



Newsletter Summer 2011 Edition

Dear Stakeholder,

Welcome to the first edition of a regular e-Newsletter through which we plan to keep you updated on Partnership activity, including progress in implementing our Regional Transport Strategy.

This edition highlights:

- the launch of our new website;
- Partnership Board developments;
- launch of Travel Know How, a web-based toolkit to support public and private sector employers develop and implement Travel Plans;
- progress on our key RTS projects, including Travel Information; Travel Planning; Park & Ride/Choose; Tay Estuary Rail Study (TERS); and Freight Action Plan.

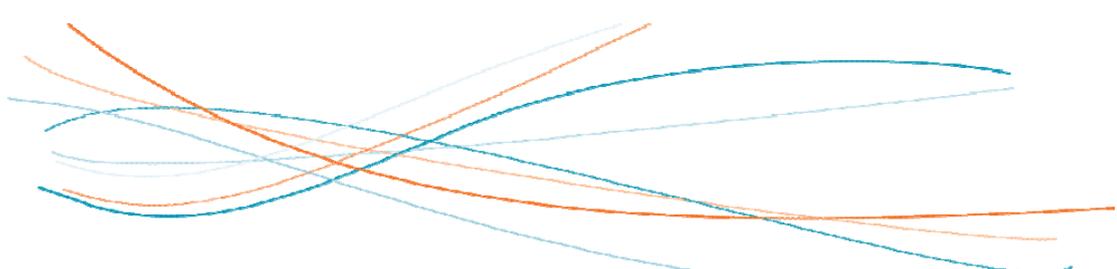
We'd welcome any feedback on the information provided in this newsletter or on the activities and work of the Partnership. Please send comments to info@tactran.gov.uk.

[Eric Guthrie](#)
[Partnership Director](#)

Website



Our website www.tactran.gov.uk has recently undergone a comprehensive refresh and update. We hope you find the new website easier to navigate and use.



Partnership News

At its Spring meeting on [29 March 2011](#) the Partnership Board welcomed Ken Armstrong, Operations Director for NHS Tayside as our new non-Councillor health sector member. Ken replaces former NHS Tayside Chief Executive, Professor Tony Wells, who retired at the end of March.



At its recent meeting on [21 June 2011](#) the Partnership agreed to extend Gavin Roser's term of appointment as a non-Councillor member for a further 2 years until September 2013. Gavin has been a Board member since April 2007 and his knowledge and experience of freight and logistics is particularly valuable.

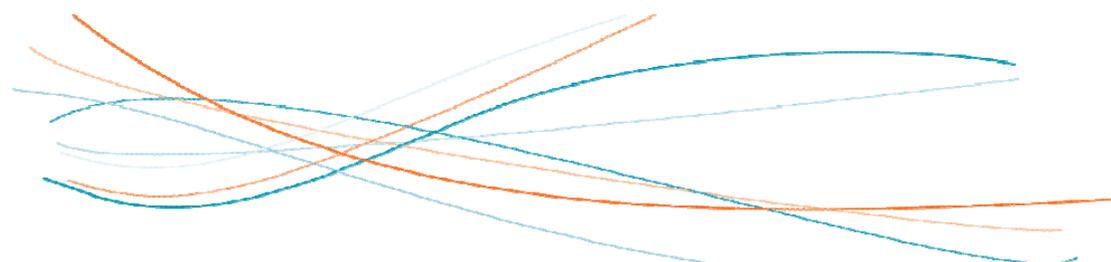
From 1 June 2011 Scott Walker, Acting Chief Accountant with Perth & Kinross Council replaced John Symon as Partnership Treasurer.

Publications

Our [2009/10 Annual Report](#) was published earlier this year. The Annual Report for the period to 31 March 2011 will be published after finalisation of the 2010/11 Annual Accounts.

The Public Services Reform Act 2010 requires that we publish certain information relating to our finances and operational activities, including separate [Statements on Efficiency, Economy and Effectiveness and on Supporting Sustainable Economic Growth](#).

A [Regional Bus Information Strategy](#), developed with partner Councils and operator and passenger interest groups through the Regional Buses Forum, was approved on [21 June 2011](#). For more information contact [Michael Cairns](#), Strategy Manager.



