

SPT People and Place Programme Update

Date of meeting 5 September 2025

Date of report 20 August 2025

Report by Head of Policy & Planning

1. Object of report

The object of this report is to update the Committee on:

- project delivery outcomes of the SPT People and Place Programme (PPP) 2024/2025; and
- an update on the SPT People and Place Programme 2025/2026, including the new Community Fund.

2. Background to report

Further to previous reports to the Committee¹, members will recall that Transport Scotland (TS) contacted SPT in December 2023 regarding changes to the model for delivering active travel behaviour change projects and initiatives, with more direct funding and control to be delivered through Regional Transport Partnerships (RTPs) and local authorities. As part of this new approach, RTPs were requested to lead on the “People and Place Programme” covering active travel behaviour change initiatives, with capital and revenue funding from TS to be co-ordinated through RTPs to councils, third sector organisations and other delivery partners.

This updated arrangement saw SPT awarded a grant of up to £7,277,152 from Transport Scotland in 2024/2025 to deliver over 40 projects across the region under the PPP², and subsequently has seen a further grant awarded of up to £8,603,765 for 2025/2026 to deliver over 60 projects³, including the new People and Place Programme Community Fund (CF).

3. Outline of proposals

- SPT People and Place Programme 2024/2025 Delivery Outcomes

As part of the PPP grant conditions, delivery partners are required to conduct ongoing monitoring and evaluation of their projects throughout the delivery period and share their findings with SPT. In turn, SPT is responsible for compiling a summary report of these findings and submitting this to TS after the end of the financial year.

Accordingly, SPT submitted the “People and Place Monitoring and Evaluation Report 2024/2025” to TS in June. The report provided a quantitative overview of the 2024/2025 programme outcomes, alongside qualitative insights drawn from case studies and participant testimonials. These highlighted best practices and the impact of active travel

¹ Section 3.2.2 https://www.spt.co.uk/media/wfwldcvc/sp230224_agenda8.pdf

² https://spt.production.d8.studio/media/av0dktgh/sp140624_agenda5.pdf

³ https://spt.production.d8.studio/media/umllfeyh/sp210225_agenda7.pdf

behaviour change projects delivered across the region through the People and Place Programme.

The key quantitative highlights from the report have been outlined in Appendix 1. Examples of case studies and participant testimonials have been included as Appendix 2.

- SPT People and Place Programme 2025/2026

Moving into 2025/2026, TS confirmed that the PPP will be continuing with the same four key themes which projects and initiatives must support:

- Behaviour Change Theme: Schools and Young People
- Behaviour Change Theme: Workplaces
- Behaviour Change Theme: Accessibility and Inclusion
- Underpinning Theme: Capacity and Capability

However, it was advised that the PPP scope would be increased to include support for sustainable travel, as well as a broadened function to the programme to include direct funding routes for community projects (further information in Section 3.3).

With regards to supporting sustainable travel under the PPP, TS advised that it is their intention that sustainable travel projects supported should be focused on:

- Shared transport (including car clubs, bike and car share)
- Supporting (Digital) Demand Responsive Transport
- Local Travel Points / Mobility Hubs
- Real Time Passenger Information (RTPI)
- Support for Mobility as a Service (MaaS) project roles

The programme has seen substantial growth for 2025/2026, both in financial investment and delivery capacity. An additional £1.4 million in funding, paired with the increased scope for delivery, has enabled an over 50% increase in the number of projects being delivered compared to last year.

All projects being delivered are strategically aligned with the priorities and themes set out by TS and directly support the objectives of both the Regional Transport Strategy and SPT's Regional Active Travel Strategy. Through the funding of targeted initiatives, the programme will create lasting changes to travel behaviours across the west of Scotland, increasing usage of active and sustainable travel, and supporting wider regional and national objectives.

Ongoing monitoring and evaluation of all projects being delivered is already underway to outline the impact of this delivery over the coming year.

- SPT People and Place Programme 2025/2026 - Community Fund

A significant change to the PPP in 2025/2026 is RTPs taking on the function of providing funding to community-based projects. For our area, this is being delivered through a dedicated 'People and Place Programme Community Fund'. This role was previously managed by Paths for All under the Community Projects Transition Fund (CPTF) throughout 2024/2025.

