

Strathclyde Partnership for Transport

Minute of meeting

17 March 2023

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 17 March 2023

Present Councillors Stephen Dornan (Chair), *Ken Andrew, Maureen Devlin, *William Lennox, Alan Moir, Christy Mearns, Malcolm Mitchell, Michael McPake, *Richard Nelson (Substitute), Owen O'Donnell, *Lawrence O'Neill, *Donald Reid, Roza Salih, William Sinclair, *Adam Smith, *Andy Steel (Substitute), *Duncan Townson, David Wilson and appointed members Greg Beecroft, *Jenna Dickson, Anne Follin, Ed McGrachan, *Kirsty Orr and *Andrew Walters

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 and Andrea Thompson, Media & Public Affairs Manager

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.

1. Apologies

Apologies were submitted from Councillors Alex Allison, Gordon Currie, Jim Paterson and appointed member George Hazel.

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.

Jenna Dickson declared an interest citing her employment with Scotrail Holdings Ltd.

3. Minute of previous meeting

[Click here to view the minute](#)

The minute of the meeting of 16 December 2022 was submitted and approved as a correct record.

4. Committee Minutes

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

- (a) Operations Committee of 27 January 2023;
- (b) Strategy & Programmes Committee of 17 February 2023, with the Partnership noting that both the Revenue and Capital budget proposals were specific items on this agenda; and
- (c) Audit & Standards Committee of 17 February 2023.

5. Proposed Update to Partnership Standing Orders

[Click here to view the report](#)

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There was submitted a report (issued) of 13 February 2023 by the Chief Executive/Partnership Secretary recommending the Partnership approve the amendment to Standing Orders as previously presented which embraces consideration of gender when making appointments to the roles of Partnership office bearers.

After hearing from Mrs Davidson in response to members' questions and noting that the Partnership Standing Orders are regularly reviewed, the Partnership approved the amendment to Standing Order 2.5.1 as outlined in paragraph 3 of the report.

6. Proposed Revenue Budget for 2023/2024 and Long Term Financial Strategy

[Click here to view the report](#)

There was submitted a report (issued) of 28 February 2023 by the Director of Finance & Corporate Support asking the Partnership consider and approve the revenue budget for 2023/2024, including proposals to fares, fees and charges; to note the consequential local authority requisition and to approve the updated Long Term Financial Strategy and proposed updated Reserves Policy.

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

- (i) considered and approved the proposed revenue budget for 2023/2024 of £36.281m;
- (ii) noted the requisitions totalling £35.632m, an increase of 1.95% compared to 2022/23;
- (iii) approved an increase to Subway fares and charges in January 2024 as outlined in section 4 and to Bus Departure charges as outlined in section 4 of the report;
- (iv) approved the update to the LTFS in Appendix 3 of the report; and
- (v) approved the proposed update to the Reserves Policy in Appendix 4 of the report.

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 24 February 2023 by the Director of Finance & Corporate Support asking the Partnership to consider, and if appropriate:

- (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 of the report and to authorise that grant award letters be concluded in line with approved governance arrangements.

After discussion and hearing from Mr Wylie in response to members' questions, the Partnership approved:

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

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8. Treasury Management Strategy Statement, Annual Investment Strategy and Capital Strategy 2023/2024

[Click here to view the report](#)

There was submitted a report (issued) of 7 March 2023 by the Director of Finance & Corporate Support updating members on treasury management processes and seeking approval for the proposed treasury management strategy and annual investment strategy for financial year 2023/2024. In addition, and related to, also seeking approval for the proposed capital strategy which forms part of SPT's integrated revenue, capital and treasury management planning.

After discussion and hearing from Mr Wylie in response to members' questions, the Partnership considered the report and approved:

- (i) the Treasury Management Strategy Statement and Annual Investment Strategy for financial year 2023/2024;
- (ii) SPT's prudential indicators as detailed in the report;
- (iii) the Permitted Investment Types detailed in Appendix 1 of the report;
- (iv) the Counterparty List detailed in Appendix 3 of the report; and
- (v) the Capital Strategy.

9. Regional Transport Strategy – Final Draft

[Click here to view the report](#)

There was submitted a report (issued) of 1 March 2023 by the Chief Executive updating the Partnership on the amendments made to the draft Regional Transport Strategy (RTS) in light of feedback received during the public consultation and recommending the Partnership approve the final draft Regional Transport Strategy attached at Appendix 1 of the report for submission to Scottish Ministers for approval.

After a full and extensive discussion and hearing members' views, including in terms of:

- (i) Affordable Transport (Policy 2);
- (ii) Integrated Public Transport (Policy 18); and
- (iii) utilising the powers of the Transport Act 2019;

and after hearing from Mr Kiloh, Mrs Davidson and Mr Wylie in response to the above and who:

- (i) highlighted work on the Strathclyde Regional Bus Strategy and the need to receive regulations and guidance on provisions of the Transport (Scotland) Act 2019 from the Scottish Government to facilitate their implementation; and
- (ii) stated the RTS Delivery Plan will set out the necessary measures to support delivery of the RTS.

Thereafter, the Partnership approved the final draft RTS to be submitted to Scottish Ministers for approval as the new Regional Transport Strategy for the west of Scotland.

Members expressed thanks to Mr Kiloh and his team for the recent RTS sessions held for members and for the work required to produce such an insightful document.

10. Meeting the Public Sector Equality Duty – SPT Advancing Equality Progress Report 2021-2023

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[Click here to view the report](#)

There was submitted a report (issued) of 1 March 2023 by the Chief Executive providing members with a progress update on how SPT is meeting its obligations under the UK Equality Act 2010 and Scottish Public Sector Equality Duties and recommending approval of the publication of the 'SPT Advancing Equality Progress Report 2021-2023' attached at Appendix 1 of the report.

After discussion and hearing members seek responses as to how SPT could influence the board make up, and the actions taken to influence the staff composition, the Partnership noted the contents of the report and approved the 'SPT Advancing Equality Progress Report 2021-2023' for publication on SPT's website.

11. Proposed Lease of Units 4 & 7 at Buchanan Bus Station

It was proposed that the press and public be excluded for Item 11 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 21 February 2023 by the Chief Executive recommending the Partnership approve the Director of Finance & Corporate Support, in consultation with the Senior Solicitor, to conclude negotiations for lease agreements in respect of Units 4 & 7 Buchanan Bus Station as detailed in the report presented.