

## **EAST AYRSHIRE COUNCIL**

**CABINET – 19 MAY 2010**

### **STRATHCLYDE PARTNERSHIP FOR TRANSPORT'S TRANSPORT OUTCOMES REPORT FOR EAST AYRSHIRE COUNCIL 2010-11**

#### **Report by Depute Chief Executive/Executive Director of Neighbourhood Services**

#### **1. PURPOSE OF REPORT**

- 1.1** The purpose of the report is to seek Cabinet approval for the East Ayrshire strategic transport priorities, as set out in the Strathclyde Partnership for Transport's East Ayrshire Transport Outcomes Report 2010-11.

#### **2. BACKGROUND**

- 2.1** Strathclyde Partnership for Transport (SPT) aims to improve the strategic transport connections across the Strathclyde area, develop the transport network and encourage more sustainable travel choices.
- 2.2** As a member of the East Ayrshire Community Planning Partnership, SPT is committed to working with the other members of the Partnership towards the delivery of the East Ayrshire Single Outcome Agreement (SOA). In 2009, SPT produced a Transport Outcomes Report (TOR), as a commitment to the SOA, which provides a high level summary of SPT's transport plans for East Ayrshire over the coming years. The Transport Outcome Report is reviewed by SPT on an annual basis in consultation with East Ayrshire Council's Roads and Transportation Service and Community Planning and Partnership Unit.
- 2.3** The 2010-11 Transport Outcome Report sets out the progress that has been made against the agreed transport priorities for 2009-10 and identifies the transport priorities SPT will take forward in 2010-11 in partnership with East Ayrshire Council and other stakeholders. A copy of the Transport Outcome Report for 2010-11 is available on the Members' Portal. The TOR also identifies how the transport priorities for East Ayrshire link to the Regional Transport Strategy and support National Outcomes.

#### **3. TRANSPORT PRIORITIES FOR EAST AYRSHIRE 2010-11**

The Transport Outcome Report sets the following transport priorities for East Ayrshire in 2010-11:-

- 3.1** Development of Park and Ride facilities at Kilmarnock, Kilmaurs, Dunlop and Stewarton - Work on the construction of the Stewarton Park and Ride car park at Stewarton Station is programmed for completion in 2010-11. A study into the rail based park and ride requirements at Dunlop, Kilmaurs and Kilmarnock will be completed in 2010. A feasibility study to consider the opportunities for a strategic bus based park and ride facility in Kilmarnock, adjacent to the A77/M77 corridor, will be carried out in 2010-11.

- 3.2** Enhancing the strategic road network - SPT has allocated capital funding for strategic road improvements between Ayrshire and the M74 corridor. SPT also supports the A76 Partnership, set up by East Ayrshire Council and Dumfries and Galloway Council, to highlight the improvements that are needed to the A76 trunk road to Transport Scotland.
- 3.3** Develop proposals for a rail station at Mauchline - SPT will review earlier work in relation a re-opening a Mauchline Station and will partner EAC in further discussions with Transport Scotland and Network Rail to consider the potential for a new rail station at Mauchline.
- 3.4** Improve transport connections for regeneration areas - SPT will continue to provide support for the Coalfields Community Transport Initiative which is has been operating in the south of East Ayrshire for some years and is now being rolled out in the north of the Council area. The Coalfield Community Transport initiative particularly contributes to the regeneration of Cumnock, Auchinleck, Mauchline and New Cumnock. SPT and EAC will continue to press for further improvements in the frequency of the rail service south of Kilmarnock reflecting the potential for increasing demand and encourage regeneration along this important corridor.
- 3.5** Assist East Ayrshire Council to develop and implement proposals for decriminalised parking enforcement (DPE) - SPT will support the Council with further assessment of the project and delivery in 2011-12, subject to a satisfactory business case and the approval of East Ayrshire Council and The Scottish Government. A report on the feasibility of Decriminalised Parking in East Ayrshire is currently being prepared.
- 3.6** Improvements to transport in rural areas - SPT will continue to provide funding to support Demand Responsive Transport (DRT) for those living in rural parts of East Ayrshire, including the Dial-a-bus service M1 [which operates throughout East Ayrshire] and M14 [which operates in Kilmarnock]; and the Ring'n' Ride service 500 [which operates in the Irvine Valley]. SPT will also provide extended funding for the Coalfields Community Transport "Cumnock Connector" DRT service [a free service for Dayhopper Members which operates in the former Coalfield towns].
- 3.7** Promote Sustainable/Active Travel in East Ayrshire - SPT will assist in the development of travel awareness plans and in the preparation of cycling and walking promotional materials to compliment the completion of School Travel Plans by EAC in 2010. SPT has also allocated capital funding for the introduction of an electronic Real Time Passenger Information system on the Stewarton to Darvel bus route, the Ardrossan to Kilmarnock bus route in East Ayrshire, and elsewhere in Ayrshire during 2010-11.
- 3.8** Improve access to health care facilities in East Ayrshire and across the west of Scotland - Ongoing, area wide roll out of SPT's Access to Healthcare Action Plan, including measures such as footway resurfacing, review of lighting provision, improved crossings for pedestrians, wayfinding signs, and the promotion of travel plans and active travel.

#### **4. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

- 4.1** SPT has allocated the following financial support to East Ayrshire in 2010-11: -

- Support for Coalfield Community Transport (£30k revenue support and a bus worth £75k in 2009-10. The settlement in 2010-11 will be subject to CCT application and the availability of SPT funds);
- upgrading substandard sections of the A70 (£515K);
- constructing the Stewarton Park and Ride Car Park (£500K);
- carrying out feasibility studies for enhanced rail based park and ride in Dunlop, Kilmaurs and Kilmarnock (£5K);
- carrying out a feasibility study for a strategic bus-based Park and Ride facility in Kilmarnock (£25K); and
- Real Time Passenger Information in East Ayrshire and elsewhere in Ayrshire (£1.1m)

## **5. LEGAL IMPLICATIONS**

None.

## **6. PERSONNEL IMPLICATIONS**

None.

## **7. POLICY IMPLICATIONS**

**7.1** The priorities set out in the Transport Outcomes Report accord with approved National, Regional and Local transport policies and will support National Outcomes.

**7.2** The transport priorities identified in the TOR for demand responsive bus services; bus and rail based park and ride; real time passenger information for bus users; and other transport initiatives being pursued by the Council in partnership with SPT to improve accessibility, will help to address the variability of internal transport links between the remoter communities in East Ayrshire identified in the Best Value 2 Pathfinder Audit.

## **8. COMMUNITY PLANNING IMPLICATIONS**

The priorities in the Transport Outcomes Report support the aims of the Delivering Community Regeneration, Improving Community Safety and Improving Health and Wellbeing themes of the East Ayrshire Community Plan.

## **9. RISK MANAGEMENT IMPLICATIONS**

None.

## **10. EQUALITIES IMPACT**

Nil

## **11. RECOMMENDATION**

**11.1** It is recommended that Cabinet

- (i) approves Strathclyde Partnership for Transport's transport priorities for East Ayrshire as set out in the Transport Outcomes Report for 2010-11.

- (ii) notes that Cabinet will receive a report on the feasibility and development of Decriminalised Parking in East Ayrshire at a future Cabinet meeting.

**Elizabeth Morton**

**Depute Chief Executive/Executive Director of Neighbourhood Services**

**JB/KO**

**13 May 2010**

### **LIST OF BACKGROUND PAPERS**

East Ayrshire Transport Outcomes Report 2009/10 (SPT)

**For further information please contact Keith Orton on 01563 555714**

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