The CF is intended to support existing and new community groups working to influence active and sustainable travel behaviour change through localised projects and supports the

same key themes and remit as the wider PPP. Organisations delivering smaller projects (£5,000 - £50,000) at a community level were encouraged to apply for funding through the Community Fund.

The funding to deliver this community fund is a ringfenced allocation within SPT's wider PPP budget, to allow smaller organisations who otherwise wouldn't be capable of accessing or delivering larger programmes of work through the main programme to deliver these important community level initiatives. SPT allocated a total of £775,217 from the overall 2025/2026 PPP budget for the PPP Community Fund to distribute to community groups. This fund is split across capital and revenue projects on the same pro rata basis as the overall funding as allocated by TS. The overall allocation of funding saw a £156,765 increase in funding availability for community groups on previous year funding distribution through CPTF for the SPT region to both maintain and build on the level of delivery for community organisations for 2025/2026.

The budget allocated for the CF was £775,217, made up of £561,649 capital and £213,568 revenue, this capital/revenue split reflecting budgetary limitations applied by TS.

An open application process was held over March-April 2025, and a total of 70 applications were received with a total funding request of over £2m, with the revenue element of the CF significantly oversubscribed, and conversely, capital undersubscribed.

A robust assessment process was undertaken and, as necessary, further engagement with applicants, including looking at opportunities for 'capital only' funding for projects where delivery remained feasible without reliance on any revenue funding. However, following this, the value of capital bids still remained less than the funding available and, given the balance of funding was heavily weighted to capital as per TS limitations, the full £775,217 allocation for CF was not able to be distributed.

Notwithstanding this, 24 community project and initiatives were approved for funding totalling circa £456,000 – further details on these are available in Appendix 3 and work is currently underway to ensure the remaining capital is reallocated elsewhere in SPT's PPP for delivery in 2025/2026, and dialogue is ongoing with Transport Scotland and project partners to further address this issue for 2026/2027.

Officers will continue to keep members updated on the progress of the PPP for 2025/2026 and preparations for 2026/2027.

4. Committee action

The Committee is recommended to note the content of this report.

5. Consequences

Policy consequences	<i>Supporting active travel, behaviour change and encouraging more people to walk, wheel and cycle for everyday journeys aligns directly with the RTS and Regional Active Travel Strategy.</i>
Legal consequences	<i>None at present.</i>
Financial consequences	<i>This project is fully funded through the Transport Scotland grant. Costs will be managed within the agreed People & Place budgets.</i>
Personnel consequences	<i>None at present.</i>

Equalities consequences	<i>Accessing active and sustainable transport as a means of travel can reduce inequalities by giving equal access to employment, education, and other essential services.</i>
Risk consequences	<i>None at present.</i>
Climate Change, Adaptation & Carbon consequences	<i>Policies that encourage travel behaviour change to sustainable transport modes, including active travel, can assist in lowering emissions thereby reducing carbon impacts.</i>

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APPENDIX 1

Key Quantitative Highlights from People and Place Programme Delivery Outcomes 2024/2025

Delivery Outcome	
No. of Active travel behaviour change projects funded by SPT People & Place 2024/2025	42
No. of Children/young people benefitted by the programme	70,133
Total no. of people impacted by the programme (not classified as children/young people)	30,655
No. of Schools involved*	385
No. of Workplaces involved	40
No. of New or refurbished bikes made available	2,620
No. of Bike shelters/secure parking made available	95
No. of Cycle hubs provided	6
No. of Cycle training sessions provided	155
No. of people given cycle training	8,195
No. of led rides delivered	803
No. of Dr Bike sessions delivered	52
No. of bikes repaired	1,889
No. of Instructors trained to give cycle training	15
No. of walking activities delivered	733
No. of Subsidised active travel/bike loans provided	451
No. of Travel plans created	55

*This is the summarised total of schools that each project reported working with; this has not been cross-checked by school name to understand whether any projects were run at the same individual school; therefore, this figure may include some double counting.

APPENDIX 2

Examples of Case Studies and Participant Testimonials from People and Place Programme Delivery Outcomes 2024/2025

1. Glasgow City Council, NextBike – Bike for All

Nextbike – Bike for All provided bike subscription vouchers to provide marginalised individuals with an opportunity to access bikes. Findings from the Nextbike - Bike for All project revealed that on average, 35% of respondents reported using a bicycle for their daily journeys and approximately 65% of respondents reported feeling more confident cycling on the road.

