

## **EAST AYRSHIRE COUNCIL**

### **DEVELOPMENT SERVICES COMMITTEE – 9 JANUARY 2007**

#### **THE STRATHCLYDE PARTNERSHIP FOR TRANSPORT'S REGIONAL TRANSPORT STRATEGY FOR THE WEST OF SCOTLAND 2007-2021**

##### **Report by Acting Executive Director of Development and Property Services**

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

The purpose of the report is to:-

- (i) Advise the Committee that the Strathclyde Partnership for Transport's Regional Transport Strategy for the West of Scotland 2007-2021 is now out for consultation
- (ii) Invite Members to submit comments on the consultative draft to the Acting Executive Director of Development & Property Services, or to the Acting Head of Roads & Transportation by Monday 5 February 2007, and
- (iii) Request the Committee to delegate to the Acting EDDPS, after consultation with the Chair, to forward East Ayrshire Council's response on the consultation document to SPT by the closing date of 12 February 2007.

### **2. BACKGROUND**

- 2.1** The Regional Transport Strategy (RTS) will be the basis for future strategic transportation decisions concerning the West of Scotland. It will also be the framework for the constituent members' own Local Transport Strategies.
- 2.2** At its meeting on 4 May 2004, the Committee was advised that the former WESTRANS Draft RTS was out for consultation and inviting comments for a response by East Ayrshire.
- 2.3** However in 2005 the development work on the WESTRANS RTS was overtaken by the establishment of the Strathclyde Partnership for Transport which brought together the 12 Council partners in WESTRANS and the former SPT into a Regional Transport Partnership for the West of Scotland.

The draft WESTRANS Regional Transport Strategy then became the basis for the consultative draft SPT Strategy.

### **3. THE SPT REGIONAL TRANSPORT STRATEGY FOR THE WEST OF SCOTLAND 2007-2021**

- 3.1** The consultative draft transport strategy “A Catalyst for Change” is the culmination of a wide consultation and drafting exercise carried out throughout 2006. Seminars, workshops and meetings have been held to include every possible stakeholder, public and private, in the proposed strategy. East Ayrshire, through its Elected Member representatives and Senior Officers have been fully engaged in this process.

#### **4. THE CONSULTATION**

- 4.1** Copies of the consultative draft will be emailed to Members. It can also be found on SPT’s website [www.spt.co.uk/rts](http://www.spt.co.uk/rts).

Copies will also be placed in the Member’s Lounge, and further copies can be obtained from the Acting Head of Roads & Transportation, if required.

- 4.2** The final RTS must be submitted to the Scottish Minister on 31 March 2007. This leaves a very tight timescale for the return of any final comments on the draft and their inclusion in the final document.

- 4.3** SPT has asked for responses from Councils by 12 February. Members are therefore requested to submit any comments they may have to the Chair or the Acting Executive Director of Development & Property Services by 5 February 2007 to allow a response to be drafted and submitted by the deadline.

#### **5. POLICY IMPLICATIONS**

- 5.1** A Transport strategy for the West of Scotland area is part of the Government’s Strategy for delivering integrated transport in Scotland.

#### **6. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

- 6.1** The SPT Regional Transport Strategy and the Council’s own Local Transport Strategy will inform Government decisions on the funding of future transport schemes in East Ayrshire.

#### **7. LEGAL IMPLICATIONS**

- 7.1** None.

#### **8. RECOMMENDATIONS**

- 8.1** The Committee is requested to note that the Strathclyde Partnership for Transport’s Regional Transport Strategy for the West of Scotland 2007-2021 is now out for consultation.

- 8.2** Members are invited to submit comments on the draft RTS to the Acting Executive Director of Development & Property Services, or to the Acting Head of Roads & Transportation by Monday 5 February 2007.

**8.3** The Committee is also requested to delegate to the Acting EDDPS, after consultation with the Chair, to forward East Ayrshire Council's response on the Consultation Document to the SPT by the due date.

**Jim Kane**  
**Acting Executive Director of Development and Property Services**

**20 December 2006**  
SG/YK

### **BACKGROUND PAPERS**

**NIL**

For further information on this report, please contact Sandy Gillatt, Acting Head of Roads & Transportation (01563 576310)

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