



Glasgow City Council
City Administration Committee

Item 2

17th September 2026

Report by Cllr Angus Millar, Convener for Climate, Glasgow Green Deal, Transport and City Centre Recovery

Contact: George Gillespie, Executive Director Ext: 79106

**TRANSPORT SCOTLAND GRANT ACCEPTANCE: - ACTIVE TRAVEL
INFRASTRUCTURE FUNDING 26/27**

Purpose of Report:

To update the Committee on the current Sustainable Transport infrastructure funding position and seek approval to accept external grant award funding.

Recommendations:

The City Administration Committee is recommended to:

- a) Note the update on the Active Travel Infrastructure Fund Tier 1 (ATIF T1);
- b) Approve the acceptance of the external grant funds
 - Active Travel Infrastructure Fund Tier 2 (ATIF T2) – Construction – (£4,850,000); and
 - Active Travel Infrastructure Fund Tier 2 (ATIF T2) – Design – (£920,000); and
- c) Note that following funds were accepted in accordance with delegated powers:
 - Transport Scotland's Local Authority Direct Award

Ward No(s):

Citywide: ✓

Local member(s) advised: ~~Yes~~ ☐ No ☐ consulted: ~~Yes~~ ☐ No ☐

1 Background

- 1.1 Members will recall that in recent years, the Scottish Government's funding model for active travel delivery has undergone significant changes. This has led to the introduction of Transport Scotland's (TS) Active Travel Infrastructure Fund (Tier 1 and Tier 2), which now represents the primary funding mechanism for both design and construction of active travel infrastructure in Scotland.
- 1.2 A summary of the national active travel funds and their themes are provided below:

Funding Stream	Funding Theme	Fund Provider
Active Travel Infrastructure Tier 1 (Via GCC block grant)	Funding business as usual active travel initiatives, such as monitoring and minor works projects	Transport Scotland
Active Travel Infrastructure Tier 2 (Construction)	Construction of Large-Scale active travel Projects	Transport Scotland
Active Travel Infrastructure Tier 2 (Design)	Design of large – scale active travel projects	Transport Scotland
Local Authority Direct Award	Local authority travel behavior change	Transport Scotland

- 1.3 Each of these external funding streams is strictly for active or sustainable transport projects and initiatives.

2 Active Travel Infrastructure Fund (ATIF)

- 2.1 As noted in Section 1, active travel design and construction is now funded via the Transport Scotland "Active Travel Infrastructure Fund" (Tier 1 and Tier 2).

ATIF Tier 1

- 2.2 As noted above, active travel infrastructure, design and construction is currently funded via ATIF Tier 1 and Tier 2. Members may recall that ATIF Tier 1 replaced the Transport Scotland Cycling, Walking, Safer Routes fund during financial year 24/25 and is now allocated to local authorities (LA) directly as part of the Local Government Finance Settlement. This grant is ring fenced for walking, cycling and wheeling projects and GCC has been allocated £5,409,234 for 26/27 through Tier 1 of the fund. This is an increase of £420,000 on financial year 25/26
- 2.3 GCC will use this funding to progress a variety of smaller scale, localised projects that contribute to the Council's strategic transport and road safety aims in a "business as usual" manner. These are, but not limited to, the following:

- Pedestrian Improvements on Dumbarton Road at Thornwood Roundabout.
- Active travel design work supporting the delivery of the City Network including East City Way, Connecting Greater Govan and Flourishing Molendinar Phase 2.
- Development of the People First Zone with Phase 2 design within the Merchant City.
- Installation of high visibility cycle counters
- Continued installation of the school cycle shelters programme.
- Improved pedestrian facilities such as tactile paving, dropped kerbs, step free crossings, pavement widening and minor cycling enhancements at various locations across the city.
- Signal upgrades to enhance the pedestrian and cycling experience at junctions across the city.

Please note, this fund has been accepted into the City Council as part of the Scottish Government's block grant to the City Council.

2.4 **ATIF Tier 2**

- 2.5 Unlike Tier 1 ATIF Tier 2 fund is administered via a competitive bidding process. This fund is separated into two distinct phases: Design and Constructions and prioritises those Local Authorities with a clear active travel strategy and a committed pipeline of projects.
- 2.6 In a change to previous years, Transport Scotland (TS) are providing intention to provide construction project funding into the following financial year. This commitment is subject to Scottish Government budgets being provided to TS. This represents a shift in funding for construction and enables larger scale projects to be considered.
- 2.7 Within construction funded projects, match funding is required. However, the quantum of this is dependent on the nature of the project and the materials used. For example, use of high-quality natural stone materials over basic materials requires a higher level of match funding to be provided and project which do not provide a high level of service for walking and cycling are highly likely not to be funded. The Match funding required for the proposed construction award is £2,650,000. This is funded via existing GCC capital budgets.
- 2.8 The Connecting Glasgow delivery plan sets out a clear, approach to delivery building upon an orbital and spoke method to create a joined up and linked network of active travel routes. The GCC projects which have been successfully awarded ATIF Tier 2 funding this year align to this delivery framework, and are as follows:

(Construction)

Project Title	Value awarded FY26/27	Value awarded FY27/28*
Connecting Battlefield – Phase 2	£1,200,000	£1,050,000
Connecting Yorkhill & Kelvingrove – Phase's 2-3	£800,000	£600,000
East City Way Phase 5	£800,000	£400,000
Total award per year	£2,800,000	£2,050,000
Grand Total Award	£4,850,000	

*The provision of grant funding in 2027-28 is subject to the availability of budget with Transport Scotland and does not constitute a commitment beyond the current financial year.