- Case Study: Service User 1

Service User 1 found asylum in the UK in 2017. On arriving in Glasgow, Glasgow Central Mosque (GCM) offered overnight shelter for a month and sometimes paid for a hotel on occasion. These were the critical first steps in their feeling at home in Glasgow. Service User 1 is now being allocated council housing but still visits GCM daily to meet people.

As part of the Bike for All project, Service User 1 was offered free access to NextBike. The project was advertised through GCM, and now Service User 1 uses Nextbike to attend appointments and visit the Central Mosque, supporting their ability to access services and reducing impacts of social inclusion.

2. North Ayrshire Council, The Trinity Hub

The funding provided to North Ayrshire Council through SPT's People and Place Programme directly supports staff costs required for the running of the Trinity Hub in North Ayrshire Council. The Trinity Hub is a venue that supports and delivers active travel activities and support to the local community.

People visit the Trinity for information on activities, advice about active and sustainable transport, bike maintenance and led walks and rides. Many of the led walks start and end at the Trinity and it acts as a hub for the local community.

- Participant Testimonial

"I enjoy the activities that have taken place at the Trinity – they are my focus for my week. The people who lead the walks are very good and make you feel cared for. I have also has help with my bike from the staff."

"We were able to do balance bike sessions in the Trinity; the space was large enough allowing us to carry on the sessions even in bad weather."

3. Paths for All, Walking Schools

The Paths for All Walking Schools programme worked across four high schools, engaging with pupils and staff to deliver several active travel initiatives to reduce the proportion of travel to and from school by car. The schools engaged were Bellahouston Academy, Cumbernauld High School, Springburn Academy and Greenfaulds High School. Paths for All worked with the schools to develop action plans that addressed the barriers to walking identified through engagement with pupils and staff.

- Case Study: Safer Steps

In collaboration with Glasgow-based charity Wise Women, participants of Walking and Well2being sessions delivered through Paths for All Walking Schools project at

Cumbernauld Academy engaged in three workshops related to keeping safe when walking to and from school and around the local community.

These workshops explored issues relating to gender inequality, which impacts women's and girls' participation in walking and wheeling. Confidence-building techniques and personal safety were also explored, culminating in a guided tour around the local area by representatives from Wise Women.

Cumbernauld Academy recorded a 4.6% increase in the number of people walking to school following the project.

4. Paths for All, Walking Workplaces

The Paths for All Walking Workplaces Programme delivered and supported interventions across Police Scotland and NHS Ayrshire and Arran to encourage more people to walk to and from their place of work, improve attitudes towards walking and reduce the number of car journeys taken for work purposes.

- **Case Study: Police Scotland**

The Police Scotland HQ in Dalmarnock employs between 800 and 900 staff. As staff numbers continue to increase, parking constraints and commuting challenges have become more pressing. To encourage commuting by active travel to alleviate parking challenges, Paths for All worked with Police Scotland to launch a four-week Step Count Challenge.

35 teams and 173 staff members joined the challenge as teams embraced the competition, checking step counts daily and motivating each other. As a result, more employees incorporated walking into their commutes and breaks.

5. Glasgow City Council, Women and Families on Wheels (Delivered in Partnership with Women on Wheels)

The Women and Families on Wheels project was delivered by Women on Wheels, a community-based organisation dedicated to empowering women and their families through active travel. This initiative focused exclusively on increasing female participation in active travel by providing essential knowledge, skills, encouragement, and confidence. The project reported that approximately 76% of participants testified to increased confidence in cycling after participating, indicating a corresponding improvement in their perception of cycling safety.

- **Case Study: Service Users 2 and 3**

Service User 2 had attempted to learn to cycle in 2018 but was initially unsuccessful. Through Women on Wheels, Service User 2 and family member Service User 3 were able to attend a family learning class in 2023. In 2024, both of them have continued to attend several lessons and are now keen cyclists.

“Amazing how quickly my skills and confidence have grown over such a short period of time. Women on Wheels staff have made this possible, through their patience, support and excellent training.

