoring 2009/10, 15 December 2009

Report to Partnership RTP/09/47 Core Revenue Budget 2009/10 and 2010/11, 15 December 2009