

EAST RENFREWSHIRE COUNCILCABINET5th December 2024Report by Director of EnvironmentSTRATEGIC TRANSPORT SERVICE GRANT AWARD  
FUNDED PROJECTS 2024/25**PURPOSE OF REPORT**

1. The purpose of this report is to inform Cabinet of the grant awards made to East Renfrewshire Council for active and sustainable travel and road safety projects in the 2024/25 financial year and to outline and seek approval for the projects being progressed in 2024/25.

**RECOMMENDATIONS**

2. The Cabinet is asked to:
- a) Note the grant awards detailed in the report and Appendix 1 for the 2024/25 financial year;
  - b) Approve the grant funded projects outlined in Appendix 1, where approval has not previously been given; and
  - c) Delegate to the Director of Environment to make adjustments to the programme depending upon the detailed costs of projects becoming available.

**BACKGROUND**

3. The council receives annual grant funding from various sources to support sustainable transport and road safety initiatives. Over recent years, the Scottish Government has significantly increased its commitment to active travel with £220 million directed nationally to active travel infrastructure improvements and behaviour change initiatives in 2024/25.

4. A new funding delivery model is being progressed by the Scottish Government for 2024/25. This includes a tiered delivery model for active travel infrastructure funding (depending on a local authority's capacity and capability to deliver projects), revised budget allocation dedicated to behaviour change programmes (to encourage walking, cycling, and sustainable transport use) and a new Road Safety Improvement Fund (designed to support local authorities in implementing road safety measures).

5. As well as aligning with National Transport Strategy 2 and Regional Transport Strategy priorities, proposed projects support key local plans:

- East Renfrewshire's adopted Active Travel Action Plan, 2015 (which outlines the council's strategic priorities and key actions for increasing active travel and supporting local projects that enable walking & cycling);
- Local Development Plan 2, 2022 (creating thriving, attractive and sustainable places and neighbourhoods);

- Get to Zero Action Plan, 2024; and
- A Place to Grow, 2024.

## REPORT

6. The grant awards made to East Renfrewshire in the 2024/25 financial year are set out below:

### **Active Travel Infrastructure Fund (ATIF) Tier 1 2024/25**

7. A capital fund from Transport Scotland (TS) for the design, development and delivery of active travel infrastructure, and supporting measures, adhering to and informed by the principles of the Active Travel Framework, Designing Streets and Cycling by Design. This fund replaces the Cycling Walking Safer Routes (CWSR) grant. The grant award was confirmed on 5th June 2024 to the value of £672,268, provided as part of the General Capital Block Grant (GCBG) allocation.

8. TS required a programme of works to be submitted to them by 28<sup>th</sup> June as a condition of the grant funding. This can be found in Appendix 1. Projects selected were either continuations of existing work or additional projects which already had Cabinet approval. This includes projects for installing new, and improvements to existing, Active Travel infrastructure, as well as neighbourhood level improvements with respect to pedestrians, vehicular traffic and parking.

### **Road Safety Improvement Fund (RSIF) 2024/25**

9. A capital fund from Transport Scotland provided for the delivery of a programme of measures which align to Scotland's Road Safety Framework to 2030 to support casualty and/or risk reduction. The grant was awarded on 2nd July to the value of £128,911, and projects must be delivered within the 2024/25 financial year. A programme of planned works is included in Appendix 1.

### **Sustrans Places for Everyone (Pfe) Stage 0-2**

10. A revenue fund from Sustrans Scotland for the development of Active Travel Infrastructure, including concept design and feasibility. Four grants were initially awarded in November 2022, with a fifth awarded in September 2023, to support development of active travel corridor projects. These comprise works to the A77, A727, B767, and Davieland Road to benefit people walking, wheeling, and cycling; two new foot/cycle bridges connecting Clarkston, Netherlee, and Giffnock; and an off-road path link in the Patterton area.