We recently cycled around Millport which previously would have been unthinkable for myself (as I'm slowly approaching age 50!). I look forward to having cycling as a shared hobby and also possibly cycling to work! Thank you so much Women on Wheels.”

6. Cycling Scotland, Cycle Storage Programme

Through funding provided by SPT and Transport Scotland as part of the People and Place Programme, Cycling Scotland worked with Registered Social Landlords across the SPT region

to develop and expand cycle storage for residential areas that don't currently have somewhere safe to store a bike. The project aligns with the 'Accessibility and Inclusion' People and Place Programme theme, whereby Cycling Scotland provided guidance, technical advice and project management support to provide secure cycle storage and parking facilities and enable a change in travel behaviour to more sustainable and healthier ways of travelling for those who could not otherwise own and store a bike.

Overall, the Cycle Storage Programme supported and impacted 630 people across the region, by delivering 30 installations of new cycle parking or repairs to existing cycle parking or storage across 8 social housing association sights.

One of these locations was Link Housing Association in Dalmarnock, where two secure cycle hangars for residents' use were installed, benefitting the 90 tenants.

7. North Lanarkshire Council, North Lanarkshire Active Travel Hubs

North Lanarkshire Council identified a need to enhance active travel in line with their Active Travel Strategy by creating Active Travel Hubs across the authority. The project aimed to address supporting walking, cycling, and wheeling through strategic infrastructure improvements. Key infrastructure included cycle and scooter racks, secure bike storage, bike tool and repair stations, outdoor fitness equipment, and wayfinding maps in both static and digital format. With external funding, including £132,000 through SPT and Transport Scotland's People and Place Programme, these improvements were strategically implemented across multiple sites, five in total. This initiative will lead to increased active travel levels, improve community health, and strengthen sustainability efforts by fostering a culture of active travel across the area.

The five Active Travel Hubs created were:

- Broadwood Stadium, 1 Ardgoil Drive, Cumbernauld, Glasgow, G68 9NE
 - Chryston Community Hub, Cliffvale Road, Chryston, Glasgow, G69 9DB
 - Civic Centre, Windmillhill Street, Motherwell, ML1 1AB
 - Newmains & St Brigid's Community Hub, Stewart Crescent, Newmains, Wishaw, ML2 9DJ
 - 5. Riverbank Community Hub, Coatbridge, ML5 4PG
- Participant Testimonial

Since implementing the new infrastructure, user feedback has included the following:

"Bike security is one of the biggest concerns for any cyclist. The introduction of bike shelters is particularly welcome as it takes away that worry."

"Would expect that more people would cycle to work now based on my experiences elsewhere when good facilities were provided."

"The new signage and digital board make it clearer that there are facilities available... This will help to encourage more people to consider cycling either for a full or part of their commuting journey."

"The new facilities have increased my confidence... I usually travel by train, but now I will be able to cycle to and from the station, rather than driving to the station in the morning."

8. Scottish Cycling, Rock Up & Ride (Communities)

The Rock Up & Ride (RUAR) Communities project provided 885 total participation opportunities. The project was held in country parks, green spaces and trails and comprised of activities such

as providing new and refurbished bikes, led rides, and training. This project delivered a total of 111 sessions. The project was split by children and adult participants.

The key outputs from the project include:

- » 71% of children felt confident in the session.
- » 36% of parents said their child's increased safety knowledge and bike skills was the single best part of the programme.
- » 91% of children who received a bike through the project have reported to be using it at least once/week.

Scottish Cycling also conducted "ride alongs" as part of their evaluation process, where team members from the evaluation team cycled with adult participants to better understand the project's impact. This evaluation focused on three all-male adult community sessions at a Glasgow RUAR site, delivered in partnership with a football club and housing association. Key findings included:

- » Improved route awareness: participants gained better knowledge of local cycling routes.
- » Increased access to bikes: some attendees noted that receiving a bike at the end of the project would enable independent travel.

9. Cycling UK, Play Together on Pedals

This project is delivered in partnership with Glasgow City Council and works consistently with pre-school aged children to teach them to ride a bicycle and develop cycle confidence from an early age, as well as providing grant funding for pre-school settings to support purchase of bike fleets.

The distribution of 265 bicycles to children through the project significantly improved access to cycling among children in Glasgow. Schools and nurseries received support in selecting appropriate bikes to ensure they were both age and stage appropriate.

