

Strathclyde Partnership for Transport

Minute of meeting

17 June 2016

held in the Lewis Room, 131 St Vincent Street, Glasgow

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Minute of the meeting of the Strathclyde Partnership for Transport held in the Lewis Room, 131 St Vincent Street, Glasgow, on 17 June 2016

Present Councillors Jonathan Findlay (Chair), Malcolm Balfour, John Bruce, Eddie Devine, Charlie Gilbert (substitute), Bill Grant, Chris Kelly, Alan Moir, Bobby McDill, Denis McKenna, Lawrence O'Neill, Hamish Stewart, Paul Welsh and David Wilson and appointed members Anne Follin, Graham Johnston, Alan Malcolm and Jim McNally.

Attending Valerie Davidson, Assistant Chief Executive (Business Support); Valerie A Bowen, Senior Committee Officer; Gordon MacLennan, Chief Executive; Eric Stewart, Assistant Chief Executive (Operations); Charlie Hoskins, Senior Director; Ronnie Park, Director of Bus Operations and Bruce Kiloh, Head of Policy and Planning.

1. Apologies

Apologies were submitted from Councillors Tony Buchanan, Allan Falconer, Kaye Harmon, Gerald Leonard, Robert G MacIntyre and Pauline McKeever and appointed members Ann Faulds and Gavin Scott.

2. Scottish Transport Awards 2016

The Chief Executive advised members of SPT's success the previous evening at the Scottish Transport Awards as undernoted:-

Most Effective Road Safety, Traffic Management and Enforcement Project, awarded to SPT and South Lanarkshire Council for Route Action Plans;

Integrated Transport Project of the Year, awarded to Johnstone Railway Station Park and Ride in a joint entry with SPT, ScotRail and Transport Scotland;

Excellence in Walking and Public Realm which SPT collected for the redevelopment of St Enoch Subway Station; and

Contribution to Sustainable Transport for SPT's work with Glasgow Caledonian University through a Knowledge Transfer Partnership for the Ground Water and Heat Source System on the Subway.

The Chair, on behalf of the Partnership, congratulated all staff involved on their success.

3. Declaration of interest in terms of the Ethical Standards in Public Life etc (Scotland) Act 2000

The Partnership noted that there were no declarations of interest.

4. Minute of previous meeting

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The minutes of the meeting of 12 February 2016 and special meeting of 4 March 2016 were submitted and approved.

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5. Committee minutes

The minutes (issued) of the undernoted committees were noted, subject to the inclusion of Councillor O'Neill in the list of apologies in the minute of the Recruitment Committee of 11 April 2016 and the approval of the 'P' paragraph contained in the Strategy & Programmes Committee minute of 20 May 2016:-

- (1) Operations Committee of 11 March 2016; [Click here to view report](#)
- (2) Strategy & Programmes Committee of 18 March 2016; [Click here to view report](#)
- (3) Audit & Standards Committee of 18 March 2016; [Click here to view report](#)
- (4) Personnel Appeals Committee of 31 March and 1 April 2016; [Click here to view report](#)
- (5) Recruitment Committee of 11 April 2016; [Click here to view report](#)
- (6) Recruitment Committee of 9 May 2016; [Click here to view report](#)
- (7) Operations Committee of 13 May 2016; and [Click here to view report](#)
- (8) Strategy & Programmes Committee of 20 May 2016. [Click here to view report](#)

6. Membership Update

Mrs Davidson informed members of the undernoted changes to representation on the Partnership:-

- (1) the appointment by Glasgow City Council of Councillor Gerald Leonard to replace Councillor Gilbert Davidson;
- (2) the appointment by North Lanarkshire Council of Councillor William Shields to replace Councillor Frank McNally;
- (3) the appointment by East Ayrshire Council of Councillor Hugh Ross to replace Councillor Kathy Morrice (substitute); and
- (4) the appointment by Glasgow City Council of Councillor Dr Martin Bartos to replace Councillor Kieran Wild (substitute).

Mrs Davidson informed members also that appointed member Gavin Scott had intimated his resignation from the Partnership with effect from 30 June 2016.

