

Strathclyde Partnership for Transport

Minute of Strategy & Programmes Committee

19 February 2021

held by Video Conference

Contact:

Pamella Lawrence pamella.lawrence@spt.co.uk

Minute of the meeting of Strathclyde Partnership for Transport's Strategy & Programmes Committee held by Video Conference on 19 February 2021

Present Councillors Alan Moir (Chair), Dr Martin Bartos, Maureen Devlin, William Goldie, Alan Lafferty, Anna Richardson, Jim Roberts (from Agenda Item 5), David Shearer, David Wilson (until Agenda Item 8) and appointed members Brian Davidson, Ann Faulds, Anne Follin, Alex Macaulay and Jim McNally (from Agenda Item 5).

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 and Andrea Thompson, Media & Public Affairs Manager.

1. Apologies

Apologies were submitted from Councillor Ian Cochrane.

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 20 November 2020, having been considered at the Partnership meeting of 11 December 2020, was submitted and approved as a correct record.

4. Updated Financial Forecast for financial year 2020/21 as at the end of Period 10

[Click here to view the report](#)

There was submitted a report (issued) of 3 February 2021 by the Assistant Chief Executive providing members with an updated financial forecast 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 having heard from Mr Wylie in answer to members' questions, the Committee considered the report and noted:

- (i) the forecast outturn at this stage and the level of expenditure required to assist with the deficit; and
- (ii) that discussions continue with Transport Scotland over continued financial support for the current financial year to address the projected deficit.

5. Revenue Budget for 2021/22 – Update

[Click here to view the report](#)

There was submitted a report (issued) of 3 February 2021 by the Assistant Chief Executive providing members with an update on the preparations to present a balanced revenue budget for 2021/22 to the 12 March 2021 Partnership, and asked the members to consider the risks and challenges being faced at this stage. The report sought to highlight the assumptions being made in the preparation of the budget, proposals for fees and charges and the draft proposed local authority requisition. In addition, members were asked to note the review of the reserves policy and recommend this to the Partnership.

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After considerable discussion principally relating to the significant continuing financial impact of Covid-19 on SPT's income generating base, notwithstanding that the final Local Government Settlement remains outstanding and having heard from Mrs Davidson and Mr MacLennan in answer to members' questions, the Committee:

- (i) considered the draft revenue budget and the assumptions being made as detailed in the report, including the proposed draft local authority requisition levels;
- (ii) noted that further work continued to minimise the uncertainty of assumptions;
- (iii) agreed that a balanced budget would be presented to 12 March 2021 Partnership for approval;
- (iv) noted the current and projected reserve balances as detailed in section 5; and
- (v) recommended that the Partnership approve the update to the Reserves Policy.

6. Capital Programme Monitoring and Proposed Amendments Report as at 2 January 2021, Period 10

[Click here to view the report](#)

There was submitted a report (issued) of 10 February 2021 by the Assistant Chief Executive providing a progress update on the 2020/21 capital programme, seeking approval for proposed amendments to the 2020/21 capital programme, and seeking approval to Grant Fund as detailed in sections 6(b) and 6(c) of this report.

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

- (i) approved the proposed amendments to the 2020/21 capital programme as per Appendix 2 of this 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 12 March 2021 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 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 2021/22 to 2023/24 including the Capital Budget 2021/22

[Click here to view the report](#)

There was submitted a report (issued) of 10 February 2021 by the Assistant Chief Executive recommending the Committee consider the Proposed Capital Plan 2021/22 to 2023/24 including the Capital Budget 2021/22 and recommending the Partnership approve the proposed Capital Plan for financial years 2021/22 to 2023/24; approve the Capital Budget for financial year 2021/22; and approve to Grant Fund to the Local Authorities or other bodies as per Appendix 4 of the report, and authorise the Assistant Chief Executive to complete the grant award letters.

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After hearing from Mrs Davidson the Committee agreed to recommend to the Partnership meeting of 12 March 2021:

- (i) approval of the proposed Capital Plan for financial years 2021/22 to 2023/24;
- (ii) approval of the Capital Budget for financial year 2021/22; and
- (iii) approval to Grant Fund the Local Authorities, or other bodies, as per Appendix 4 and authorise the Assistant Chief Executive to complete the grant award letters.

8. Strategic Issues Update for the SPT area

[Click here to view the report](#)

There was submitted a report (issued) of 25 January 2021 by the Chief Executive providing members with an update on strategic level issues affecting transport in the west of Scotland.

After considerable discussion and having heard from Mr Kiloh, Mr Dickson and Mr MacLennan in answer to members' questions, the Committee noted the contents of the report.

9. Glasgow City Region City Deal: Update on East Dunbartonshire Council's Place and Growth Programme

[Click here to view the report](#)

There was submitted a report (issued) of 2 February 2021 by the Assistant Chief Executive providing members with an update on EDC's Place and Growth programme, a collaborative project between East Dunbartonshire Council, Glasgow City Council and SPT, incorporating Bus infrastructure improvements on the A803 Corridor.

After much discussion principally relating to the interaction with the proposed Metro system, and having heard from Mr Dickson and Mrs Davidson in answer to members' questions, the Committee noted the contents of the report.

10. SPT Responses to Consultations

[Click here to view the report](#)

There was submitted a report (issued) of 26 January 2021 by the Chief Executive recommending the Committee approve the key points of draft SPT responses recently submitted or proposed to submit on various consultations currently in circulation, issued by Scottish Government, Transport Scotland and the UK Government.

After hearing from Mr Kiloh, the Committee:

- (i) noted the contents of the report; and
- (ii) approved the key points of the responses in Section 3 of the report.

11. Transport Scotland Strategic Transport Projects Review – Update

[Click here to view the report](#)

There was submitted a report (issued) of 3 February 2021 by the Chief Executive providing an update on Transport Scotland's second Strategic Transport Projects Review (STPR2), specifically its Phase 1 recommendations and proposed progress to Phase 2.

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