The Play Together on Pedals project has delivered broad, positive impacts, enhancing children's cycling skills, physical confidence, and emotional well-being while increasing access to bikes and encouraging safe, active travel within schools and nurseries.

- Participant Testimonial

Whiteinch Primary School, which received 12 bicycles through the grant funding, and reported notable improvements in pupils' cycling skills and self-confidence. The Deputy Head Teacher reported:

"All children who have participated in the project have made progress with their cycling skills. They have also made progress in their own confidence and resilience. Each child has developed, and it is nice to see how determined they are to improve. We have had children who learned to cycle in one or two sessions. The impact on confidence and willingness to try challenges has been significant."

"Many of our children don't have bikes at home, so it is great that we are able to offer them this opportunity."

10. South Lanarkshire Council, Beat the Street

South Lanarkshire Council were awarded funding through SPT's People and Place Programme to deliver Beat the Street over 2024/2025. The Beat the Street Challenge transforms local towns into games where participants earn points by walking, wheeling, or cycling in their area and reaching strategically placed 'beat boxes' on the journey. The Beat the Street event in East

Kilbride took place in Autumn 2024, attracting over 13,000 participants during the six-week game. Six months after the challenge, a follow-up survey was conducted to determine whether the behaviour changes observed during the game had been maintained. The findings revealed that:

- » 85% of respondents felt they had continued to be active in the months since the game ended.
- » Modal shift data shows walking for commuting purposes was sustained for adults since the game ended (22% of journeys at 6 months, 23% immediately post-game).
- » 37% of respondents reported engaging more in active travel at 6 months as a result of participating in Beat the Street.
- » Approximately a third of adults and children surveyed reported walking frequently for leisure purposes since the game ended.
- » 52% of participants reported using a dedicated walking or cycle path to travel around East Kilbride.
- » Around a third of participants reported using active travel routes regularly (5+ times a week).

APPENDIX 3
SPT People and Place Programme Community Fund 2025/2026 Summary

Project Name	Organisation	Revenue	Capital	Total	Location	Project Summary
The Bellville Bike Bank	Bellville Community Garden Trust	£20,000.00	£5,500.00	£25,500.00	Inverclyde	Facilitating improved and expanded storage and bike refurbishment facilities for community bike distribution, removing socio-economic barriers to active travel. The project will provide activity and skill gain for individuals in recovery journeys.
Biosphere Bikes Active Travel Project	Biosphere Bikes	£29,000.00	£-	£29,000.00	South Ayrshire	Offering accessible, affordable and sustainable transport solutions through bike recycling, repairs, adaptive cycling, and e-bike loans to improve transport access and community engagement.
Boots and Bikes	Boots and Beards	£-	£4,940.00	£4,940.00	Glasgow	Supporting minority communities through bike borrowing, training, and group rides to overcome cultural and financial barriers to active travel.
Bikes Without Barriers	Cambuslang Youth Committee	£-	£10,300.00	£10,300.00	South Lanarkshire	This project will increase bike ownership for New Scots, as well as sessions offering practical cycling lessons to build skills and confidence.
Let's Get Cyclewise	Castlemilk Youth Complex	£-	£5,706.00	£5,706.00	Glasgow	Providing cycle training and maintenance for young people, with a focus on sustainability through apprenticeships.
On Yer Bike – Getting More People Cycling	Clyde Cycle Park	£33,994.00	£-	£33,994.00	South Lanarkshire	This project aims to improve cycling awareness, confidence, and skills among three target groups: elderly, employees commuting, and people suffering from infirmities, making active travel accessible for all.
Cycling Without Age Beith	Cycling Without Age Scotland	£-	£14,986.00	£14,986.00	North Ayrshire	Cycling Without Age Scotland (CWAS) works nationwide, providing rides in pioneering e-bike Trishaws that improve the mental and physical wellbeing, predominantly the elderly, who face mobility challenges and/or are lonely/isolated.

