



Strathclyde Partnership for Transport

Minute of Operations Committee

28 April 2023

held in person at 131 St Vincent Street and via Video Conference

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Minute of the meeting of Strathclyde Partnership for Transport's Operations Committee held at 131 St Vincent Street and via Video Conference* on 28 April 2023

Present Councillors David Wilson (Chair), Alex Allison, Ken Andrew, Maureen Devlin* (until Agenda Item 6), Stephen Dornan, Michael McPake*, Alan Moir, Jim Paterson, Donald Reid, Roza Salih* (with connectivity issues), Adam Smith* and appointed members Greg Beecroft and Jenna Dickson

Attending Valerie Davidson, Chief Executive; 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/Clerk, Ewan Tait, Business Development Executive, ScotRail and Iain Hall, External Stakeholder Relations Manager, ScotRail (for Agenda Item 4)

The Partnership agreed at its meeting of 12 March 2021, following consideration of Standing Order No 14, for the recording of Committee and Partnership meetings, and that such recordings would be made available together with the minute of meetings.

1. Apologies

Apologies were submitted from appointed member Kirsty Orr.

2. Declaration of interest in terms of the Ethical Standards in Public Life etc (Scotland) Act 2000

Cllr Moir declared an interest in Agenda Item 4, citing his employment with Scotrail and as a member of ASLEF, the trade union.

Jenna Dickson declared an interest in Agenda Item 4, citing her employment with Scotrail Holdings Ltd.

3. Minute of previous meeting

[Click here to view the minute](#)

The minute of the meeting of 27 January 2023, having been considered and agreed at the Partnership meeting of 17 March 2023 as a correct record, was duly noted.

4. Monitoring report on public transport services & facilities in the SPT area

[Click here to view the report](#)

There was submitted and discussed a report (issued) of 18 April 2023 by the Director of Finance & Corporate Support 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 the provision of public transport services and facilities in the Partnership area more generally.

After extensive discussion and having heard from Mr Tait and Mr Hall in relation to ScotRail services and timetable changes and hearing from Mr Wylie, Mrs Davidson and Mr Dickson in response to members' questions, the Committee noted the contents of the report.

The Operations Chair thanked Mr Tait and Mr Hall for attending.

5. Subsidised bus service contract recommendations: financial implications

[Click here to view the report](#)

28 April 2023

There was submitted a report (issued) of 18 April 2023 by the Director of Finance & Corporate Support, advising the Committee of the financial implications of the subsidised bus contract recommendations being considered at the meeting.

After considerable discussion and hearing from Mr Wylie and Mr Dickson in response to questions from members, specifically relating to bus driver shortages and potential implications, the Committee noted:

- (i) the financial implications of the recommendations relating to the subsidised bus services budget in the papers and gave due consideration to this in the course of the decision making;
- (ii) the projected positive variance reported which may require to be utilised later in the financial year to support the regional and local network;
- (iii) the key concerns identified which may impact on the subsidised bus budget in the short to medium term, including in the current and future financial years; and
- (iv) the discussions ongoing with First Glasgow to agree a repayment plan which covers the additional cost of replacement contracts for those terminated in February 2023.

6. MyBus Review – Stage 1 Actions

[Click here to view the report](#)

There was submitted a report (issued) of 18 April 2023 by the Chief Executive advising the Committee of actions to be taken forward following completion of Stage 1 of the MyBus review.

After extensive discussion and hearing from Mr Kiloh and Mr Wylie in response to members' questions seeking clarification of the role of community transport operators in delivering services; whether working with the Scottish Ambulance Service could fill some gaps; and whether a revised marketing strategy could consider a strategic alliance approach, the Committee noted the actions in Section 3 of the report which will now be taken forward following completion of Stage 1 of the MyBus review.

7. Transport Data Project – progress update

[Click here to view the report](#)

There was submitted a report (issued) of 11 April 2023 by the Chief Executive updating the Committee on progress on SPT's Transport Data Project.

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

8. 2023 UCI Cycling Championships – SPT Progress Update

[Click here to view the report](#)

There was submitted a report (issued) of 4 April 2023 by the Chief Executive advising members on the 2023 UCI Cycling Championships being hosted in Scotland in August 2023 and SPT's preparations in support of the event.

After hearing from Mr Dickson, the Committee thanked the team for their efforts in support of this event and noted the contents of the report.

9. Mainstream Home to School Transport – Update

28 April 2023

[Click here to view the report](#)

There was submitted a report (issued) of 13 April 2023 by the Chief Executive updating the Committee in relation to Mainstream Home to School Transport.

