

Strathclyde Partnership for Transport

Minute of Strategy & Programmes Committee

17 February 2023

held in person at 131 St Vincent Street and via Video Conference

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Minute of the meeting of Strathclyde Partnership for Transport's Strategy & Programmes Committee held at 131 St Vincent Street and via Video Conference* on 17 February 2023

Present Councillors Alan Moir (Chair), Stephen Dornan, Mark Horsham* (until Agenda Item 9), Christy Mearns*, Malcolm Mitchell*, Donald Reid, William Sinclair*, Duncan Townson* (from Agenda Item 4), David Wilson and appointed members Anne Follin*, George Hazel*, Ed McGrachan* and Andrew Walters*.

Attending Valerie Davidson, Chief Executive; 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

The Partnership agreed at its meeting of 12 March 2021, following consideration of Standing Order No 14, for the recording of Committee and Partnership meetings, and that such recordings would be made available together with the minute of meetings.

1. Apologies

Apologies were submitted from Councillors William Lennox, Owen O'Donnell and Lawrence O'Neill.

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

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

3. Minute of previous meeting

[Click here to view the minute](#)

The minute of the meeting of 25 November 2022, having been considered and approved at the Partnership meeting on 16 December 2022 as a correct record, was duly noted.

4. Draft Revenue Budget for 2023/2024 and Long Term Financial Strategy

[Click here to view the report](#)

There was submitted and discussed a report (issued) of 7 February 2023 by the Director of Finance & Corporate Support presenting the Committee with a proposed draft revenue budget for 2022/2023, highlighting the assumptions made in the preparation of the budget, proposals for fees and charges and the draft local authority requisition. The updated Long Term Financial Strategy (LTFS) and proposed updated Reserves Policy were also presented for scrutiny prior to submission to the Partnership.

After considerable discussion, specifically highlighting that resources are being directed to Partnership priorities and after hearing from Mr Wylie, Mrs Davidson and Mr Kiloh in response to members' questions, the Committee considered the report and approved the following to be recommended to the Partnership on 17 March 2023:

- (i) the attached draft revenue budget for 2023/2024 at Appendix 2 of the report of £36.281m, subject to refinements over the coming weeks;
- (ii) requisitions totalling £35.632m, an increase of 1.95% compared to 2022/2023, noting that this will be amended to reflect any change in the local government settlement formula;

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- (iii) an increase to Subway fares in January 2024 as outlined in section 4 of the report;
- (iv) the update to the LTFS in Appendix 3 of the report; and
- (v) the proposed update to the Reserves Policy in Appendix 4 of the report.

5. Revenue Monitoring Report as at Period 10, ending 7 January 2023 and updated Financial Forecast for Financial Year 2022/2023

[Click here to view the report](#)

There was submitted and discussed a report (issued) of 30 January 2023 by the Director of Finance & Corporate Support advising members of the net revenue position as at the end of Period 10, 7 January 2023 and providing an updated financial forecast for the current financial year, stating the assumptions made regarding income and expenditure levels.

After hearing from Mr Wylie, particularly on specific budget matters including income levels and subsequently in response to members' questions, the Committee considered the report and:

- (i) noted the forecast outturn at this stage;
- (ii) noted that new financial pressures have come to the forefront in the current financial year including increased inflation, rising utilities costs and increased supported service contract costs which will impact on internal and external costs in future financial years; and
- (iii) approved the transfer of the final year end underspend to the Subway Fund, Transport Future Investment Fund and the Subway Infrastructure Fund to provide financial resilience to SPT for future financial years and support key transport developments in the future.

6. Capital Programme Monitoring and Proposed Amendments Report as at 7 January 2023, Period 10

[Click here to view the report](#)

There was submitted a report (issued) of 7 February 2023 by the Director of Finance & Corporate Support:

- (i) providing members with a progress update on the 2022/23 capital programme;
- (ii) seeking approval for proposed amendments to the 2022/23 capital programme; and
- (iii) seeking approval to Grant Fund as detailed in sections 6(ii) and (iii) of the report.

After hearing from Mr Wylie in response to members' questions, the Committee:

- (i) approved the proposed amendments to the 2022/2023 capital programme in 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 authorised that grant award letters be concluded in line with approved governance arrangements;
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- P**
- (iii) agreed to recommend to the Partnership meeting of 17 March 2023 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 2022/23 capital programme as at Period 10; 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.

7. Proposed Capital Plan 2023/2024 to 2025/2026 including the Capital Budget 2023/2024

[Click here to view the report](#)

There was submitted a report (issued) of 7 February 2023 by the Director of Finance & Corporate Support asking the Committee to consider and, if appropriate, to:

- (i) approve the proposed Capital Plan for financial years 2023/2024 to 2025/2026;
- (ii) approve the Capital Budget for financial year 2023/2024; and
- (iii) recommend to the Partnership meeting of 17 March 2023 approval to Grant Fund to the Local Authorities or other bodies as per Appendix 4 of the report and authorise that grant award letters be concluded in line with approved governance arrangements.

P After hearing from Mr Wylie, the Committee agreed to recommend the Partnership:

- (i) approve the proposed Capital Plan for financial years 2023/2024 to 2025/2026;
- (ii) approve the Capital Budget for financial year 2023/2024; and
- (iii) approve to Grant Fund to the Local Authorities or other bodies as per Appendix 4 and authorise that grant award letters be concluded in line with approved governance arrangements.

8. Clyde Metro – Progress Update and Proposed SPT Preparatory Works

[Click here to view the report](#)

There was submitted a report (issued) of 7 February 2023 by the Chief Executive updating the Committee on the current status of the Clyde Metro and proposed preparatory works by SPT to support delivery of the project.

After hearing from Mr Kiloh in response to members' questions and hearing the key message was to ensure the network would work for all council areas and the role SPT was proposing to adopt in terms of commencing early preparatory reports and work whilst the wider programme detail was being considered, the Committee agreed this approach and noted the report.

9. Strategic Issues Update for the SPT area

[Click here to view the report](#)

There was submitted a report (issued) of 7 February 2023 by the Chief Executive providing an update on strategic level issues affecting transport in the west of Scotland.

After extensive discussion and hearing from Mr Kiloh on progress of the Regional Bus Strategy and that SPT would respond to the Fair Fares Review and other relevant transport activities across the region, the Committee noted the contents of the report.

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10. Active Travel – progress update

[Click here to view the report](#)

There was submitted a report (issued) of 7 February 2023 by the Chief Executive updating the Committee on progress on active travel policy, investment and delivery.

After hearing from Mr Kiloh in response to members' questions and highlighting that SPT continued to seek additional funding in conjunction with partner local authorities to support this work, the Committee noted the contents of the report.

11. Broomloan Depot Yard Track and Civil Works – award of contract

[Click here to view the report](#)

There was submitted a report (issued) of 31 January 2023 by the Director of Subway seeking the Committee's approval of the award of a contract for track and civil works within the Yard at the Broomloan Depot to Amalgamated Construction Limited (trading as AmcoGiffen).

After hearing from Mr Smith, the Committee approved the award of a contract value of £433,435 to Amalgamated Construction Limited for track and civil works.
