

Strathclyde Partnership for Transport

Minute of Operations Committee

21 August 2020

held via video conference

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Minute of the meeting of Strathclyde Partnership for Transport's Operations Committee held via Video Conference on 21 August 2020

Present Councillors David Wilson (Chair), Malcolm Balfour, Martin Bartos, Richard Bell, Colin Cameron, Graham Campbell, Alistair Mackay (Substitute), Michael McPake, Alan Moir, Donald Reid and appointed members Greg Beecroft and Graham Johnston.

Attending Gordon Maclennan, Chief Executive; Valerie Davidson, Assistant Chief Executive/Partnership Secretary; Neil Wylie, Director of Finance; Antony Smith, Director of Subway; Bruce Kiloh, Head of Policy & Planning; Gordon Dickson, Head of Bus Strategy & Delivery; Gary Robertson, Network Analysis & Design Manager; Andrea Thompson, Media & Public Affairs Manager and Scott Prentice, Head of Business Development at Scotrail.

Chair's Remarks

The Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting and thanked all SPT staff present for their ongoing excellent work during the pandemic and proposed the SPT Chair communicated on behalf of the Partnership thanks to all staff on behalf of members for their work during these unprecedented times. All Committee members concurred.

1. Apologies

Apologies were submitted from Councillors Graham Hardie, Richard Nelson, Marie McGurk and Marie McNair.

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

Cllr McPake declared an interest with regard to Agenda Item 6, as a registered taxi driver, and confirmed he would not participate in discussions on this item.

3. Minute of previous meeting

[Click here to view the minute](#)

The minute of the meeting of 24 January 2020, having been considered at the Partnership meeting on 6 March 2020, was submitted and approved as a correct record.

4. Monitoring report on public transport services & facilities in the SPT area

[Click here to view the report](#)

There was submitted and discussed a report (issued) of 5 August 2020 by the Assistant Chief Executive:

- (a) reporting on the operational performance of public transport services and public transport facilities which are delivered directly by the Partnership or by others on behalf of the Partnership; and
- (b) reporting on the provision of public transport services and facilities in the Partnership area more generally.

The Chair welcomed Mr Prentice of Scotrail to the meeting. After significant discussion and having heard further from Mr Prentice, Mr Wylie, Mr Smith and Mr Maclennan in response to members' questions, the Committee noted the details of the report, and the impact that the recent pandemic had on all public transport services.

5. Subsidised Bus Service Contract Recommendations: financial Implications

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There was submitted a report (issued) of 6 August 2020 by the Assistant Chief Executive, advising the Committee of the financial implications of the subsidised bus contract recommendations being considered at the meeting.

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

- noted the financial implications of the recommendations in accompanying papers and gave due consideration to this in the course of the decision making. The impact of individual decisions was reported in each paper for consideration; and
- noted the proposal to be considered by the Strategy & Programmes Committee included that the projected positive variance as reported would be utilised to support SPT's overall financial position.

6. Covid 19: Impact on SPT Supported Bus Services

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There was submitted a report (issued) of 4 August 2020 by the Assistant Chief Executive updating the Committee on the operation of SPT Supported Bus Services during initial stages of the Covid 19 Pandemic.

After hearing from Mr Dickson in response to members' questions, the Committee noted the contents of the report.

7. Transport Scotland Bus Priority Rapid Deployment Fund – Proposed Bid by Glasgow City Region Transport Transition Plan Group

[Click here to view the report](#)

There was submitted a report (issued) of 4 August 2020 by the Assistant Chief Executive updating the Committee on Transport Scotland's Bus Priority Rapid Deployment Fund (BPRDF), and a proposed bid by the Glasgow City Region Transport Transition Plan (GCRTTP) Group.

After hearing from Mrs Davidson, Mr Kiloh and Mr Dickson in response to members' questions, the Committee noted the contents of the report and the draft GCRTTP bid proposals contained in the presentation in Appendix 1 of the report, and that the Committee would be further updated when a formal response to the bid had been received.

8. Maximising the Benefits of Local Bus Services – report by KPMG for Greener Journeys and the Department for Transport

[Click here to view the report](#)

There was submitted a report (issued) of 29 July 2020 by the Assistant Chief Executive informing the Committee of the publication of "Maximising the Benefits of Local Bus Services", a report by KPMG funded by Greener Journeys and the Transport Knowledge Hub of the Department for Transport (DfT). The report was published on 28 July 2020.

After hearing from Mrs Davidson, Mr Kiloh and Mr Dickson in response to members' questions, the Committee noted the contents of the report, and agreed that further consideration should be given as to how SPT could approach Transport Scotland and the Transport Minister to take forward a similar report in Scotland.

9. Contract Awards for bus stop and bus shelter maintenance

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There was submitted a report (issued) of 3 August 2020 by the Assistant Chief Executive recommending the Committee's approval of bus stop and bus shelter maintenance contracts.

After hearing from Mr Dickson in response to members' questions, the Committee noted the contents of the report.

10. Amendments to subsidised local bus service contracts

[Click here to view the report](#)

There was submitted a report (issued) of 5 August 2020 by the Assistant Chief Executive advising the Committee of amendments to subsidised local bus service contracts since the last Operations Committee on 24 January 2020.

After discussion and having heard Mr Dickson in response to members' questions, the Committee noted the amendments to subsidised local bus contracts, in accordance with established corporate governance, financial regulation and standings.

11. Contracts awarded under delegated powers

[Click here to view the report](#)

There was submitted a report (issued) of 5 August 2020 by the Assistant Chief Executive notifying the Committee of subsidised local bus service contracts awarded utilising delegated powers.

After discussion and having heard from Mr Dickson and Mr Robertson, the Committee noted the subsidised local bus service contracts awarded utilising delegated powers, thus ensuring that socially necessary gaps in the public transport network arising from commercial local bus market changes are provided for.
