

**REPORT TO: PLANNING & TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE  
20 JUNE 2005**

**REPORT ON: REGIONAL TRANSPORT PARTNERSHIPS**

**REPORT BY: DIRECTOR OF PLANNING & TRANSPORTATION**

**REPORT NO: 375-2005**

## **1 PURPOSE OF REPORT**

- 1.1 This report comments on the Transport (Scotland) Act 2005 and The Regional Transport Partnerships (Establishment and Constitution) (Scotland) Order 2005 and its implications for the Council.

## **2 RECOMMENDATION**

- 2.1 It is recommended that the Committee:
- a Note the constitution of and the timetable for the Statutory Regional Transport Partnerships and;
  - b Nominate two elected members to the board of the Regional Transport Partnership.

## **3 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

- 3.1 There are no direct financial implications to the Council arising from the recommendations of this report. However, the subsequent formation of RTP's and their roles and responsibilities could have significant impact on staffing resources and both capital and revenue budgets.

## **4 LOCAL AGENDA 21 IMPLICATIONS**

- 4.1 It is recognised that changes to the transport delivery system will have significant influence on Local Agenda 21 and must be considered when developing a regional transport partnership.

## **5 EQUAL OPPORTUNITIES IMPLICATIONS**

- 5.1 It is recognised that changes to the transport delivery system will have a significant influence on equal opportunities and must be considered when developing a regional transport partnership.

## **6 BACKGROUND**

- 6.1 Committee will recall from report no 790-2004 entitled Scotland's Transport Future – Proposals for Statutory Regional Transport Partnerships (RTP's), 20 December 2004, that Parliament was bringing forward legislation for the establishment of RTP's.

- 6.2 Following the Passage of the Transport (Scotland) Act 2005 there will be 6 statutory RTP's in Scotland with Dundee being partnered with Angus, Perth and Kinross and Stirling Councils.
- 6.3 The specific functions and responsibilities of individual RTP's have still to emerge in detail and will be driven largely by the views of the constituent councils forming each RTP. One consideration will be whether an RTP would be directly responsible for the delivery of services and infrastructure projects or act more as a regional strategic policy making partnership, but leaving operational implementation to relevant local transport authorities or other bodies. This is the current model supported by Dundee City Council, however, the Scottish Executive expect over time that RTP's will take on a more operational role in the delivery of projects and services in their region. This could mean taking on functions currently exercised by local authorities or by the Scottish Executive.
- 6.4 The constitution of the RTP covering the Tay and Central area includes the requirement of the following elected member representation from each constituent Council.

Angus Council	1 member	(population 108,400)
Dundee City Council	2 members	(population 145,700)
Perth & Kinross Council	2 members	(population 134,900)
Stirling Council	1 member	(population 86,200)

This level of representation is broadly based on population within each constituent council area.

- 6.5 Each Councillor member will have one vote.
- 6.6 The RTP board or the Minister must appoint 2-3 external members to the Board. It should be noted, however, that on matters of requisition and transfer of functions only Councillor members can vote.
- 6.7 The RTP's first responsibility will be to develop a Regional Transport Strategy (RTS).
- 6.8 The RTS will be a statutory document and will form the basis for funding transportation and infrastructure projects.
- 6.9 A full RTS is required to be approved by Ministers by April 2007. A full version of the required timetable is displayed in Appendix A, however, in summary this process will require to start in August 2005.

## **7 CONSULTATIONS**

- 7.1 The Chief Executive, Depute Chief Executive (Support Services), Depute Chief Executive (Finance), Assistant Chief Executive (Community Planning) and the Chief Constable have been consulted and are in agreement with the contents of this report.