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

10. Proposed award of subsidised local bus service contracts

[Click here to view the report](#)

There was submitted a report (issued) of 4 April 2023 by the Chief Executive recommending the Committee approve the award of a number of subsidised local bus service contracts delivered in East Ayrshire, East Renfrewshire, Glasgow, Inverclyde, North Ayrshire, North Lanarkshire, South Lanarkshire and West Dunbartonshire council areas.

After hearing from Mr Dickson, the Committee agreed the award of the contracts detailed in Appendix 1, noting that:

- (i) the award of contract W149C2 is subject to the approval of West Lothian Council for an apportioned funding contribution;
- (ii) the award of contract W157A is subject to the approval of East Renfrewshire Council and associated funding; and
- (iii) the award of contract W162A is subject to the approval of North Lanarkshire Council and associated funding.

11. Contracts awarded under delegated powers

[Click here to view the report](#)

There was submitted a report (issued) of 18 April 2023 by the Chief Executive notifying the Committee of subsidised local bus service contracts awarded utilising delegated powers.

After hearing from Mr Dickson in response to members' questions, the Committee noted the subsidised local bus service contracts awarded utilising delegated powers, thus ensuring socially necessary gaps in public transport are provided for.

12. Amendments to subsidised local bus service contracts

[Click here to view the report](#)

There was submitted a report (issued) of 18 April 2023 by the Chief Executive advising the Committee of amendments to subsidised local and MyBus bus service contracts since the last Committee meeting.

After hearing from Mr Dickson, the Committee noted the amendments to subsidised local bus contracts, in accordance with established corporate governance, financial regulation and contract standing orders.

13. Application for Grant Funding – Community Transport

[Click here to view the report](#)

There was submitted a report (issued) of 6 April 2023 by the Chief Executive requesting the Committee approve grant funding in support of projects provided by Community Transport operators across Strathclyde.

Strathclyde Partnership for Transport
Operations Committee

28 April 2023

After hearing from Mrs Davidson and Mr Dickson, the Committee approved approve the following items for the financial year of 2023/2024:

- Grant funding of up to £82,291 to Coalfield Community Transport;
- Grant funding of up to £439,474 to Community Transport Glasgow;
- Grant funding of £97,000 to Getting Better Together;
- Grant funding of up to £59,500 to Larkhall & District Volunteer Group;
- Grant funding of up to £137,116 to North Area Transport Association;
- Grant funding of up to £106,825 to South Ayrshire Community Transport; and
- Grant funding of up to £90,144 to South West Community Transport.

In addition, the Partnership is asked to note the following awards made under delegated powers:

- Grant funding of up to £30,000 to Ardgowan Hospice;
- Grant funding of up to £28,000 to Blantyre Volunteer Group;
- Grant funding of up to £37,500 to Community Central Halls;
- Grant funding of up to £25,000 to Community Transport East Renfrewshire;
- Grant funding of up to £15,000 to East Kilbride Community Transport;
- Grant funding of up to £25,000 to Glenboig Development Trust;
- Grant funding of up to £25,000 to Inverclyde Voluntary Council for Social Services;
- Grant funding of up to £12,000 to New Tannahill Centre;
- Grant funding of up to £20,000 to Port Glasgow Voluntary Trans-Port Group;
- Grant funding of up to £8,500 to Renfrewshire Council SOOPiR Bus; and
- Grant funding of up to £30,000 to West Dunbartonshire Council

noting that all grants are subject to appropriate governance checks being carried out.

14. Supply and Installation of Bus Shelters and Groundworks – Call off Contract

[Click here to view the report](#)

There was submitted a report (issued) of 18 April 2023 by the Chief Executive recommending the Committee approve the award of a call off contract for supply and installation of bus shelters and associated groundworks to Commutaports Ltd.

28 April 2023

After hearing from Mr Dickson in response to members' questions, the Committee approved the award of the call off contract to Commutaports Ltd, for a total price of up to £4,769,902 for the 4-year period.

15. Rail Welding – award of contract

[Click here to view the report](#)

There was submitted a report (issued) of 5 April 2023 by the Director of Subway recommending the Committee approve the award of a single supplier framework for rail welding to Shorterm Limited.

After hearing from Mr Smith in response to members' questions, the Committee approved the award of a single supplier framework for rail welding to Shorterm Limited, with spend up to £800,000 over eight years with opportunity to break after the initial four years.

16. Subway Policing and Security – British Transport Police Contract Renewal

[Click here to view the report](#)

There was submitted a report (issued) of 6 April 2023 by the Director of Subway recommending the Committee approve the award of a contract with British Transport Police (BTP) for the provision of policing services on the Subway.

After hearing from Mr Smith in response to members' questions, specifically relating to how the contract would be monitored and whether alternative suppliers were available, the Committee approved the award of the contract to BTP at a cost of £135,000p.a. (subject to annual variation in line with the BTP pay award), noting that a 6 month termination notice period will be included in the contract.