(Design)

Project Title	Value awarded FY 26/27
Connecting Glasgow, Inner North and Inner South networks	£270,000
Connecting Greater Govan Phase 1, route 2	£275,000
Connecting Yorkhill and Kelvingrove Phase 4	£100,000
Anderston Plaza	£275,000
Total Award	£920,000

- 2.9 Projects noted above under the “Construction” heading, have been fully designed and consulted upon with local stakeholders; these will now move forward to commence construction within financial year 26/27 continuing the Council commitment to delivering high-quality active travel infrastructure. Estimated Site start dates and durations are provided below for each project:

Project Title	Estimated site start	Estimated duration
Connecting Battlefield – Phase 2	November 2026	20 months
Connecting Yorkhill & Kelvingrove – Phase's 2-3	February 2027	7 months
East City Way Phase 5	January 2027	7 months

- 2.10 Projects noted under the “Design” heading will now continue from conceptual design through to detail design and include engagement with local parties, it is anticipated that the outcome of these projects will form the basis of future years construction bids to ATIF T2.

To formally accept this offer of funding totaling £5,770,000, Officers require approval from the City Administration Committee to proceed.

3 Active Travel Behaviour Change Funding

Local Authority Direct Award

- 3.1 Glasgow City Council's (GCC) own travel behaviour change initiatives, previously funded through the Paths for All Smarter Choices, Smarter Places fund, are now progressed using the Local Authority Direct Award (LADA) from Transport Scotland.
- 3.2 The total LADA grant for 26/27 is £225,854.98 (£116,570.31 Revenue, £109,284.67 Capital). This represents a reduction of approx. £100,000 on the previous year's awards. This fund shall be used to progress activities and initiatives which aim to support:
- GCCs Staff Travel Plan
 - Road Safety initiatives which encourage walking, wheeling and cycling to school
 - maintaining and updating GIS mapping of the City's cycle routes and paths
 - winter gritting of cycle routes to ensure they remain useable all year round
 - ongoing support to our community partners, bespoke support to large workplaces across Glasgow to encourage more sustainable commuting
- 3.3 Please note, this fund has been accepted into the City Council's budget under delegated authority.

4 Policy and Resource Implications

Resource Implications:

<i>Financial:</i>	£5,770,000
<i>Legal:</i>	GCC Legal Services to conduct due diligence
<i>Personnel:</i>	No personnel issues.
<i>Procurement:</i>	Works will be procured according to Standing Orders.

Council Strategic Plan: Supports Grand Challenge 3: Fight the Climate Emergency in a Just Transition to a Net Zero Glasgow and Mission 1: Deliver sustainable transport and travel aligned with the city region.

Equality and Socio-Economic Impacts:

Does the proposal support the Council's Equality Outcomes 2025-29? Please specify.

Yes, this proposal supports the outcomes through:

Outcome 2 - Disabled people, black and minority ethnic people and older people have an improved experience in accessing services that meet their needs through more regular and systematic involvement in design of service delivery across the Council Family.

Outcome 6 - The importance of tackling social isolation and loneliness is recognised and prioritised through our work with partners.

What are the potential equality impacts as a result of this report?

Positive impact.

Please highlight if the policy/proposal will help address socio-economic disadvantage.

Yes. Improving opportunities for access to sustainable and/or active travel and enhancing local environments through improving conditions for cycling/walking can help address barriers to social mobility, improve access to services and employment opportunities, and can help to address problems of physical and mental health and wellbeing.

Climate Impacts:

Does the proposal support any Climate Plan actions? Please specify:

Yes. The proposal supports the Climate Plan through actions:

No 51 – “Deliver a comprehensive active travel network, incorporating the Spaces for People measures and enabling 20-minute neighborhoods through the livable neighborhoods plan.

What are the potential climate impacts as a result of this proposal?

Encouragement of cycling and/or walking for daily utility journeys will have a positive impact.

The projects will improve Glasgow's urban environment and connectivity, thus leading to an increase in sustainable travel methods and a reduced carbon footprint.

Will the proposal contribute to

Yes. Increased use of active and sustainable transport modes will contribute to net zero.

*Glasgow's net zero
carbon target?*

**Privacy and Data
Protection Impacts:** None.

**Are there any potential
data protection impacts
as a result of this report
Y/N?** No

5 Recommendations

The City Administration Committee is asked to:

- a) Note the update on the Active Travel Infrastructure Fund Tier 1 (ATIF T1);
- b) Approve the acceptance of the external grant funds
 - Active Travel Infrastructure Fund Tier 2 (ATIF T2) – Construction – (£4,850,000); and
 - Active Travel Infrastructure Fund Tier 2 (ATIF T2) – Design – (£920,000); and
- c) Note that following funds were accepted in accordance with delegated powers:
 - Transport Scotland's Local Authority Direct Award