

REPORT TO: PLANNING & TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE - 13 MARCH 2006

REPORT ON: CONSULTATION ON PROPOSALS FOR A PUBLIC TRANSPORT
USERS' COMMITTEE FOR SCOTLAND

REPORT BY: DIRECTOR OF PLANNING & TRANSPORTATION

REPORT NO: 156-2006

1 PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 1.1 This report highlights the Scottish Executive consultation document "Proposals for a Public Transport Users' Committee for Scotland" and Dundee City Council's response.

2 RECOMMENDATION

- 2.1 It is recommended that the Committee approves the Dundee City Council response as given in Appendix A. Copies of the consultation document are available in the Members Lounge.

3 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

- 3.1 There are no financial implications for the Council arising directly from this report.

4 LOCAL AGENDA 21 IMPLICATIONS

- 4.1 The availability of quality public transport network is essential to minimise the environmental impact of people's travel requirements.

5 EQUAL OPPORTUNITIES IMPLICATIONS

- 5.1 The Public Transport Users' Committee should ensure that all citizens have representation in disputes between users and providers in the public transport sector.

6 BACKGROUND

- 6.1 This consultation has arisen from the Transport (Scotland) Act 2005 which received Royal Assent on 5 August 2005. It places a duty on Scottish Ministers to establish a Public Transport Users' Committee for Scotland.
- 6.2 The establishment of a Public Transport Users' Committee aims to deliver a focussed conduit between Public Transport Users and the Scottish Ministers.
- 6.3 Currently there are a wide range of modal based representative groups such as the Bus Users Complaints Tribunal. There is no consistency with regard to their legal status or how arbitration is escalated. Thus the need for a focussed and consistent structure to represent public transport users.

7 CONSULTATIONS

- 7.1 The Chief Executive, Depute Chief Executive (Support Services), Depute Chief Executive (Finance) and Assistant Chief Executive (Community Planning) have been consulted and are in agreement with the contents of this report.

8 BACKGROUND PAPERS

8.1 None.

Mike Galloway
Director of Planning & Transportation

Iain Sherriff
Head of Transportation

IFS/NHG/EB

10 February 2006

Dundee City Council
Tayside House
Dundee

APPENDIX A**CONSULTATION ON: PROPOSALS FOR A PUBLIC TRANSPORT USERS' COMMITTEE FOR SCOTLAND (PTUC)****Response by Dundee City Council****Question 1: Which option do you believe would best deliver an effective PTUC?**

Dundee City Council agree with the Scottish Executive that the preferred option is Option 1 creating one integrated high level committee incorporating mode-specific sub committees. This will lead to consistency and integration of policy viewpoint.

Question 2: Do you have any alternative suggestions of how the PTUC could be structured?

Whilst it is recognised that Rail Passenger Council (RPC) and Air Transport User Council (ATUC) could not be incorporated into PTUC, could they not be represented on the sub-committee structure?

Question 3: What do you believe should be included in the remit of the PTUC?

PTUC's remit should be similar to that of London Transport Users' Committee (LTUC) in that it should press for better public transport services, higher standards of quality, performance, integration and accessibility; and conduct research, produce publications, liaise with service operators and transport regulators.

PTUC should not represent cycling and walking interests or car user interests as these are private transport modes.

PTUC should input into development of national strategy and national public transport accessibility. However, PTUC should not have direct input into Regional strategy development as this will reflect national strategies but will also require knowledge of specific local circumstances.

PTUC should advise Scottish Ministers on integration, safety, environment, sustainable transport, social inclusion, accessibility and economic growth only in terms of how public transport can provide improvements.

It is agreed that PTUC should not deal with individual complaints or local operations and licensing.

Question 4: In what way do you envisage the PTUC interacting with users or your organisation?

PTUC should interact upwards with Scottish Ministers and downwards through the various sub committees

As with answer to Question 3 there should be no direct relationship with Regional Transport Partnerships. Transport Scotland/ Scottish Executive should cascade issues referred to the Transport Minister to the RTP network.

Question 5: Should PTUC membership seek to include passenger representatives covering rail, bus, ferry and air or should the focus be on an individual's ability to contribute at a strategic level?

Passenger representatives covering rail, bus, ferry and air should contribute to PTUC through the appropriate sub committees. Consideration should be given to taxi representation/sub committee as this is a safe and personalised form of public transport.

Question 6: What essential skills and knowledge should a member of the PTUC have?

A member of PTUC should have a breadth and knowledge of experience in public transport provision and in depth understanding of passenger needs. PTUC member should have the support and confidence of those that they are representing.

APPENDIX B

CONSULTATION ON: PROPOSALS FOR A PUBLIC TRANSPORT USERS' COMMITTEE FOR SCOTLAND

Please complete the details below and return it with your response. This will help ensure we handle your response appropriately. Thank you for your help.

Name: Iain Sherriff (Head of Transportation)

Postal Address: Dundee Qty Council, Planning & Transportation Department, Floor 16, Tayside House, Crichton Street, Dundee DD1 3RB

1 Are you responding: (please tick one box)

- (a) as an individual ☐ (go to Q2a/b and then Q4)
 (b) **on behalf of** a group or organisation ☒ (go to Q3 and then Q4)

INDIVIDUALS:

2a Do you agree to your response being made available to the public (in Scottish Executive library and/or on the Scottish Executive website)?

- Yes (go to 2b below) ☐
 No, not at all ☐ We will treat your response as confidential

2b **Where confidentiality is not requested**, we will make your response available to the public on the following basis (**please tick one** of the following boxes)

2b **Where confidentiality is not requested**, we will make your response available to the public on the following basis (**please tick one** of the following boxes)

- Yes, make my response, name and address all available ☐
 Yes, make my response available, but not my name and address ☐
 Yes, make my response and name available, but not my address ☐

ON BEHALF OF GROUPS OR ORGANISATIONS:

3 The name and address of your organisation **will be** made available to the public (in the Scottish Executive library and/or on the Scottish Executive website). Are you also content for your **response** to be made available?

- Yes ☒
 No ☐ We will treat your response as confidential.

SHARING RESPONSES/FUTURE ENGAGEMENT

4 We will share your response internally with other Scottish Executive policy teams who may be addressing the issues you discuss. They may wish to contact you again in the future, but we require your permission to do so. Are you content for the Scottish Executive to contact you again in the future in relation to this consultation response?

- Yes ☒
 No ☐