

## **Strathclyde Partnership for Transport**

### **Minute of Strategy & Programmes Committee**

**20 November 2020**

held by Video Conference

**Contact officer:**

Pamella Lawrence [pamella.lawrence@spt.co.uk](mailto:pamella.lawrence@spt.co.uk)

## **Minute of the meeting of Strathclyde Partnership for Transport's Strategy & Programmes Committee held by Video Conference on 20 November 2020**

**Present** Councillors Alan Moir (Chair), Dr Martin Bartos, Ian Cochrane, William Goldie, Gordon Jenkins (Substitute), Alan Lafferty, Anna Richardson, David Shearer, David Wilson and appointed members Brian Davidson (from Agenda Item 7), Ann Faulds, Anne Follin (until Agenda Item 8), Alex Macaulay and Jim McNally.

**Attending** Gordon Maclennan, Chief Executive; Valerie Davidson, Assistant Chief Executive/Partnership Secretary; Antony Smith, Director of Subway; Neil Wylie, Director of Finance; Antony Smith, Director of Subway; Stuart Paul, Chief Accountant; Bruce Kiloh, Head of Policy & Planning; Gordon Dickson, Head of Bus Strategy & Delivery; Andrea Thompson, Media & Public Affairs Manager and Michael Nimmo, Ticketing Commercial Team Leader.

### **1. Apologies**

Apologies were submitted from Councillors Jim Roberts and Maureen Devlin.

### **2. Declarations of interest in terms of the Ethical Standards in Public Life etc (Scotland) Act 2000**

The committee noted that there were no declarations of interest.

### **3. Minute of previous meeting**

[Click here to view the minute](#)

The minute of the meeting of 28 August 2020, having been considered at the Partnership meeting of 18 September 2020, was submitted and approved as a correct record.

### **4. Updated Financial Forecast for financial year 2020/21**

[Click here to view the report](#)

There was submitted a report (issued) of 2 November 2020 by the Assistant Chief Executive providing members with an updated forecast deficit for the current financial year, stating the assumptions made regarding expenditure and income levels, including the income loss grant from Transport Scotland and to advise of ongoing discussions with Transport Scotland regarding continued financial support.

After considerable discussion principally relating to the significant continuing financial impact of Covid-19 on SPT's income generating base, and having heard from Mrs Davidson in answer to members' questions, the Committee noted:

- (i) a request would be made of Transport Scotland to understand more fully the impact of the Barnett consequentials and whether that was being ring fenced for transport,
  - (ii) the forecast outturn at this stage and the level of expenditure required to minimise the deficit;
  - (ii) that discussions continue with Transport Scotland over continued financial support for the current financial year; and
  - (iii) that a draft 2021/22 revenue budget will be presented to the next Strategy & Programmes Committee in February 2021.
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## **P 5. Capital Programme Monitoring and Proposed Amendments Report as at 10 October 2020, Period 7**

[Click here to view the report](#)

There was submitted a report (issued) of 10 November 2020 by the Assistant Chief Executive:

- (i) providing a progress update on the 2020/21 capital programme;
- (ii) seeking approval for proposed amendments to the 2020/21 capital programme; and
- (iii) seeking approval to Grant Fund as detailed in sections 6(b) and 6(c) of the report.

After having heard from Mr Wylie, the Committee considered the report and:

- (i) approved the proposed amendments to the 2020/21 capital programme as per Appendix 2 of the report;
- (ii) agreed to Grant Fund or to vary existing Grant Fund letters to the Local Authorities or other bodies for those awards up to the value of £200,000 and authorise the Assistant Chief Executive to complete the award letters;
- (iii) agreed to recommend to the Partnership meeting of 11 December 2020 approval to Grant Fund or to vary existing Grant Fund letters to the Local Authorities or other bodies for those awards over a cumulative value of £200,000;
- (iv) noted the financial performance of the 2020/21 capital programme as at Period 7; and
- (v) noted that further work to quantify and manage risk, advance savings and re-phase existing projects is being undertaken to balance spend against budget.

## **P 6. Mid-Year Treasury Management Report 2020/21**

[Click here to view the report](#)

There was submitted a report (issued) of 11 November 2020 by the Assistant Chief Executive advising the Committee that:

- (i) SPT is required by regulations issued under the Local Government in Scotland Act 2003 to produce an annual report reviewing treasury management activities and the actual prudential and treasury management indicators for 2019/20; and
- (ii) the report meets the requirements of both the CIPFA Code of Practice on Treasury Management (the “Code of Practice”) and the CIPFA Prudential Code for Capital Finance in Local Authorities (the “Prudential Code”).