7. Final Draft Annual report 2015/2016

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There was submitted a report (issued) of 9 June 2016 by the Assistant Chief Executive (Business Support)

- (1) appending SPT's final draft Annual Report for 2015/2016 which reflected SPT's activities in what had been an incredibly busy and successful year;

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- (2) intimating that the Annual Report would supplement the Transport Outcomes Reports for each constituent council and the Financial Statements for 2015/2016. The supporting draft Financial Statements would be considered by the Audit & Standards Committee, in compliance with good governance arrangements, before final submission to the Partnership;
- (3) informing members that the Annual Report would be submitted to Scottish Ministers as required by the Transport (Scotland) Act 2005; and
- (4) recommending approval of the draft Annual Report.

After consideration the Partnership approved the annual report subject to the amendments intimated by Mrs Davidson at the meeting.

8. Bus Alliance - Presentation

With reference to the minute of the Strategy & Programmes Committee of 20 May 2016 (page 4, paragraph 7) when that committee had

- (1) approved the establishment of a Strathclyde Bus Alliance; and
- (2) agreed that a presentation outlining the key bus market issues and objectives of the alliance be submitted to a future meeting,

Mr Stewart gave a presentation to the Partnership which

- (a) reminded members that, whilst bus remained the dominant public transport mode in Scotland with a market share of around 77%, the west of Scotland had seen a decline in bus patronage of 49 million passengers (22%) over the last 10 years (2004/5 – 2014/15);
- (b) highlighted the fact that, although there was no single reason for this significant and worrying fall, the impact of the financial crisis of 2007-08, cheap car deals, out of town/internet shopping, easy access to free or low-cost parking and the growth in rail patronage in Scotland over the same period (29m, 45%) would have contributed to it;
- (c) explained
 - (i) that as operating costs per passenger over the last 10 years had gone up by 35%, the number of operators in the west of Scotland had reduced from around 120 five years ago to about 60 and, whilst 45% of operators' revenue came from central or local government subsidy, all government support for bus services had decreased by 15% over the 5 years to 2014/15;
 - (ii) that the impact of this for SPT had been that around 30% of services were now subsidised in whole or in part in the west of Scotland, and demand for new or extended services had never been higher; and
 - (iii) that should the decline continue at a similar rate, the economic, social and environmental impacts for the region would be significant;
- (4) informed members

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- (i) that it was for these reasons that SPT, as the Regional Transport Partnership for the west of Scotland, sought to lead the way in helping to address the current situation by approaching, informally, major bus operators in the area to seek their views on the establishment of a Strathclyde Bus Alliance (SBA), based on current Statutory Quality Partnership legislation, the objectives of which would be to arrest decline in bus patronage in the west of Scotland by 2020 and achieve 3% year on year growth post-2020; and
 - (ii) that SPT would continue to seek to improve the bus market in the west of Scotland through the capital and revenue programme and initiatives such as the Glasgow and Clyde Valley City Deal Strathclyde Bus Investment Programme;
- (5) provided information on the proposed membership and initial key themes of the SBA; and
- (6) concluded that, although achieving the priorities would be very challenging, it would highlight the fact that the current perilous state of the bus market in the west of Scotland required a co-ordinated effort by all partners to address fully the reasons for such decline.

Following discussion, the Partnership thanked Mr Stewart for his presentation

9. Transport Outcomes reports 2016/2017

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There was submitted a report (issued) of 17 June 2016 by the Assistant Chief Executive (Operations)

- (1) outlining the process for finalising the Transport Outcome Reports (TORs) for 2016/2017 for SPT's constituent councils and Community Planning Partnerships (CPPs);
- (2) explaining the relationship between SPT activity and the local outcomes from each constituent council's Single Outcome Agreement (SOA);
- (3) highlighting the process for circulating the TORs and for the presentations to the CPPs;
- (4) providing information on the significant value of SPT services for councils and CPPs; and
- (5) appending draft copies of the TORs for North Lanarkshire, North Ayrshire and West Dunbartonshire councils, with those for the other constituent councils to be completed over the summer months.

After discussion and having heard Mr Kiloh in further explanation and in answer to members' questions, the Partnership noted the terms of the report.

10. Subway modernisation station refurbishments: Kelvinbridge station – Proposed award of contract

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There was submitted a report (issued) of 17 June 2016 by the Assistant Chief Executive (Operations) on tenders received for Kelvinbridge Subway station refurbishment.

After consideration, the Partnership agreed to the award of a contract to Graham Construction at a cost of £2,671,530, it being the most economically advantageous tender, taking into account both quality and cost.