



Strathclyde Partnership for Transport

Minute of Operations Committee

25 August 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 25 August 2023

- Present** Councillors David Wilson (Chair), Alex Allison, Ken Andrew*, Maureen Devlin, Stephen Dornan, Michael McPake, Alan Moir, Jim Paterson*, Donald Reid, Roza Salih*, 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, Amy Sullivan, Solicitor and Scott Prentice, Commercial Director, 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 28 April 2023, having been considered and agreed at the Partnership meeting of 23 June 2023 as a correct record, was duly noted.

Following agreement of the Minute and in response to members' request for an update on the recent proposals relating to night bus services, Mrs Davidson advised that both First and McGills had registered commercial services for most of the previous routes. Furthermore, Mrs Davidson advised that SPT had facilitated a discussion of key stakeholders to seek a solution and had responded to other operators in terms of requests for data.

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 9 August 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 Prentice in relation to ScotRail services and timetable changes and hearing from Mr Wylie, Mrs Davidson, Mr Smith and Mr Dickson in response to members' questions, specifically relating to:

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- (i) whether the report could include pre-2019 context data for comparison;
- (ii) a request to consider Subway disruption content; and
- (iii) agreeing that a letter be sent to the Transport Minister again outlining the importance of SPT having access to bus patronage data (including concession data) to allow for more robust planning purposes,

the Committee noted the contents of the report.

Thereafter, the Operations Chair thanked Mr Prentice for attending.

5. Subsidised bus service contract recommendations: financial implications

[Click here to view the report](#)

There was submitted a report (issued) of 3 August 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 extensive discussion and hearing from Mr Wylie and Mr Dickson in response to questions from members, specifically relating to bus driver shortages and potential implications for service delivery, 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 impact of the current financial pressures 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. 2023 UCI Cycling World Championships

[Click here to view the report](#)

There was submitted a report (issued) of 15 August 2023 by the Chief Executive updating the Committee on the 2023 UCI Cycling World Championships hosted in Scotland in August 2023 and how SPT supported the event.

After hearing from Mr Dickson in response to members' questions and after hearing from Mrs Davidson on the role the whole organisation played in the successful delivery of the 2023 UCI Cycling World Championships, the Committee noted the report.

Thereafter, the Operations Chair on behalf of the Committee extended thanks to all SPT staff for their work on this project.

7. Update of Mainstream Home to School Transport as at 15 August 2023

[Click here to view the report](#)

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There was submitted a report (issued) of 15 August 2023 by the Chief Executive updating the Committee on the plans, procurement and processes to deliver Mainstream Home to School Transport.

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

8. Subway Modernisation: Renewal of contract for Independent Competent Person for Rolling Stock, Signalling and Control System, Control Room and Associated Equipment Delivery

[Click here to view the report](#)

There was submitted a report (issued) of 7 August 2023 by the Director of Subway recommending the Committee approve the continuation of the contract with Ricardo Rail as SPT Independent Competent Person (ICP). This continued appointment is required for verification of procedures and safety processes during delivery of new rolling stock vehicles, signalling equipment and associated systems.

After hearing from Mr Smith, the Committee approved the extension of contract with Ricardo Rail for the role of SPT Independent Competent Person for Rolling Stock, Signalling and Control System, Control Room and Associated Equipment Delivery, based upon on a reimbursable (time and expenses) form of contract and noted work will be defined and contained within the overall budget of £350k over the next three years.

9. Proposed award of subsidised local bus service contract

[Click here to view the report](#)

There was submitted a report (issued) of 3 August 2023 by the Chief Executive recommending the Committee approve the award of a subsidised local bus service contract affecting Glasgow and South Lanarkshire Council areas.

After hearing from Mr Dickson in response to members' questions, the Committee approved the award of the subsidised local bus service contract detailed in Appendix 1 of the report.

10. Amendments to subsidised local bus service contracts

[Click here to view the report](#)

There was submitted a report (issued) of 3 August 2023 by the Chief Executive advising the Committee of amendments to subsidised local and MyBus bus service contracts since the last Operations Committee meeting on 28 April 2023.

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.

11. Contracts awarded under delegated powers

[Click here to view the report](#)

There was submitted a report (issued) of 3 August 2023 by the Chief Executive notifying the Committee of a subsidised local bus service contract awarded utilising delegated powers.

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