After discussion and hearing further from Mr Wylie in response to members’ questions, the Committee:

- (i) noted the contents of the report, and
  - (iii) agreed to recommend to the Partnership meeting of 11 December 2020 approval to revise the counterparty limits to:
    - Principal Banker – the greater of £50m or 50% of total balances;
    - Other Institutions – the greater of £10m OR 35% of total balances; and
    - to allow for temporary operational circumstances, there is a tolerance level of 2% of the balance held with each counter party.
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## **7. Regional Transport Strategy – progress update**

[Click here to view the report](#)

There was submitted a report (issued) of 20 October 2020 by the Chief Executive updating the Committee on the revised methodology and programme for development of the new Regional Transport Strategy (RTS).

After discussion and having heard from Mr Kiloh in answer to members' questions, the Committee noted:

- (i) the contents of the report, including the revised methodology and preferred “Option 2” of review and refining the current methodology to take cognisance of the current uncertainties, and
- (ii) the revised programme for development of the new RTS.

## **8. Strategic Issues Update for the SPT area**

[Click here to view the report](#)

There was submitted a report (issued) of 6 August 2020 by the Chief Executive providing an update on strategic-level issues affecting transport in the west of Scotland.

Thereafter and having heard Mr Kiloh in answer to members' questions on congestion and the Bus Partnership Fund, the Committee noted the contents of the report and agreed that a report on the recently announced Bus Partnership Fund is submitted to a future Partnership meeting.

## **9. SPT Ticketing Update**

[Click here to view the report](#)

There was submitted a report (issued) of 4 November 2020 by the Assistant Chief Executive providing an update about SPT's activities regarding public transport ticketing, including Subway Smartcard ticketing, multi-operator tickets such as ZoneCard, and SPT's role in the Nevis Technologies Joint Venture.

After discussion and hearing from Mr Wylie and Mr Nimmo, the Committee noted the contents of the report.

## **10. Climate Change and Carbon Management Issues - Update**

[Click here to view the report](#)

There was submitted a report (issued) of 26 October 2020 by the Chief Executive providing an update to the Committee on:

- (i) the progress of the Scottish Government's Climate Change Plan
- (ii) informing the Committee of SPT's Climate Change Duties annual reporting for 2019/20; and
- (iii) providing an update to the Committee on the development of Actions for Carbon Management in support of the SPT Carbon Management Plan.

After discussion and hearing from Mr Kiloh in response to members' questions, specifically on the merits of rebaselining the data to a more timescale and how SPT captures the positive contribution it makes to other stakeholders, the Committee noted the contents of the report.

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## 11. 5G Trial Update

[Click here to view the report](#)

There was submitted a report (issued) of 4 November 2020 by the Assistant Chief Executive providing an update on the progress of the 5G trial project to install 5G signalling within Subway tunnels.

After hearing from Mrs Davidson, the Committee noted the progress of the international pilot project to assess the introduction of 5G connectivity within a subterranean environment.

## 12. Scottish Public Authorities Sharing Data consultation

[Click here to view the report](#)

There was submitted a report (issued) of 2 November 2020 by the Assistant Chief Executive informing members of a Scottish Government consultation on Scottish Public Authorities Sharing Data Background.

After hearing from Mrs Davidson, the Committee noted the data sharing legislation now extends to SPT and that SPT has responded to welcome its extension as proposed.

## 13. Framework for Rail and Trackwork Supply

[Click here to view the report](#)

There was submitted a report (issued) of 29 October 2020 by the Director of Subway recommending the award of an eight year framework for supply of rail and trackwork.

After hearing from Mr Smith, the Committee approved the award of an eight year framework to British Steel Limited for supply of rail (Lot 1) and to Trackwork Limited for supply of trackwork (Lot 2) with estimated total SPT spend of up to £2,000,000 (excl. VAT) over an eight year period.

## 14. Renewal of Subway Temporary Resource Framework

[Click here to view the report](#)

There was submitted a report (issued) of 28 October 2020 by the Director of Subway recommending the Committee approve the award of a multi-supplier framework contract for the supply of temporary engineering and labour resources in support of:

- (i) Subway operational maintenance; and
- (ii) Ongoing Subway modernisation programme.

After hearing from Mr Smith, the Committee approved the following contractors be appointed to a framework contract for an initial three years duration with an optional further one year extension to the value of up to £2m:

Coyle Personnel;  
ISS Labour;  
McGinlay Support Services;  
MPI Ltd;  
Ranstad CPE;  
SW Global Resource; and  
Vital Human Resources.

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