

Dundee Travel Active

Project news update

Preparing for a big take off

This is the second edition of the Dundee Travel Active newsletter. It's aim is to keep you up to date with what is happening on the Dundee Travel Active programme. If you have any information or news you'd like to contribute or would like to know more about the project please contact Gary Cummins at gary.cummins@jmp.co.uk

Happening this month...

Production of a new Dundee sustainable travel map is under way - potential routes for a comprehensive walking and cycling network are being developed. The Dundee Travel Active logo and branding has been finalised and will begin to be applied to project materials and equipment.

To celebrate the launch of Dundee Travel Active a series of fun and active events will take place in Dundee City Square over the weekend of the 2nd and 3rd May from 11am on both days.

The Clan, Scotland's own Cycle Stunt Team, will be there with their display demonstrating the most exciting and daring trials bike display shows in the UK. The Clan's show will bring two of Scotland's top bicycle riders - with different riding styles together, but both with an infectious passion for riding bicycles to their limits.

For more hands-on fun there will be the 'Get Cycling' road show. The aim is simple: to promote cycling in all its varieties for leisure, transport, health, fun and the environment.



Members of The Clan BMX stunt team (above), and the 'Get Cycling' roadshow will be in Dundee on 2nd and 3rd May for the launch event

These events are fun and a great way to promote the pro-cycling message. Relevant for all age groups from very small children through to seventy-plus year olds, these events give the general public the opportunity to try out a range of both conventional and more specialised cycles and hopefully become enthused about cycling, in a safe and very supportive environment.

Another fun character promoting the active travel message will be Bo the Clown

with his travelling 'Cyclus Circus'. Bo will perform his circus skills on various bikes including a trike, a stilts bike and other comedy bikes.

It is hoped that the event will be launched in May by Aileen McGlynn MBE. Aileen is a member of the Team GB track cycling squad and double gold medal winner in Beijing. Aileen won her gold medals for the 1k time trial and pursuit cycling events, she also won gold for the 1k time trial at Athens in 2004.

Programme Governance

You might be wondering who decides what the Dundee Travel Active money will be spent on. We are, of course, led by the bid document to the Scottish Government, but there are inevitable changes to this as work progresses. Very minor changes are made when necessary by the managers of

individual projects, but anything more substantive is referred to the Programme Governance Board.

The Board is intended to cover a range of views and experience from the main delivery partners and comprises Councillor Fraser Macpherson, Neil Gellatly (Acting Assistant

Head of Transport, Dundee City Council), Merry Scott (Travel Plan Officer, Tactran), Allison Fannin (Development Manager, Dundee Community Health Partnership) and Ian Maxwell (Smarter Choices Smarter Places Programme Manager, Scottish Government).

Becoming part of the Network

Dundee link-up with Sustrans to deliver joint Network Ranger project



We will be launching our partnership at the Sustrans Ranger Networking Day in Dundee on February 21st. Come along and join in

Dundee Travel Active will be working in partnership with Sustrans to deliver the Network Rangers part of this project. The project links very closely to the Sustrans National Volunteer Ranger Project in which volunteers look after the National Cycle Network.

Sustrans will bring expertise in volunteer management, training and support and this project will provide them with scope to expand their existing Ranger programme to include local community path networks.

Dundee City Council will be able to ensure that links are in place to act on the problems and issues raised by the Network Rangers.

A crucial aspect of Dundee Travel Active is that local routes are used by the local community to enjoy healthy lifestyles and to get around safely. In order to do so they should be well maintained and cared for, this is where you can play an important role.

If you live in central Dundee and have a few spare hours per week you might be

able to make a difference by helping to care for your local environment. Dundee already has a network of Volunteer Rangers who look after the National Cycle Network, we now need local people to get involved in maintaining the local area.

Interested In Joining the Network Ranger Group? Why not come along to our Informal Information session on the 21st Feb in Dundee to find out more? Email sarah.jeffs@sustrans.org.uk for more information

Separating the wheat from the chaff of ineffective initiatives

Part of the process behind delivering a project like Dundee Travel Active is to build into the scheme before and after monitoring in order to measure any impacts the scheme will have made. The Scottish Government has appointed contractors to monitor the effects of the Dundee Health Central programme (and the other six projects funded by Smarter Choices, Smarter Places). The contractors are a consortium led by Derek Halden Consultancy and including the University of Aberdeen. They

are already collecting baseline data, including interviews with Dundee residents, and will be collecting comparative data in later years to assess what changes have occurred.

Project Manager Derek Halden, said: "The research will separate the wheat of effective change from the chaff of ineffective initiatives. By helping to show what works, the knowledge gained will help Scotland to become a leader in sustainable transport by strengthening the economy, creating a fairer society and improving the environment."

Project update: Short term bike hire scheme

We have been speaking to providers of schemes that provide short-term bike hire for journeys around town (such as those operating in Paris and Barcelona). This has shown that if we are to provide a high quality option, appropriate for use in Dundee, then the costs will be greater than those estimated in the Dundee Health Central bid document. We are particularly worried that a scheme could leave the Council with a requirement for on-going funding that it could not afford.

The programme Governance Board is therefore considering whether there are other options which can meet objectives

without these risks; a decision will be made in the next few weeks and published in the next newsletter.

Project update: Personalised Travel Planning

The Council has issued tender documents to procure both the experienced technical help and the dedicated resources required to deliver what will be a major programme of personalised travel planning in Dundee. The closing date for proposals is approaching and a contractor will be appointed soon after. We will therefore be starting to engage with local people as soon as possible after the Scottish Government's embargo is lifted on 1st May.