

Transport (Scotland) Bill

1. INTRODUCTION

1.1 The purpose of this report is to inform members of the recent Transport (Scotland) Bill¹ introduced by the Cabinet Secretary for Finance and Constitution, Derek Mackay MSP, in the Scottish Parliament on 8 June 2018. The bill remains at the primary stage of consultation.

2. BILL CONTENT

2.1 The Bill is structured in the following Parts:

- Part 1 – Low emission zones: makes provision in relation to the creation and enforcement of low emission zones in Scotland.
- Part 2 – Bus services: ensures that local transport authorities have viable and flexible options to improve bus services in their areas.
- Part 3 – Ticketing arrangements and schemes (“smart ticketing”): makes provision enabling the Scottish Ministers to specify a national technological standard for the implementation and operation of smart ticketing arrangements and providing local transport authorities with additional powers to develop and deliver effective smart ticketing arrangements and schemes.
- Part 4 – Pavement parking and double parking: introduces prohibitions on parking on pavements and double parking.
- Part 5 – Road works: enhances the role of the Scottish Road Works Commissioner (SRWC) and the wider regulation of road works.
- Part 6 – Miscellaneous and general: includes providing Regional Transport Partnerships (Transport Partnerships) with more financial flexibility and improves the governance of Scotland’s canals.

3. TRANSPORT PARTNERSHIP FINANCE

3.1 The Bill gives legal clarity to Regional Transport Partnerships to create and carry forward financial reserves across the financial year-end, as with local authorities currently. This change aims to make it easier for the Regional

¹ <http://www.parliament.scot/parliamentarybusiness/Bills/108683.aspx>

Transport Partnerships to manage their year-end finances by enabling them to hold a balance of funds.

- 3.2** This change removes any perceived need for Regional Transport Partnerships to have a zero balance at the end of each financial year which will benefit the planning and delivery of major transport infrastructure projects.

4. RECOMMENDATIONS

- 4.1** Members are asked to note the contents of this report

Lisa Freeman

Strategy and Projects Officer

11th June 2018

Policy Implications	
Financial Implications	As part of the Bill, RTPs would be able to carry forward financial reserves across the financial year-end.
Equalities Implications	
Climate Change Implications	