

ANGUS COUNCIL

**PLANNING AND TRANSPORT POLICY COMMITTEE
ROADS COMMITTEE**

**9 MARCH 2000
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**SUBJECT: INTEGRATED TRANSPORT BILL
THE EXECUTIVE'S PROPOSALS**

**REPORT BY DIRECTOR OF PLANNING AND TRANSPORT IN CONSULTATION WITH
DIRECTOR OF ROADS**

<p>Abstract: This report comments on the Scottish Executive's proposals for the Integrated Transport Bill.</p>

1 RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended that the Committees:-

1. note the publication of the Statement setting out the Scottish Executive's proposals for the Integrated Transport Bill to be introduced in Parliament later this spring;
2. agree that Appendix 1 to this report forms the basis of this Council's comments at this stage to be forwarded to the Scottish Executive.

2 INTRODUCTION

- 2.1 The Scottish Executive have recently published a document setting out legislative proposals, following the extensive series of consultations which have been ongoing on various aspects of Transport Policy since May 1997. It is intended to introduce the Integrated Transport Bill to the Scottish Parliament later this spring. In the meantime any further comments on the proposals have been requested by 24 March 2000.
- 2.2 A copy of the document setting out the Executive's proposals has been placed in the Members' Lounge.

3 SCOTTISH EXECUTIVE'S PROPOSALS

- 3.1 The Scottish Executive's document contains proposals for the Regional Dimension; growing the bus market; promoting an inclusive and accessible society, and tackling congestion. The document sets out various aspects of the Executive's Strategy for transport and indicates legislative proposals for:-
 - Regional Partnerships;
 - Bus Services;
 - Concessionary Fares;
 - Road Charging;
 - Other Proposals.

3.2 Following publication in 1998 of the White Paper Travel Choices for Scotland (Report 878/98, 27 August 1998 refers), various consultation exercises have been undertaken on a series of daughter documents which have helped to inform the current legislative proposals. Key documents and consultation exercises include:-

- Regional Transport Partnerships and the National Transport Forum for Scotland (Report 276/99, 11 March 1999 refers);
- From Workhorse to Thoroughbred – A Better Role for Bus Travel (Report 600/99, 8 June 1999 refers);
- Tackling Congestion – Consultation Paper (Report 820/99, 26 August 1999 refers).

3.3 Appendix 1 to this report summarises the Scottish Executive's current main legislative proposals and compares these with previous comments submitted by Angus Council in response to the various earlier documents. In the main the Council's previous comments have been generally taken on board in the broad shape of the current legislative proposals. Significant elements of the current proposals, include:-

- Regional Transport Partnerships based on co-operation rather than creating new statutory regional transport bodies;
- encouragement to greater and wider bus use, including Quality Partnership schemes, enhancement of service frequencies, better passenger information and time tabling, joint ticketing arrangements and enhanced enforcement provisions;
- minimum national level of travel concession for pensioners and those with a disability;
- discretionary enabling powers related to road user charging and levies on work place parking, but no legislation to raise tolls on the existing motorway and trunk road network;
- various amendments covering school crossing patrols, motorcycles and pedalcycle parking, and Orange Badge scheme enforcement.

4 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

4.1 There are no financial implications arising from this report.

5 CONSULTATION

5.1 The Chief Executive, Director of Finance, Director of Law & Administration, and Director of Education have been consulted in the preparation of this report.

6 CONCLUSION

- 6.1 The current Proposals document is a further significant step toward the early introduction of the Integrated Transport Bill. Many of Angus Council's previous comments in response to earlier consultation documents appear to be taken into account at least in part in the broad form of the current legislative proposals.

NOTE

No background papers, as defined by Section 50D of the Local Government (Scotland) Act 1973, (other than any containing confidential or exempt information) were relied on to any material extent in preparing the above Report.

AA/CGR/KW
25 February 2000

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