**8 BACKGROUND PAPERS**

## 8.1 Committee Report 790-2004.

Mike Galloway  
Director of Planning & Transportation

Iain Sherriff  
Head of Transportation

IFS/EES

13 June 2005

Dundee City Council  
Tayside House  
Dundee

## Appendix A

**Establishment of Regional Transport Partnerships  
Outline Timetable from Establishment Orders to Formal Commencement of New Partnerships**

Month	Stages in Establishment
August 2005	Local Authorities appoint representative(s) to RTP Board
September	<p>Establishment Orders for RTP's (note need to specify shadow RTP Boards as Responsible Authorities for Scottish Environmental Appraisal (SEA)).</p> <p>Minister requests one of LA Chief Executive's (?) to call initial meeting of LA representatives in Board area.</p>
October	<p>Meeting of LA representatives to RTP Board</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>❖ appoint interim Chair</li> <li>❖ consider shadow work tasks</li> <li>❖ consider staffing requirements</li> <li>❖ consider arrangements for transfer of functions (Model 3)</li> <li>❖ agree to any interim consultancy appointments</li> <li>❖ make proposals to Minister for external Board Members</li> </ul>
November	Minister appoints external Board members
December	<p>1st meeting of shadow Board</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>❖ confirm appointment of interim Chair</li> <li>❖ consider shadow work tasks</li> <li>❖ agree staff structure and transfer/appointment arrangements</li> <li>❖ agree arrangements for transfer of functions (Model 3)</li> <li>❖ adopt Standing Orders and Financial Regulations</li> <li>❖ agree budget for 2006/2007 and financial contributions from Scottish Executive and LAs</li> </ul>
January 2006	<p>2nd meeting of shadow Board</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>❖ agree work programme for 2006/2007</li> <li>❖ agree programme for Regional Transport Strategy (RTS) preparation <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– announce preparation of RTS</li> <li>– submit SEA Screening report to SEA Gateway</li> <li>– agree brief for consultancy support</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
March	<p>3rd meeting of shadow Board</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>❖ confirm staff appointments</li> <li>❖ agree internal Management arrangements</li> <li>❖ RTS progress report <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– agree appointment of consultancy support</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
April	<p>1st meeting of RTP Board</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>❖ appoint RTP Chair and office bearers</li> <li>❖ agree 2006/2007 work programme/delivery plan</li> <li>❖ RTS progress report <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– publish Issues and Objectives Report</li> <li>– submit SEA Scoping report to SEA Gateway</li> </ul> </li> </ul>

**Regional Transport Strategies**  
**Possible Fast-track Timetable for Submission of RTSs in 12 Months**  
**(by April 2007)**

Month	Cum. Month	Stages in Preparation of RTS	Compliance with:	
			STAG	SEA
January 2006	-3	Announcement of Preparation of RTS by shadow RTP Board		Screening report to SEA Gateway
April	0	Issues and Objectives Report approved by RTP Board	Objectives, and Analysis of present and future problems	Scoping report to SEA Gateway
April/ May	1	Consultation with key Stakeholders (4 weeks)		Consultation with CAs (5 weeks)
June	2	Options Report approved by RTP Board	Options consideration	
June/ July	3	Consultation with key Stakeholders (4 weeks)		
October	6	Draft RTS approved by RTP Board	Part 1 AST	Environmental Report to SEA Gateway
Oct/Nov/Dec	8	Public Consultation (8 weeks)		Consultation with CAs (c8 weeks)
February 2007	10	Final RTS approved by RTP Board		
April	12	Submission to Scottish Executive of RTS and supporting documents (Consultation Report, Part 1 Scottish Transport Appraisal Guidance (STAG) AST, Environmental Report, and Implementation Programme)		
July	+3	Approval (or return) by Scottish Ministers		

### Comments

#### Fast-track timetable assumes:

- Shadow RTP Boards empowered to initiate RTSs
- RTS Guidance by October 2005 and National Transport Strategy and Local Transport Strategies by early 2006.
- SEA Gateway CAs meet their target response dates
- and, no slippage in programme, technical or political

#### Other Options

Given new requirements for SEAs under Environmental Assessment Bill there appears no practical way of producing a "quick" RTS, as SEA requires draft plan and consultation.

If full RTS submitted by April 2007 is not deemed realistic other 12 month options might be:

- RTS Issues and Options Report.
- Draft RTS (to be reviewed and finalised after May 2007 elections).
- Regional Transport Report - a strategic overview of trends, prospects, existing policies (incl. National and Local Transport Strategies) and key issues and options.