

Strathclyde Partnership for Transport

Minute of meeting

30 September 2022

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 30 September 2022

- Present** Councillors Stephen Dornan (Chair), Alex Allison, Ralph Barker (Substitute), Mark Horsham*, Joanne Katy Keltie*, Helen Loughran* (Substitute), William Lennox*, Christy Mearns, Malcolm Mitchell*, Alan Moir, Jim Paterson, Donald Reid, Roza Salih, William Sinclair*, Duncan Townson, David Wilson and appointed members Greg Beecroft, Anne Follin, George Hazel and Andrew Walters* (from Agenda Item 6)
- 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; Jim Griffin, Senior Solicitor and Amy Sullivan, Solicitor

Chair's Remarks

Partnership Standing Order No 14 requires the agreement of the Partnership to record meetings. The Chair sought and the Partnership agreed for the recording of SPT Partnership and Committee video conference meetings to commence.

The Chair advised the Partnership that this meeting was appointed member Graham Johnston's last meeting as his term of office concluded today. On behalf of the Partnership, the Chair expressed thanks for his contribution to the work of the Partnership over the last 8 years.

1. Apologies

Apologies were submitted from Councillors Ken Andrew, Gordon Currie, Maureen Devlin, Craig Edward, Michael McPake, Owen O'Donnell and appointed members Graham Johnston and Ed McGrachan.

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.

Appointed member George Hazel advised that he continued in his role as an adviser on sustainable transport to North Ayrshire Council.

3. Minute of previous meeting

[Click here to view the minute](#)

The minute of the meeting of 24 June 2022 was submitted and approved as a correct record subject to the attendance being clarified to reflect more clearly who attended virtually, and that those members attending virtually were adversely affected from taking a full involvement as a result of the technical problems encountered. The Partnership Secretary confirmed that despite this the meeting was quorate throughout.

4. Committee Minutes

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

- (a) Operations Committee of 26 August 2022, subject to a request to include reference to the discussion that concerned Glasgow City Council ASN school transport which is delivered directly by the Council and not SPT.

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- (b) Personnel Committee of 26 August 2022;
- (c) Strategy & Programmes Committee of 9 September 2022; and
- (d) Audit & Standards Committee of 9 September 2022.

5. Update on Membership

[Click here to view the report](#)

There was submitted a report (issued) of 2 September 2022 by the Chief Executive/Partnership Secretary providing the Partnership with an update on membership, including a recommendation to appoint an appointed member from the health sector.

After hearing from Mrs Davidson in response to members' questions, including clarification of the timing of another round of public appointments, the Partnership:

- (i) noted the recent updates to elected member nominations as detailed in the report; and
- (ii) approved the appointment of Kirsty Orr of NHS Lanarkshire as the health sector representative on the Partnership for a period of 4 years, subject to Ministerial consent.

The Chair welcomed Ms Orr to the SPT Partnership and looked forward to working with her and other colleagues on the access to healthcare agenda.

6. Annual Accounts 2021/2022

[Click here to view the report](#)

There was submitted a report (issued) of 12 September 2022 by the Director of Finance & Corporate Support recommending the Partnership consider the audited annual accounts and approve them for signature no later than 30 September 2022 thus ensuring compliance with the Local Authority Accounts (Scotland) Regulations 2014.

After discussion and hearing from Mr Wylie, the Partnership approved the signing of the Partnership financial statements for the year ending 31 March 2022.

7. SPT Annual Report 2021/2022

[Click here to view the report](#)

There was submitted a report (issued) of 15 September 2022 by the Chief Executive recommending the Partnership consider and approve the final draft of the SPT 2021/2022 Annual Report, subject to any final comments from members prior to the report being published.

After members expressed that the report was an excellent synopsis of all the work SPT does and after hearing from Mrs Davidson in response to members' questions, the Partnership considered and approved the proposed final draft SPT 2021/2022 Annual Report for publication noting that it will be sent to the Transport Minister and all key stakeholders.

8. SPT Corporate Plan: Interim Corporate Plan 2022/2023

[Click here to view the report](#)

There was submitted a report (issued) of 20 September 2022 by the Chief Executive informing the Partnership of the publication of the SPT Corporate Plan: Interim Corporate Plan 2022/2023.

After extensive discussion, particularly relative to the stakeholder engagement schedule and how SPT engages with stakeholders, and the importance of passenger representative groups and the public in engagement exercises, and after hearing from Mrs Davidson in response to

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members' questions, the Partnership noted the report and the publication of the SPT Corporate Plan: Interim Corporate Plan 2022/2023.

9. Subway Modernisation: Short Subway closures to facilitate invasive installations

[Click here to view the report](#)

There was submitted a report (issued) of 12 September 2022 by the Director of Subway updating the Partnership on limited Sunday closures of the Subway to facilitate efficient installation of infrastructure, strengthening of platforms and potentially testing of vehicles.

After hearing from Mr Smith and Mrs Davidson in response to members' questions seeking clarity as to how staff would be deployed during the days of closure and confirmation that staff terms and conditions applied during those days, the Partnership noted the report.

10. Transport (Scotland) Act 2019 – Local authority-run bus services – Commencement Regulations and Information Note

[Click here to view the report](#)

There was submitted a report (issued) of 20 September 2022 by the Chief Executive informing the Partnership of the coming into force of the Transport (Scotland) Act 2019 (Commencement no.5) Regulations in relation to local authority-run bus services, and the publication by Transport Scotland of an Information Note in regard to those provisions.

After extensive discussion, specifically relating to:

- (i) how best SPT could bring about change in the bus network, recognising that the costs and risks were potentially significant;
- (ii) the importance of communicating those risks and challenges in a way that all stakeholders fully understood the scale of the challenge and the timescales required to bring about change;
- (iii) whether individual local authorities had, informally or formally, expressed views as to whether they were financially able or willing to consider the creation of a municipal bus operation;
- (iv) a request that SPT Partnership members consider a working half day session to better understand at a strategic level the issues involved; and
- (v) what were the next steps that SPT would take in the assessment of an updated bus strategy and delivery plan.

Following the extensive and wide ranging discussion, and hearing from Mrs Davidson, Mr Wylie, Mr Kiloh and Mr Dickson, the Partnership:

- (i) agreed that a half-day session for Partnership members would be organised to allow a more detailed discussion;
- (ii) noted that further report outlining SPTs approach would be considered at the Strategy & Programmes Committee in November; and
- (iii) noted the contents of the report as presented.

11. SPT Transport Summit

[Click here to view the report](#)

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There was submitted a report (issued) of 20 September 2022 by the Chief Executive updating the Partnership on a proposed Transport Summit being arranged by SPT to be held in Glasgow city centre on 27 October 2022.

After hearing from Mrs Davidson in response to members' questions seeking more clarity on the stakeholder invitation list and the rationale for the selected date, the Partnership noted the contents of the report.

12. Proposed Lease (renewal) of Units 1/2 at Buchanan Bus Station

It was proposed that the press and public be excluded for Item 12 above, it being considered that otherwise there would be disclosure to them of exempt information in terms of paragraph 9 of Schedule 7a to the Local Government (Scotland) Act 1973.

There was submitted a report (issued) and approved of 12 September 2022 by the Director of Finance & Corporate Support recommending Partnership approval for SPT to conclude negotiations and enter into for a lease period of 10 years, in respect of Units 1&2 Buchanan Bus Station as detailed in the report presented.