

Strathclyde Partnership for Transport

Minute of Strategy & Programmes Committee

17 March 2017

held in 131 St Vincent Street, Glasgow

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Minute of the meeting of Strathclyde Partnership for Transport's Strategy & Programmes Committee held in 131 St Vincent Street, Glasgow, on 17 March 2017

Present Councillors Jonathan Findlay (Chair), Dr Martin Bartos, Eddie Devine, Bill Grant, Michael McPake, Donald Reid and Paul Welsh and appointed members Ann Faulds, Anne Follin, Alan Malcolm, Alex Macaulay, Jo MacLennan and Jim McNally.

Attending Valerie Davidson, Secretary/Assistant Chief Executive (Business Support); Kirsten Gibson, Committee Support Officer; Gordon MacLennan, Chief Executive; Eric Stewart, Assistant Chief Executive (Operations); Charlie Hoskins, Senior Director and Bruce Kiloh, Head of Policy & Planning.

1. Apologies

Apologies were submitted from Councillors Denis McKenna, Kaye Harmon and Appointed Member Brian Davidson.

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

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The minute of the meeting of 27 January 2017 was submitted and approved as a correct record.

4. Revenue monitoring report as at 4 February 2017 (period 11)

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There was submitted and noted a report (issued) of 20 February 2017 by the Assistant Chief Executive (Business Support)

- (1) reminding members that the Partnership had approved a core revenue budget for 2016/2017 of £38.418m;
- (2) appending the revenue monitoring report for the period to 4 February 2017 (period 11) which detailed the main variances, together with a detailed budgetary control report;
- (3) informing members that having taken account of all SPT service priorities across the revenue and capital programmes, a positive variance of £0.141m was forecast; and
- (4) informing members that all expenditure heads would continue to be monitored to ensure that this positive variance was achieved and the required year end break-even position would be achieved at year end.

5. Capital programme monitoring report and proposed amendments as at 4 February 2017 (period 11)

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There was submitted a report (issued) of 9 March 2017 by the Assistant Chief Executive (Business Support)

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- (1) reminding members that the 2016/2017 capital programme had been approved by the Partnership on 4 March 2016 against known capital grant and other sources of funding;
- (2) intimating that actual expenditure as at 4 February 2017 (period 11) totalled £46.765m compared to a planned spend position of £47.029m;
- (3) providing a detailed financial analysis of individual projects contained within the programme, split by department;
- (4) appending proposed amendments to the capital programme, together with reasons for the adjustments listed against each project, which represented a net expenditure reduction of £12.555m;
- (5) explaining that there was also a net reduction of £11.630m in the revised funding required in 2016/2017 across the various funding streams; and
- (6) recommending that the committee
 - (a) approve the proposed amendments to the 2016/2017 capital programme as detailed in appendix 2 to the report;
 - (b) agree to the award of Grant Funding or to vary existing Grant Funding letters to Local Authorities or other bodies for those awards up to the value of £200,000;
 - (c) authorise the Assistant Chief Executive (Business Support) to sign the grant funding letters to expedite all of the projects; and
 - (d) otherwise note the terms of the report.

After consideration and having heard Mrs Davidson in further explanation and in answer to members' questions, the committee approved the recommendations at (6) above.

6. Treasury Management Strategy 2017/2018

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There was submitted a report (issued) of 9 March 2017 by the Assistant Chief Executive (Business Support))

- (1) outlining the background to SPT's treasury management processes;
- (2) appending SPT's
 - (a) proposed counterparty list;
 - (b) permitted investment types; and
 - (c) Treasury Management Policy Statement;
- (3) detailing the proposed treasury management strategy for SPT for the financial year 2017/ 2018 under the following headings:-
 - capital plans and the prudential indicators;
 - current treasury position;
 - treasury indicators which would limit the treasury risk and activities of SPT;
 - prospects for interest rates;
 - borrowing strategy;

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- policy on borrowing in advance of need;
 - investment strategy;
 - creditworthiness policy; and
 - policy on use of external service providers; and
- (4) recommending that the committee approve
- (a) the Treasury Strategy for 2017/2018;
 - (b) SPT's prudential indicators as detailed in the report;
 - (c) the counterparty list detailed in Appendix 1 to the report; and
 - (d) the Permitted Investment Types detailed in Appendix 2 to the report.

After discussion and having heard Mrs Davidson in further explanation of the report and in answer to members' questions, the committee approved the recommendations at (4) above.

7. SPT responses to consultation on climate change, rail infrastructure and bus regulation

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There was submitted a report (issued) of 21 February 2017 by the Assistant Chief Executive (Operations)

- (1) informing members that SPT had been invited to respond to the following consultations:-
- Scottish Parliament Rural Economy and Connectivity Committee's Call for Views on the Scottish Government's Draft Climate Change Plan;
 - Scottish Government Consultation on Scotland's Rail Infrastructure Strategy to 2019; and
 - Scottish Parliament Public Petitions Committee invitation to comment on Petition PE1626 Regulation of Bus Services;
- (2) outlining the key issues contained within each consultation, together with the key principles of SPT's proposed responses which had been submitted within the deadline, subject to committee approval;
- (3) appending SPT's proposed responses to the above consultations, which had included a joint response by the Regional Transport Partnerships of Scotland on the consultation documents on the Climate Change Plan;
- (4) explaining
- (a) that the opportunity to respond to the consultations again provided SPT with the chance to argue for positive change in the transport network of Scotland;
 - (b) that the consultations were happening at a time when there was a considerable number of workstreams at various levels which, whilst looking at different aspects of transport, were all inter-related; and
 - (c) that officers had highlighted the need for a co-ordinated approach in looking at each of these, and would continue to engage with relevant partners in relation to

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these and other developments and would keep the committee informed of progress as necessary in future; and

- (5) recommending that the committee approve SPT's draft responses to each of the consultations outlined above.

After considerable discussion and having Mr Kiloh in explanation of the report and Messrs Stewart, Hoskins and MacLennan in answer to members' questions, the committee

- (i) approved the recommendation at (5) above, taking into account the comments made by members; and
- (ii) otherwise noted the terms of the report.

8. **Climate Ready Clyde**

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There was submitted a report (issued) of 21 February 2017 by the Assistant Chief Executive (Operations)

- (1) informing members
 - (a) that Climate Ready Clyde was a three year initiative aimed at creating a shared vision, strategy and action plan to help Glasgow city region adapt to the challenges and opportunities brought about by climate change; and
 - (b) that public bodies had a duty under the Climate Change (Scotland) Act 2009 to contribute to Scotland's climate change targets and programmes and to carry out their functions in a sustainable manner;
- (2) requesting that the committee consider an invitation from the Cabinet Secretary for Environment, Climate Change and Land Reform to join Climate Ready Clyde;
- (3) appending a proposed Climate Ready Clyde work programme for 2017 - 2020; and
- (4) outlining the key benefits of Climate Ready Clyde membership.

After consideration, the committee approved SPT's membership of the Climate Ready Clyde Partnership Board at a cost of £7,250 (exc VAT) towards its secretariat cost until March 2020.