

The Open Golf Championship – Update

Date of meeting 26 April 2024

Date of report 16 April 2024

Report by Head of Bus Strategy & Delivery

1. Object of report

The object of this report is to inform the Committee on emerging transport arrangements for the Open Golf Championship being held in Troon in July 2024.

2. Background to report

The 152nd Open Championship is being hosted in Troon from 14 to 21 July 2024 at the Royal Troon Golf Club. The Championship will see circa 275,000 spectators attending the event over this period from across the UK and beyond. The event will be broadcast worldwide.

In support of planning for the event, a Transport Working Group has been established, chaired by the Ayrshire Roads Alliance (ARA), along with other multi-agency partners, including Transport Scotland, ScotRail, Police Scotland, NHS Ayrshire & Arran, Scottish Fire & Rescue and SPT. The purpose of the Transport Working Group is to support the successful delivery of the event and to minimise the impact on the surrounding area and communities, where possible.

More information on the Open Golf Championship can be found on the below link;
<https://www.theopen.com/royal-troon-152nd-open>

3. Update

The Transport Working Group meets monthly at present. In terms of the main topics of discussion to date, these can be summarised as follows.

- (i) **Temporary Traffic Regulation Order(s)**; There will be a number of road closures in the area around the course and a number of temporary traffic orders which will turn two-way roads into one way only for the duration of the event. These restrictions include measures to support operation of the Park and Ride Sites and associated shuttle bus services being arranged by the organisers.
- (ii) **Vehicle Access Restrictions**: Resident vehicle access passes will be in operation on residential roads in and around the course.
- (iii) **Parking Restrictions**: Parking restrictions will be in place on local roads around the course.
- (iv) **Access for Local Bus Services**; Organisers are still in discussions via the Transport Working Group about permitting local service buses to have priority access in and around the venue, where possible.

- (v) **Arran Ferry Connections:** Work is underway to establish the potential impact of the event on passengers travelling on CalMac Ferry services to Arran, which may be (subject to confirmation from CalMac and Transport Scotland) departing and arriving from/to Troon at this time. This includes consideration of planned shuttle services between Troon rail station and the ferry terminal (note these are separate to the Open tournament shuttles to/from the Park & Ride sites).
- (vi) **ScotRail Services:** ScotRail services to and from Troon are anticipated to be very busy during the period of the event.
- (vii) **Park and Ride:** It is expected that the event will have a significant impact on general traffic in the area for the duration of the Championship. Accordingly, Park and Ride sites are due to be set up by the organisers that will run regular shuttle bus services to the public entrances.

SPT will continue to participate in the Transport Working Group and keep in regular dialogue with the event organisers and public transport operators.

Further updates to the Committee will be provided in due course.

4. Committee action

The Committee is recommended to note this report.

5. Consequences

Policy consequences	<i>In line with Regional Transport Strategy.</i>
Legal consequences	<i>None directly.</i>
Financial consequences	<i>None at this stage.</i>
Personnel consequences	<i>None directly.</i>
Equalities consequences	<i>None directly.</i>
Risk consequences	<i>None directly.</i>
Climate Change, Adaptation & Carbon consequences	<i>None directly.</i>

Name	Gordon Dickson	Name	Valerie Davidson
Title	Head of Bus Strategy & Delivery	Title	Chief Executive

For further information, please contact Gordon Dickson, Head of Bus Strategy & Delivery on 0141 333 3407.