11. Following an approved 'mini-competition' procurement via the Scotland Excel framework (Lot 2 Transportation & Traffic Services) to obtain external consultancy support, work began in October 2023 and paused at the end of the 2023/24 financial year. Applications were made to Sustrans for carry-over of the funding to complete the programme (totaling £71,592), and these were confirmed in July 2024. Discussions with the consultant regarding resumption of work are underway, and the remaining funding must be spent by the end of the 2024/25 financial year.

### **Electric Vehicle Charging Infrastructure Fund (EVCIF) 2024/25**

12. A revenue grant from Transport Scotland to the value of £140,000 over four years (2022/23 to 2025/26) in order to resource the development of a public electric vehicle charging strategy and infrastructure expansion plan. The Cabinet approved pooling the use of the

remainder of this funding, on 30<sup>th</sup> May 2024, to make East Renfrewshire's contribution to the wider EVCIF project across the Glasgow City Region. This aims to double the public electric vehicle charging network over the next four years by drawing in private investment.

13. ERC have spent approximately £75,000 of this budget allocation so far on a combination of GCR collaboration work and internal resourcing.

### **Strathclyde Partnership for Transport (SPT) People & Place Funding 2024/25**

14. A revenue grant from Transport Scotland awarded and administered by the Regional Transport Partnerships (RTPs), that is intended to support sustainable and active travel behaviour change initiatives, and in particular Active Schools and Active Workplaces. A total of £70,000 of funding has been awarded for the delivery of two projects in the 2024/25 Financial Year: Love to Ride (£40k) and Primary to Secondary School Transition Training (£30k). Funding was confirmed 9<sup>th</sup> July 2024.

### **Transport Scotland People & Place Funding 2024/25**

15. A Direct Award Grant offer from Transport Scotland for £77,412. The grant is split £51,608 revenue, £25,804 capital. It is intended to support sustainable and active travel behaviour change initiatives, including resource funding for the maintenance of existing infrastructure. It must be spent within the 2024/25 Financial Year. Funding was confirmed 19<sup>th</sup> April 2024 and will be used to facilitate a staff resource to deliver active and sustainable infrastructure and behaviour change projects and works to facilitate the roll out of 20mph speed limits on suitable residential streets.

### **Proposed Programme of Projects using 2024/25 Funding**

16. Appendix 1 provides a list of those projects that STS intends to undertake or has commenced in the 2024/25 financial year, across a variety of budgets. These can be broadly categorised as follows:

- **Existing Projects** with Cabinet Approval;
- **Carry Over Projects** which are either underway or committed due to carry-over funding;
- **Continuation of existing work**, projects which are either underway or committed due to being part of annual work programs or monitoring; and
- **New Projects**, which have been prioritised, based on known local conditions; national, regional and local policy objectives and feedback from the local community.

### **ATIF Tiers 1 and 2**

17. The use of ATIF Tier 1 is set out in the Table below. There are options available to the Council to develop and prioritise a future pipeline of projects for ATIF Tier 2. Work is being undertaken with a view to projects being identified in time for 2025/26 Tier 2 applications. The proposed projects will be presented to Cabinet in 2025, before submission to Transport Scotland.

### **FINANCE AND EFFICIENCY**

18. Financial regulations require that any grant over £50k be reported to Cabinet. This report seeks to report on all awarded and their purpose over the last 8 months.

19. There are no financial implications arising directly from this report. The projects listed will be fully funded through their various grant awards as identified in Appendix 1 and supported by staff time (a portion of which can be claimed back via the grant award). Any other financial implications have / will be identified and discussed in their own respective reports where necessary.

## **CONSULTATION AND PARTNERSHIP WORKING**

20. Consultation has taken place with a wide range of key stakeholders within the community and across Council services where appropriate. This includes extensive Public Engagement on the PfE active travel corridors and the NTMZ work to be undertaken as part of ATIF Tier 1 Funding.

## **IMPLICATIONS OF THE PROPOSALS**

21. There are no staffing, property, legal, IT, Subsidy Control, equalities, sustainability and climate change implications associated with this report.