Projects Update

Our Regional Transport Strategy delivery proposals are set out in the [RTS Delivery Plan](#).

A [2011/12 Revenue Programme](#) of £253,000 and [Capital Programme](#) totalling £3.907 million were approved on 21 June 2011. Our Capital Programme includes a £2 million major road access improvement into Port of Dundee; further design work on the proposed A9/A94 link around Perth; infrastructure to encourage more sustainable travel choices; Quality Bus Corridor improvements; and upgrading of public transport and travel information systems. More information on progress with our Revenue and Capital Programmes can be found on the [Projects](#) page of the website or by contacting [Niall Gardiner](#), Projects Manager.

Progress with current RTS priority projects is summarised below.

Travel Information



Our multimodal transport information website provides comprehensive travel choices and journey planning information for all modes – walk; cycling; bus; train; air; taxi and car. Links are provided to other relevant websites and travel information shared via [Facebook](#) and [Twitter](#).

Recent enhancements include an [interactive bus map](#) and [PC desktop app](#) which lets users access scheduled bus information for all bus stops in the Tactran region and Real Time information available in Dundee and Angus.

Travel Planning

Our Travel Plan Officer, [Merry Scott](#), supports public bodies, businesses and community groups to develop workplace or organisational Active Travel Plans.



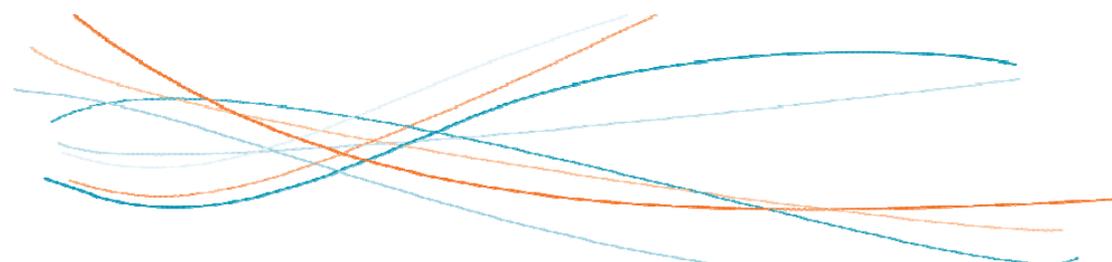
We've recently launched the  website, developed in partnership with TPI Ltd and Shona Drummond Marketing. It offers free, comprehensive travel planning implementation support to businesses in the region.

Membership of the Tactran Liftshare site has recently passed the 3000 mark and continues to show good trend growth. Follow further developments on our [Facebook](#) page and via [Tactranconnect Twitter](#).



tactranliftshare.com
part of the national liftshare network

Our [Sustainable Travel Grant Scheme](#), can provide match funding to support public and not-for-profit organisations to implement sustainable travel measures in support of Travel Plans.



Health & Transport Action Plan

Working with NHS Tayside, NHS Forth Valley and Scottish Ambulance Service, we've developed a [Draft Health & Transport Action Plan](#). This sets out a proposed strategy for improving access to health; promoting Active Travel and more sustainable approaches to NHS staff travel; and addressing the impacts of transport on health. The Draft Plan is the subject of consultation with stakeholders and with NHS Boards during August.

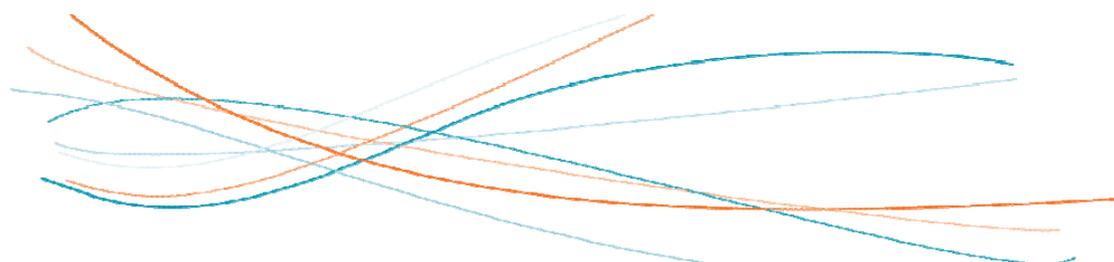
Park & Ride Strategy

Detailed [proposals](#) for a Park & Ride/Choose interchange on the A92, south of the Tay Bridge have been developed in partnership with SEStran, Transport Scotland, Dundee City Council and Fife Council. Progress on implementation awaits the outcome of the St Andrews and East Fife Local Plan examination, which is ongoing.

