

Strathclyde Partnership for Transport

Minute of meeting

23 June 2023

held at 131 St Vincent Street, Glasgow and via Video Conference

Contact:

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Minute of the meeting of the Strathclyde Partnership for Transport held at 131 St Vincent Street, Glasgow and via Video Conference* at 10am on 23 June 2023

- Present** Councillors Stephen Dorman (Chair), *Ken Andrew, Ralph Barker (Substitute), Michael McPake, *Christy Mearns, Malcolm Mitchell, Alan Moir, *Jim Paterson, *Donald Reid, *Roza Salih, *William Sinclair, Adam Smith, *Duncan Townson, David Wilson and appointed members Greg Beecroft, *Jenna Dickson, Anne Follin, George Hazel, Ed McGrachan, *Kirsty Orr and *Andrew Walters.
- Attending** Valerie Davidson, Chief Executive/Partnership Secretary; Neil Wylie, Director of Finance & Corporate Support; Antony Smith, Director of Subway; Bruce Kiloh, Head of Policy & Planning; Gordon Dickson, Head of Bus Strategy & Delivery and Andrea Thompson, Media & Public Affairs Manager

Chair's Remarks

Partnership Standing Order No 14 requires the agreement of the Partnership to record meetings. The Chair re-iterated to the Partnership that the meeting would be recorded and potentially viewed multiple times. The Partnership members noted this.

The Chair informed all Partnership members, and extended congratulations on behalf of the Partnership to all SPT staff following the success at the annual Transport Awards event. SPT was successful and received awards for *Best Bus Service – Connecting our Communities* and *Excellence in Travel Information & Marketing*. In addition, Mrs Davidson also received an individual award for *Outstanding Contribution to Transport in Scotland*. Mrs Davidson extended thanks to the Partnership members and to all SPT teams for their hard work and contribution to these successes.

1. Apologies

Apologies were submitted from Councillors Maureen Devlin, Mark Horsham, William Lennox and Owen O'Donnell.

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

Cllr Moir declared an interest citing his employment with Scotrail and as a member of ASLEF, the trade union.

Jenna Dickson declared an interest citing her employment with Scotrail Holdings Ltd.

3. Minute of previous meeting

[Click here to view the minute](#)

The minute of the meeting of 17 March 2023 was submitted and approved as a correct record.

4. Committee Minutes

The minutes (issued) of the undernoted committees were noted and approved as an accurate record:

- (a) Operations Committee of 28 April 2023.
- (b) Personnel Committee of 28 April 2023.
- (c) Strategy & Programmes Committee of 9 June 2023, subject to amendments requested to note that a briefing note on the Highland Council project had been requested from

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members and that the matter of transport accessibility had been raised.

In addition, as a matter arising members sought an update on the potential and suitability of a bid to the Scotzeb Funding process. Cllr Moir highlighted that the discussions held at the Strategy & Programmes Committee confirmed that SPT officers had advised of the funding opportunity, but stressed that that match funding requirements in addition to the complexity of the application pre requisites was a challenge for SPT and local government organisations.

Further, Mr Dickson and Mrs Davidson explained the pre-requisites required for a consortium bid to the fund and advised that SPT were looking at all options in this complex area and would advise the Partnership once all assessments had been complete.

(d) Audit & Standards Committee of 9 June 2023.

5. Audit & Standards Committee annual report 2022/2023

[Click here to view the report](#)

There was submitted a report (issued) of 9 June 2023 by the Chief Executive recommending the Partnership note the Audit & Standards Committee annual report 2022/2023 which detailed the scope and extent of the work of the Committee.

After hearing from Mrs Davidson and the Audit & Standards Committee Chair, the Partnership noted the Audit & Standards Committee annual report 2022/2023, welcoming the contribution this made to the sound governance of the organisation.

6. SPT Annual Report 2022/2023

[Click here to view the report](#)

There was submitted a report (issued) of 7 June 2023 by the Chief Executive recommending the Partnership consider and approve the final draft of the SPT 2022/2023 Annual Report, noting that member comments received prior to the meeting would be accommodated. In addition Mrs Davidson highlighted that the report captured a snapshot of key activities in the last financial year, and highlighted the efforts made by staff to delivering successful outcomes.

After hearing from Mrs Davidson in response to members' questions, the Partnership approved the final draft of the SPT 2022/2023 Annual Report for publication, subject to the comments received being accommodated.

7. Subway Modernisation – progress update

[Click here to view the report](#)

There was submitted a report (issued) of 6 June 2023 by the Director of Subway providing the Partnership with the latest progress update on the Subway Modernisation programme.

After discussion and hearing from Mr Smith and Mr Wylie in response to members' questions, specifically relating to:

- (i) the sequential stages and the expected timeframes for completion of these stages;
- (ii) seeking confirmation that no Sunday closures were planned for the period of the UCI world Cycling Championships;
- (iii) budget and levels of contingency; and
- (iv) progress on the Target Operating Model (TOM) work which would influence post modernisation operating model and opening hours, and hearing that more detail

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would be provided to the Partnership at an appropriate time in the development of the TOM,

the Partnership noted:

- (i) the continued progress made on all Subway Modernisation and improvements works since the last written update to the Partnership in December 2022;
- (ii) ongoing progress on the MSA contract, including the completion of in-tunnel train vehicle testing and also ongoing progress on the testing of the modifications to the existing signalling system, all driving towards new fleet introduction to passenger service ('CPX') in autumn 2023;
- (iii) the continued challenge towards performance improvement on the TSSSA contract;
- (iv) progress made on operational readiness and delay mitigation actions including existing infrastructure and fleet maintenance improvements;
- (v) that the modernisation programme remains within overall budget and funding; and
- (vi) that a further report on progress will be presented to the Partnership meeting in December 2023.

8. SPT Climate Change and Carbon Management update

[Click here to view the report](#)

There was submitted a report (issued) of 14 June 2023 by the Chief Executive updating the Partnership on recent progress of SPT's developing Climate Change Strategy, draft framework and other work in relation to climate adaptation and carbon management within SPT.

After discussion and hearing from Mr Kiloh and Mrs Davidson in response to members' questions, specifically highlighting:

- (i) the importance of active travel in sustainable transport network being balanced with the need to ensure sufficient road space allocation for public transport; and
- (ii) that additional carbon literacy training for staff and members would be planned following the initial successful sessions,

the Partnership noted the contents of the report.

9. Subway Kids Go Free Offer

[Click here to view the report](#)

There was submitted a report (issued) of 8 June 2023 by the Director of Subway informing the Partnership of an initiative to support and encourage Subway travel by under 16s during the school summer holiday period.

After hearing from Mr Wylie and Mr Smith in response to members' questions relating to:

- (i) the need to ensure any campaign was subsequently analysed to fully understand impact;
- (ii) whether consideration had been given to extending the campaign to U22s; and
- (iii) whether the campaign should be limited only to accompanied under 16s and therefore families travelling,

the Partnership noted the contents of the report.