

Strathclyde Partnership for Transport

Minute of Strategy & Programmes Committee

24 November 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 Strategy & Programmes Committee held at 131 St Vincent Street and via Video Conference* on 24 November 2023

Present Councillors Alan Moir (Chair), Stephen Dornan, Holly Bruce (Substitute), Daniel Lennie*, Malcolm Mitchell*, William Sinclair*, David Wilson and appointed members Anne Follin* and Ed McGrachan

Attending Valerie Davidson, Chief Executive; Neil Wylie, Director; Lesley Aird, Director of Finance & Corporate Support; Richard Robinson, Director of Transport Operations; Bruce Kiloh, Head of Policy & Planning; Gordon Dickson, Head of Bus Strategy & Delivery; Michael Nimmo, Ticketing Commercial Team Leader; Jim Griffin, Senior Solicitor and Amy Sullivan, Solicitor.

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 Cllrs Christy Mearns, William Lennox, Alex Allison, Owen O'Donnell and appointed member George Hazel.

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

Cllr Moir reaffirmed his declaration of interest citing his employment with Scotrail and as a member of ASLEF, the trade union.

3. Minute of previous meeting

[Click here to view the minute](#)

The minute of the meeting of 8 September 2023, having been considered and approved at the Partnership meeting on 29 September 2023 as a correct record, was duly noted.

With reference to Item 8 of the Minute, Mr Dickson updated the Committee to advise that SPT had recently been unsuccessful, although SPT was still analysing the feedback received.

4. Revenue Monitoring Report as at Period 7, ending 14 October 2023 and updated Financial Forecast for Financial Year 2023/2024

[Click here to view the report](#)

There was submitted a report (issued) of 6 November 2023 by the Director advising members of the net revenue position as at the end of Period 7, 14 October 2023 including an updated financial forecast for the current financial year, stating the assumptions made regarding income and expenditure levels.

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

- (i) the projected outturn position for 2023/2024 based on the information available at the end of P7;
 - (ii) the financial pressures which continue to impact in the current financial year including increased inflation, rising utilities costs and increased supported service contract costs and therefore uncertainties remain in relation to the year end projection;
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- (iii) subway fares will increase in January 2024 in line with the approved 2023/2024 revenue budget; and
- (iv) the projected revenue underspend position will be considered at the February committee. This will include a proposal on placement of any projected underspend across reserves held by SPT.

5. Capital Programme Monitoring and Proposed Amendments Report as at 14 October 2023, Period 7

[Click here to view the report](#)

There was submitted a report (issued) of 23 August 2023 by the Director updating the Committee on the 2023/2024 capital programme and seeking approval for proposed amendments to the 2023/2024 capital programme and to Grant Fund as detailed in sections 6(ii) and 6(iii) of the report.

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

- (i) approved the proposed amendments to the 2023/2024 capital programme as per Appendix 2 of the 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 that grant award letters be concluded in line with approved governance arrangements;
- P** (iii) agreed to recommend to the Partnership meeting of 15 December 2023 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 2023/2024 capital programme as at Period 7; 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.

6. Mid-Year Treasury Management Report 2023/2024

[Click here to view the report](#)

There was submitted a report (issued) of 24 November 2023 by the Director updating the Committee on the treasury management activities and the actual Prudential and Treasury Indicators for the first half of financial year 2023/2024 and seeking approval to extend the Banking and Merchant Services contract for a further period of up to three years from 1 April 2024.

After hearing from Mr Wylie, the Committee:

- (i) noted the contents of the report; and
- (ii) approved the extension of the Banking and Merchant Services Contract for a period of up to three years from 1 April 2024, with an estimated three year value of £462,000.

7. Strategic Issues Update for the SPT area

[Click here to view the report](#)

There was submitted a report (issued) of 8 November 2023 by the Chief Executive updating the Committee on strategic level issues affecting transport in the west of Scotland.

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After extensive discussion, particularly relating to the ongoing work in relation to the Active Travel Transformation work; the Strathclyde Regional Bus Strategy; a request for an update on the work and any subsequent report relating to Transport Scotland's Bus Task Force; and hearing Mr Kiloh and Mrs Davidson confirm to members that:

- (i) the finalised SRBS Case for Change document would be available via the SPT website;
- (ii) an updated report would be presented to the Partnership meeting on 15 December 2023, confirming the intention remained to bring preferred options to the 15 March 2024 meeting;
- (iii) member sessions would take place in Spring 2024 to allow sufficient time and space for members to influence the decision of preferred option/s;
- (iv) appropriate stakeholder engagement would be undertaken at the appropriate point; and
- (v) it was understood that a report on the Bus Task Force was due by the end of the calendar year,

thereafter the Committee noted the contents of the report.

8. Clyde Metro – update

[Click here to view the report](#)

There was submitted a report (issued) of 8 November 2023 by the Chief Executive updating the Committee on matters relating to Clyde Metro and SPT preparatory workstreams in support of the project.

After discussion, specifically on members seeking further information relating to respective roles and responsibilities of each of the partners; discussion on what was required to bring about an integrated transport network; and further noting the importance of a robust communication strategy to ensure the project was fully understood; and on hearing from Mr Kiloh, the Committee noted the contents of the report.

9. Ticketing Update

[Click here to view the report](#)

There was submitted a report (issued) of 8 November 2023 by the Chief Executive providing the Committee with an update on SPT's recent activities in relation to public transport ticketing.

After hearing from Mr Wylie, Mrs Davidson and Mr Nimmo in response to members' questions in respect of the various wide-ranging activities to improve ticketing, the Committee welcomed and noted the contents of the report.

10. Capital Programme Projects Update

[Click here to view the report](#)

There was submitted a report (issued) of 8 November 2023 by the Chief Executive providing an update on progress of some key projects within SPT's Capital Programme.

After hearing from Mr Kiloh in response to members' questions, specifically in relation to the value of spend on active travel relative to all modes, the breadth of projects being delivered and noting the ongoing difficulties of resourcing and ensuring continued supply of skills for delivery, the Committee welcomed and noted the contents of the report.

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11. 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 14 November 2023 by the Chief Executive updating the Committee on the progress with East Dunbartonshire Council's (EDC) Place and Growth programme.

After hearing from Mr Dickson, the Committee noted the contents of the report and the role SPT are contributing to deliver the transport elements of the project.

12. SPT Digital Strategy

[Click here to view the report](#)

There was submitted a report (issued) of 8 November 2023 by the Chief Executive asking the Committee to approve the draft SPT Digital Strategy 2024-2027.

After hearing from Mr Wylie in response to members' questions, the Committee noted the contents of the report and approved the draft SPT Digital Strategy 2024-2027.

13. Contactless payment at Subway entry gates – Award of Contract

[Click here to view the report](#)

There was submitted a report (issued) of 8 November 2023 by the Director recommending the Committee approve the award of a contract to upgrade the Subway ticketing system to accept contactless payments (credit/debit cards and mobile wallets) at the Subway entry gates.

After hearing from Mr Wylie in response to members' questions, the Committee agreed to award a contract to the value of £436,840 to Scheidt & Bachmann for the supply and implementation of contactless payments at Subway entry gates.