Plans for a scheme serving the A90/western approach to Dundee are also at an advanced stage. Two possible site options in the vicinity of the Swallow Roundabout and on Riverside Drive are being explored.



Work is ongoing on development of a 3rd site serving Perth, situated just off the A90 at Walnut Grove and plans have also been developed for the southern outskirts of Stirling, with two possible site options identified on A872.



Tay Estuary Rail Study (TERS)

Proposals for short, medium and longer term enhancements to local rail services, complementing planned national improvements between Aberdeen/Inverness and the Central Belt, were submitted to Transport Scotland in June 2009. Since then we've been working with Transport Scotland, ScotRail and Network Rail to explore the potential for delivering incremental local improvements, through additional, local stopping services at Monifieth, Broughty Ferry, Dundee, Invergowrie, Perth and Gleneagles, coupled with significant upgrading of Gleneagles Station and relocation of Invergowrie Station.

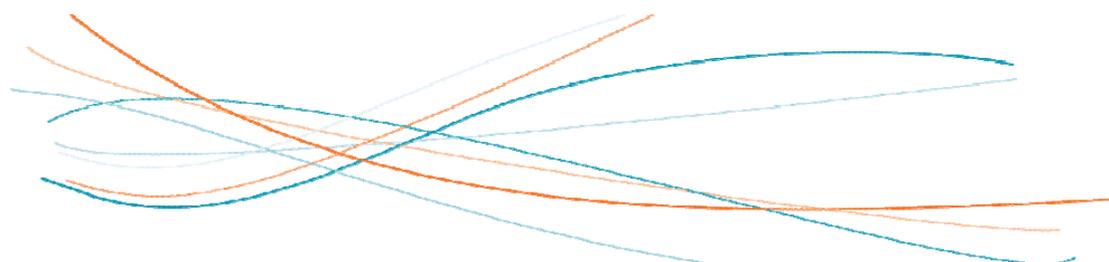


Recently announced improvements to [Highland Main Line](#) services between Inverness and Glasgow/Edinburgh and for additional trains between Glasgow and Perth/Dundee from December 2011 were informed by our TERS work. We're continuing discussions with Transport Scotland and ScotRail on the scope for including more local service enhancements in December 2011 and 2012.

Freight



The Regional Freight Quality Partnership has developed a [Freight Action Plan](#) which sets out priority actions for addressing freight elements of the RTS. The current Action Plan includes work on lorry parking and routeing; developing proposals for a freight consolidation centre in Perth; supporting the work of the Stirling & Tayside Timber Transport Group and continued work on improving Port access.



Community Planning and Single Outcome Agreements

Tactran has a statutory duty to engage in Community Planning and we are a formal signatory to the Community Planning Partnership Single Outcome Agreements (SOAs) for Angus, Dundee City, Perth & Kinross and Stirling.

On [21 June 2011](#) the Partnership agreed to endorse the new combined Angus Community Plan and Single Outcome Agreement.

Consultations

[TAYplan Strategic Development Plan](#)

Tactran is a “Key Agency” in the Development Planning process. Planning authorities must consult with us on their emerging and proposed Development Plans and the Partnership has a duty to engage fully in the Strategic Development Plan and also Local Development Plan processes. On [21 June 2011](#) the Partnership considered and commented on the TAYplan Proposed Plan and Action Programme.

Over recent months the Partnership has responded individually and with other RTPs to various consultations, including :-

[Christie Commission](#)

[High Speed Rail : Investing in Britain’s Future](#)

Our Autumn Newsletter will be published after the Partnership’s next meeting on 20 September 2011.