Little Riders and Striders	Early Years Scotland	£25,000.00	£10,000.00	£35,000.00	Glasgow, East and West Dunbartonshire, Renfrewshire	Supporting families with young children in deprived areas to build confidence in walking and cycling.
Lilias Centre Cycle-train-the-trainer Programme	Ebike Freedom	£10,000.00	£6,000.00	£16,000.00	Glasgow	Cycling training opportunities for women in custody, with post-custody support including cycle mentorship and ex-prisoners cycling group.
GBT Bike School	Getting Better Together	£30,000.00	£-	£30,000.00	North Lanarkshire	Enhancing the Bike Bus Initiative with training and engagement activities for low-income students.
Improving Bike Facilities at the Glasgow School of Art Halls of Residence	Glasgow School of Art	£-	£7,674.00	£7,674.00	Glasgow	Improving cycling infrastructure for students and staff at Glasgow School of Art making active travel a more realistic and convenient transport option.
Hillpark Parent Council Cycling Club aka Hilly Bikers	Hillpark Parent Council	£-	£1,995.00	£1,995.00	Glasgow	Supporting the delivery of a bike hub at Hillpark Secondary school so allow pupils and families to receive training and maintenance skills to increase cycling confidence.
LEAP Zero-Emission Shared Transport	LEAP	£9,881.00	£16,000.00	£25,881.00	Renfrewshire	Upgrading zero-emission transport options, including e-bike hire and car share schemes, to reduce transport inequality.
Lenzie Rugby Club Bike Shelter	Lenzie Rugby Club	£-	£10,475.00	£10,475.00	East Dumbartonshire	This project will install a bike shelter to provide a safe storage area for children's and visitors bikes when they attend the rugby club for training, games, and social occasions.
Shift, Inspire, Thrive	Living Lab	£4,547.00	£38,598.00	£43,145.00	Glasgow	Multi-strand project piloting indoor bike storage for SMEs/CICs, introducing a fleet of bikes (including e-bikes), and leading youth rides to promote city-wide cycling.
Movement Park Wheelie Project	Movement Park	£-	£5,000.00	£5,000.00	Glasgow	The project at Knightswood BMX track will support active travel by encouraging urban sports, such as skating and BMX. It combines training, community engagement, and infrastructure improvements to make active travel safer, accessible and enjoyable. SPT are supporting infrastructure upgrades.

Pedal For Progress	NHS GGC – Leverndale GCCHSCP	£-	£28,560.00	£28,560.00	Glasgow	Expansion of adaptive cycling provision for individuals with mental and physical disabilities through new specialist bikes.
The Loading Bay – Riverside Urban Sports and Culture Project	North Glasgow Loading Bay	£-	£32,000.00	£32,000.00	Glasgow	Delivery of urban sports sessions (Skateboarding, BMX, Scootering) for S1–S3 pupils at the Riverside Museum skatepark. Aims to connect young people with city spaces and promote active travel.
Air Pollution and Active Travel in Schools	Parents for Future	£20,000.00	£-	£20,000.00	Glasgow	Engaging 32 school communities to promote active travel through education packs, peer talks, and a buddy system. Focussing on areas of high deprivation, where parents have identified barriers to active travel.
Increasing Access to Active Travel Through Creating a Bike Reuse Hub	Rural Development Trust – Climate Action Lanarkshire	£2,896.00	£1,995.00	£4,891.00	North and South Lanarkshire	Creation of a bike reuse and redistribution hub, using existing infrastructure and partnerships to refurbish and distribute bikes to local communities.
Bridging the Gap Between Mental Illness and Active Travel	SAMH	£28,630.00	£-	£28,630.00	Glasgow	Delivery of four 12-week programmes and mental health literacy talks across Glasgow to promote the mental wellbeing benefits of active travel.
Developing Sustainability in Bike Resue and Cycling Organisations	Social Enterprise Academy	£9,500.00	£-	£9,500.00	Argyll and Bute	Support for bike reuse projects in Helensburgh and Inverclyde to develop sustainable business models through workshops and action planning.
Bike to Work	The Circle	£-	£17,100.00	£17,100.00	Glasgow	Enhancing cycling facilities at a community hub through secure bike storage, refurbished showers, lockers, and a free bike hire service.
Toryglen Community Cycling Hub – Expansion and Access Project	Toryglen Community Youth Project	£-	£16,566.48	£16,566.48	Glasgow	Establishment of a dedicated cycling hub at the Geoff Shaw Community Centre, including new bikes, storage, and a part-time project manager.