

**REPORT TO: PLANNING AND TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE - 13 FEBRUARY 2006**

**REPORT ON: STAFF TRAVEL PLANNING IN DUNDEE**

**REPORT BY: DIRECTOR OF PLANNING AND TRANSPORTATION**

**REPORT NO: 75-2006**

**1 PURPOSE OF REPORT**

- 1.1 To update the Committee on the staff travel plans in the City of Dundee.

**2 RECOMMENDATION**

- 2.1 It is recommended that the Committee
- a Note actions of major employer travel plan partners during the past 24 months.
  - b Remit the Director of Planning & Transportation to progress with Dundee City Council's travel plan during 2006.

**3 FINANCIAL IMPLICATION**

- 3.1 There are no financial implications arising from this report. As the city council's travel plan progresses, the Committee will be advised of any actions requiring financial approval, in further reports.

**4 LOCAL AGENDA 21 IMPLICATIONS**

- 4.1 Through efficient use of sustainable travel, staff throughout the city can minimise the environmental impact of their travel to, from and during work.

**5 EQUAL OPPORTUNITIES IMPLICATIONS**

- 5.1 All city council staff should have equal access to travel information and facilities, in order to have the opportunity to participate in more sustainable travel choices. The benefits of these being: health; financial and environmental.

**6 BACKGROUND**

- 6.1 Sustainable travel initiatives in the city have included the development and promotion of the websites: [www.dundeetravelinfo.com](http://www.dundeetravelinfo.com) and [www.dundeeliftshare.com](http://www.dundeeliftshare.com). These have provided the general public and major employers with access to public transport information and car sharing matches. [www.dundeeliftshare.com](http://www.dundeeliftshare.com) has made significant progress to date with over 500 people now members. If all members now car shared, it is estimated that six million road miles would be saved annually and hundreds of tonnes of CO<sub>2</sub> would not be pumped into the atmosphere. Additionally, travellers would save an average of more than £1,000 per year.
- 6.2 The Council's travel plan co-ordinator also works closely with a number of related groups including SHAW, The Outdoor Access Strategy Group and the Sustainability Policy Implementation Group.
- 6.3 Funding for the post of Travel Plan Co-ordinator was obtained from: The Big Lottery Fund (formerly NOFF); Scottish Enterprise Tayside; NHS Tayside and Dundee city Council. The member of staff is in post until December 2008.
- 6.4 The Local Transport Strategy (2000) required Dundee city council to undertake "green" travel plans with major employers in the city, including the council itself.

- 6.5 Staff travel plans involve the investigation of travel habits for work purposes. They require the promotion of sustainable transport as well as providing changes to infrastructure and policies regarding staff travel.
- 6.6 The University of Dundee were required to prepare a travel plan as part of their development of their city centre campus. Progress to date includes a travel habits survey and site assessment was conducted in April/May 2004 and report sent to University campus services in summer 2004. Implementation of the travel plan measures are underway including improved cycling facilities, promotional activities including "Green Travel Week" and becoming an employer member of [www.dundeeliftshare.com](http://www.dundeeliftshare.com) for car sharing purposes.
- 6.7 Ninewells Hospital is aware of the impact the traffic to their site has on the city of Dundee. They are supportive of improvements to the sustainable transport initiatives in the city and are adopting a site specific travel plan as a result. A site assessment was conducted in July 2005, with a staff travel survey following in November. Following the formation of a steering group, a number of sustainable measures have been implemented. These include new cycle lockers, car parking review and becoming a partner of the city's car sharing database. A Scottish Executive project "Stepchange" is being piloted with Ninewells staff early 2006.
- 6.8 Scottish Enterprise Tayside conducted a staff travel survey in summer 2004 and has included "green travel" as a component in the operation of their new premises. Cycle facilities, pool cars and pedestrian access are all being considered as part of their travel plan. Implementation is expected in mid 2006 which will involve the formation of a dedicated travel plan steering group.
- 6.9 Dundee City Council's staff travel survey was conducted in November 2005 and a report to Committee will follow in spring 2006. The report will provide recommendations for the implementation of the travel plan including the formation of a steering group, represented by staff members and senior management.

## **7 CONCLUSION**

- 7.1 Given the profile and the travel impacts of the major employers involved, it is likely that they will engage fully their travel plans. Subsequent major employers in the city will be targeted for future travel planning initiatives and would contribute significantly to Dundee's Local Transport Strategy.

## **8 CONSULTATIONS**

- 8.1 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.

## **9 BACKGROUND PAPERS**

None.

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17 January 2006