



Strathclyde Partnership for Transport

Minute of Operations Committee

8 November 2019

held in 131 St Vincent Street, Glasgow

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Minute of the meeting of Strathclyde Partnership for Transport's Operations Committee held in 131 St Vincent Street, Glasgow, on 8 November 2019

Present Councillors David Wilson (Chair), Malcolm Balfour, Martin Bartos, Richard Bell, Graham Campbell (from item 6), Graham Hardie, Alistair Mackay (substitute), Marie McNair, Michael McPake, Alan Moir, Alex Allison (substitute), and Donald Reid and appointed members Gregory Beecroft and Graham Johnston.

Attending Gordon Maclennan, Chief Executive; Valerie Davidson, Assistant Chief Executive; Neil Wylie, Director of Finance; Antony Smith, Director of Subway; Heather Maclean, Committee Officer; Gordon Dickson, Head of Bus Strategy & Development; Karen O'Donnell, Schools Agency Services & Compliance Manager; Councillor Maureen Devlin, South Lanarkshire Council and Ewan Tait, Scotrail Abellio Alliance.

Chairs Opening Remarks

The Chair welcomed newly appointed member Councillor Bell and substitute member Councillor Allison to the meeting.

In addition, the Chair sought, and received, the agreement of the Partnership to the tabling of an additional paper, to be read as Item 12.

1. Apologies

Apologies were submitted from Councillors Richard Nelson and Marie McGurk.

2. Declaration 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

The minute of the meeting of 23 August 2019, having been considered at the Partnership meeting on 20 September 2019, was submitted and approved as a correct record.

4. Monitoring Report on Public Transport Services in the SPT Area

There was submitted and discussed a report (issued) of 28 October 2019 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.

Mr Tait from Scotrail also gave an update to the committee regarding Scotrail performance and future development across the SPT area.

After significant discussion and having heard from Messrs Maclennan, Wylie and Smith and Ms O'Donnell in further explanation and in answer to members' questions, the Committee noted the terms of the report.

On behalf of the Committee, the Chair thanked Mr Tait for his attendance.

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5. Subsidised Bus Service Contract Recommendations: Financial Implications

There was submitted a report (issued) of 22 October 2019 by the Assistant Chief Executive, with regards to the financial implications of the subsidised bus contract recommendations being considered at the meeting.

After hearing from Mr Wylie, the Committee noted the contents of the report.

6. Schools Agency & Compliance Presentation

Ms O'Donnell, Schools Agency Services & Compliance Manager, gave a presentation to the committee outlining the scope and responsibilities of the Schools Agency & Compliance teams.

After hearing from Ms O'Donnell and Mr Dickson in response to members' questions, the Chair thanked Ms O'Donnell, on behalf of the Committee, for her presentation and requested that an update on the work that SPT does to support local authorities in their school transport provision be provided to the committee on a six monthly basis.

7. Pilot upgrade of SPT bus to Euro VI emission Standards

There was submitted a report (issued) of 22 October 2019 by the Assistant Chief Executive informing the Committee of plans to upgrade an SPT owned bus to Euro VI emission standards.

After discussion and hearing from Mr Dickson in response to members' questions, the Committee noted:

- that an award of £21,000 from the BEAR scheme had been granted to SPT by the Energy Savings Trust, to support the retrofit of an Optare Solo Midibus to Euro VI standards;
- that an order had been placed with HJS Emissions Technology Limited to undertake the retrofit to be completed in 2019/20; and
- that SPT officers will continue to explore further opportunities to reduce emissions associated with our fleet and service provision.

8. Requests for subsidised local bus service contracts

There was submitted and agreed a report (issued) of 22 October 2019 by the Assistant Chief Executive recommending that members note the recent requests received for subsidised local bus services and approve the recommended actions.

9. Amendments to subsidised local bus service contracts

After consideration of a report (issued) of 22 October 2019 by the Assistant Chief Executive outlining changes to subsidised local bus services arising from changed market circumstances, the Committee noted the amendments to the services, as detailed in the Appendix to the report.

10. Contracts awarded under delegated powers

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There was submitted a report (issued) of 22 October 2019 by the Assistant Chief Executive advising the Committee of subsidised local bus service contracts being awarded utilising delegated powers.

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

11. Maintenance and Managed Service of Automated Fare Collection System – award of contract

There was submitted a report (issued) of 17 October 2019 by the Director of Subway recommending the approval of an award of a 5 year contract for the maintenance and managed service of SPT's Automated Fare Collection system to Scheidt & Bachmann GmbH (S&B).

After discussion and having heard from Mr Smith in response to members' questions, the Committee approved the award of a contract to Scheidt & Bachmann GmbH for a 5 year period at an annual cost of £710,689 for the maintenance and managed service for SPT's Automated Fare Collection system, and a further £45,000 for P2PE option. Both amounts are subject to annual variation in line with CPI.

12. Smart ticketing – Smartcard Interoperability

There was submitted a report (tabled) of 28 October 2019 by the Assistant Chief Executive informing the Committee of developments relating to customer use of smartcards issued by Subway and by other public transport operators, and that the Interoperability project had now been launched to the public.

The report outlines that SPT has worked closely with Transport Scotland and other industry partners to progress the project, and that smartcard interoperability simplifies smart ticketing for customers, and provides benefits for public transport operators, including Subway.

After discussion and hearing from SPT officers in response to members' questions, the committee noted the contents of the report.