22. Equality, Fairness and Rights Impact Assessments (EFRIA) are undertaken for each project at the appropriate stage. For some of the listed projects, the assessment has been undertaken, as they are at or near final stages. For others, which are at concept stage, the assessment will be undertaken at the appropriate point in the future. Projects that are at concept stage will be brought forward again, for approval to move to the next stage. At that point they will also be assessed for implications relating to staffing, property, legal, IT, Subsidy Control, equalities, sustainability and climate change.

## **CONCLUSIONS**

23. The proposed project programme provides a framework to allocate available capital funding over 2024/25 to design and deliver active and sustainable transport projects. This supports local policy objectives in terms of increasing active travel, road safety and net-zero ambitions to support a thriving, attractive and sustainable place.

24. Appendix 1 provides a list of those projects that STS will undertake or progress in the 2024/25 financial year across a variety of budgets.

25. The funding for active and sustainable transport made available from Transport Scotland, either directly or indirectly (via Sustrans, SPT or others) went through significant changes during 2023 and 2024. As a result of this, there was an unusually high degree of uncertainty with regards to the funding that would be available in the run up to, and early months of, the current Financial Year. Final funding awards, in most cases, were not confirmed until June or July of 2024. It is intended that future funding streams are reported to Cabinet, prior to submissions being made to Transport Scotland to commit the funding.

## **RECOMMENDATIONS**

26. The Cabinet is asked to:

- a) Note the grant awards detailed in the report and Appendix 1 for the 2024/25 financial year;

- b) Approve the grant funded projects outlined in Appendix 1, where approval has not previously been given; and
- c) Delegate to the Director of Environment to make adjustments to the programme depending upon the detailed costs of projects becoming available.

Director of Environment

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November 2024

## Appendix 1 – STS Projects 2024/25

## Active Travel Infrastructure Fund (ATIF) Tier 1 - £672,268

Name	Key Deliverable(s)	Est. Value	Status	Spend by	Additional Information
Crookfur Road footway Widening	Improvement to active travel infrastructure	£51,000	Committed – carry over from last year	31 <sup>st</sup> March 2025	Continuation of existing project
Neighbourhood Traffic Management Zones (NTMZ)	Neighbourhood level improvements with respect to traffic, parking and moving around. This includes new traffic management measures and improvement of local active travel routes	£300,000	Committed – approved by Cabinet	31 <sup>st</sup> March 2025	Approved by Cabinet 24 <sup>th</sup> August 2023
Clarkston Rail Bridge – Detailed Design	Development of new active travel infrastructure	£190,000	Committed – approved by Cabinet	31 <sup>st</sup> March 2025	Approved by Cabinet 28 <sup>th</sup> March 2024
Automatic Traffic Count (ATC) Surveys	Monitoring and evaluation of surveys	£19,000	Ongoing	31 <sup>st</sup> March 2025	Annual rolling programme of traffic speed / volume surveys
Pedestrian & Cycle Surveys	Monitoring and evaluation of surveys	£15,000	Underway (May Surveys Complete)	31 <sup>st</sup> March 2025	Twice-annual national monitoring project
A77 Phase 3 – Detailed Design	Development of new active travel infrastructure	£30,000	Proposed	31 <sup>st</sup> March 2025	Continuation of existing project
Staff Costs (Revenue element)	Staff resource to deliver above active and sustainable infrastructure	£67,200	Ongoing	31 <sup>st</sup> March 2025	To be utilised to offset staff costs where applicable

