

**REPORT TO:** PLANNING AND TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE – 26 JUNE 2000

**REPORT ON:** PUBLIC TRANSPORT CHALLENGE FUND BID 2000 – NORTH WEST ARTERIAL ROUTE

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

**REPORT NO:** 414/2000

## **1 PURPOSE OF REPORT**

- 1.1 To advise Committee of the content of the next public transport challenge fund bid relative to the North West arterial route.

## **2 RECOMMENDATIONS**

- 2.1 The Committee is asked to approve a Public Transport Challenge Fund Bid for submission to the Scottish Office in July 2000. The outline proposals are as follows (detailed proposals would be the subject of further reports should the bid be successful):
- i Re-alignment of Loons Road and Ancrum Road including traffic signal renewal at their junctions with Logie Street to enable all turning manoeuvres and priorities for buses particularly serving Ninewells Hospital and the Technology Park;
  - ii Similar improvements on Lochee Road between Rankine Street and Polepark Road to introduce priorities for buses;
  - iii Other complementary works on Lochee Road and at Tullideph Road to benefit public transport infrastructure and minor works such as revised road markings and signage to improve lane discipline to improve the passage of buses;
  - iv To equip the buses in the operators fleet on routes in this area with the technology to interact with the bus priority facility within the Urban Traffic Control system;
  - v To expand the real time information;
  - vi To improve conditions for pedestrians and cyclists in all parts of the design and implementation;
  - vii To start the process of developing a Quality Partnership Scheme as proposed in the recent Transport (Scotland) Bill.

## **3 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

- 3.1 A bid not expected to exceed £1,750,000 is to be submitted. It should be recognised that this bid is for engineering works and the Scottish Executive expect Councils to

bear the design costs and any complementary measures through existing revenue and capital budgets.

#### **4 LOCAL AGENDA 21 IMPLICATIONS**

- 4.1 The aims of Local Agenda 21 will be taken into consideration throughout the scheme. The scheme is to be designed and consultations will continue to be undertaken to ensure that the sustainable transport modes of public transport, walking and cycling are to the forefront.

#### **5 EQUAL OPPORTUNITIES IMPLICATIONS**

- 5.1 The City Council continues to acknowledge the dominance of the private car within its transport network. The promotion of public transport, walking and cycling routes by measures included in this report aims to move towards redressing the balance for the large numbers of our population who do not have access to the private car or who choose to undertake travel by other means.

#### **6 BACKGROUND**

- 6.1 This is the third year of the Public Transport Challenge Fund Bids. Committee will recall the success in the first two years for the Bus Real Time Information project and North East Arterial bus priority proposals, amounting to an inward investment in excess of £2 million.
- 6.2 There are several constraints on the North West Arterial Route for large vehicle movements therefore buses, in particular the new low floor fleet, cannot access main routes and cross town routes are inoperable. Direct routes therefore to Ninewells Hospital in particular could not be achieved, without major structural and road building schemes.
- 6.3 The bus operators have indicated that improvements to the locations identified here would be beneficial but would not necessarily expect high frequency services to be introduced. In these circumstances reduced scale improvements are to be bid for which will fulfil the bus priority purpose and be more environmentally acceptable.
- 6.4 The Urban Traffic Control system was upgraded toward public transport priority response from the first successful bid. This can be expanded for public transport services on this route.
- 6.5 The detailed proposals will be reported to Committee for approvals as required depending on the outcome of the bid. The Scottish Executive are expected to notify successful authorities in October 2000.
- 6.6 In addition, the opportunity will be taken if this scheme develops to promote a Quality Partnership Scheme as proposed in the recent Transport (Scotland) Bill.

#### **7 CONSULTATIONS**

- 7.1 Full consultation has taken place with local bus operators and other interested parties.

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7 June 2000

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