## Road Safety Improvement Fund (RSIF) - £128,911

Name	Key Deliverable(s)	Est. Value	Status	Spend by	Additional Information
Mearns Road / Eaglesham Road Junction	Road Safety Junction Improvement	£7,000	Committed, carry over from last year	31 <sup>st</sup> March 2025	Continuation of existing project
Clarkston Toll Safety Improvements	Road Safety Improvement	£30,000	Proposed	31 <sup>st</sup> March 2025	Addressing road safety concern
Clarkston Road / Ormond Drive Junction	Road Safety Junction Improvement	£25,000	Proposed	31 <sup>st</sup> March 2025	Addressing road safety concern
Glasgow Road / Waterfoot Road Junction	Road Safety Junction Improvement	£20,000	Proposed	31 <sup>st</sup> March 2025	Addressing road safety concern
Grahamston Road, Barrhead	3x Traffic Islands	£15,000	Proposed	31 <sup>st</sup> March 2025	Addressing road safety concern
Stewarton Road, Greenlaw	Traffic Islands and Buildouts	£20,000	Proposed	31 <sup>st</sup> March 2025	Addressing road safety concern
Staff Costs (Revenue Element)	Staff resource to deliver above road safety infrastructure	£12,900	Ongoing	31 <sup>st</sup> March 2025	To be utilised to offset staff costs where applicable

## Sustrans Places for Everyone (PfE) - £131,592

Name	Key Deliverable(s)	Est. Value	Status	Spend by	Additional Information
Clarkston - Thornliebank Active Corridor	Concept Design and Feasibility (RIBA Stage 0-2) for Active Travel Infrastructure	£20,841	Committed, carry over from last year	31 <sup>st</sup> March 2025	Continuation of existing project
Strategic Cycle Corridor 2 A77	Concept Design and Feasibility (RIBA Stage 0-2) for Active Travel Infrastructure	£14,430	Committed, carry over from last year	31 <sup>st</sup> March 2025	Continuation of existing project
Strategic Cycle Corridor 3 Clarkston Road	Concept Design and Feasibility (RIBA Stage 0-2) for Active Travel Infrastructure	£18,072	Committed, carry over from last year	31 <sup>st</sup> March 2025	Continuation of existing project
Davieland Road Public Realm	Concept Design and Feasibility (RIBA Stage 0-2) for Active Travel Infrastructure	£10,942	Committed, carry over from last year	31 <sup>st</sup> March 2025	Continuation of existing project
Wytchwood Missing Link Newton Mearns	Concept Design and Feasibility (RIBA Stage 0-2) for Active Travel Infrastructure	£7,307	Committed, carry over from last year	31 <sup>st</sup> March 2025	Continuation of existing project



**Electric Vehicle Charging Infrastructure Fund (EVCIF) - £60,000**

<b>Name</b>	<b>Key Deliverable(s)</b>	<b>Est. Value</b>	<b>Status</b>	<b>Spend by</b>	<b>Additional Information</b>
EVCi Collaboration	Development of a public electric vehicle charging strategy and infrastructure expansion plan in collaboration with Glasgow City Region Partnership	£50,000	Committed – approved by Cabinet	31 <sup>st</sup> March 2025	Approved by Cabinet 30 <sup>th</sup> May 2024
EVCi Collaboration	ERC staff resource to support above work	£10,000	Committed – approved by Cabinet	31 <sup>st</sup> March 2025	Approved by Cabinet 30 <sup>th</sup> May 2024

**Strathclyde Partnership for Transport (SPT) People & Place Funding - £70,000**

<b>Name</b>	<b>Reason</b>	<b>Est. Value</b>	<b>Status</b>	<b>Spend by</b>	<b>Additional Information</b>
Love to Ride	Interactive cycling challenge to encourage cycling to work	£40,000	Committed – work continuing from 2023/24	31 <sup>st</sup> March 2025	Continuation of existing project
P7-S1 Travel Initiative	Journey planning sessions for school pupils to facilitate safe, independent active travel to secondary school (S1).	£30,000	Committed – project commenced	31 <sup>st</sup> March 2025	Continuation of existing project, delivered annually

## Transport Scotland People &amp; Place Funding - £77,412

Name	Reason	Est. Value	Status	Spend by	Additional Information
Staff resource (Revenue element)	Staff resource to deliver active and sustainable infrastructure / behaviour change projects	£51,608	Ongoing	31 <sup>st</sup> March 2025	
Infrastructure project(s) (Capital element)	Works to facilitate the roll out of 20mph speed limits on suitable residential streets	£25,804	Proposed	31 <sup>st</sup> March 2025	