

Strathclyde Partnership for Transport

Minute of meeting

16 December 2022

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 16 December 2022

Present Councillors Stephen Dornan (Chair), *Alex Allison, *Gordon Currie, *Maureen Devlin, *William Lennox, Alan Moir, Christy Mearns, *Malcolm Mitchell (from Agenda Item 6), *Michael McPake (from Agenda Item 6), *Lawrence O'Neill, *Donald Reid, *Roza Salih (from Agenda Item 6), *William Sinclair, *Adam Smith (from Agenda Item 6), *David Wilson and appointed members *Greg Beecroft, *Jenna Dickson, *Anne Follin, *George Hazel and *Ed McGrachan

Attending Valerie Davidson, Chief Executive/Partnership Secretary; Neil Wylie, Director of Finance & Corporate Support; Antony Smith, Director of Subway; Gordon Dickson, Head of Bus Strategy & Delivery; 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 Ken Andrew, Mark Horsham, Owen O'Donnell, Jim Paterson, Duncan Townson and 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 citing his employment with Scotrail and as a member of ASLEF, the trade union.

Appointed member George Hazel advised that he continued in his role as an adviser on sustainable transport to North Ayrshire Council.

3. Minute of previous meeting

[Click here to view the minute](#)

The minute of the meeting of 30 September 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 4 November 2022;
- (b) Strategy & Programmes Committee of 25 November 2022 and specific approval given to agenda items 5 (iii) and 6 (ii); and
- (c) Audit & Standards Committee of 25 November 2022.

5. Update on Membership

[Click here to view the report](#)

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There was submitted a report (issued) of 25 November 2022 by the Chief Executive/Partnership Secretary providing the Partnership with an update on membership changes since the last Partnership meeting of 30 September 2022.

After hearing from Mrs Davidson in response to members' questions, the Partnership noted:

- (i) the change of membership from West Dunbartonshire Council;
- (ii) that a further update from North Lanarkshire Council had been received following the issue of the papers advising that Cllr Smith was replacing Cllr Keltie; and
- (iii) the updated Committee Representation document.

6. Proposed Update to Partnership Standing Orders

[Click here to view the report](#)

There was submitted a report (issued) of 21 November 2022 by the Chief Executive/Partnership Secretary recommending to the Partnership an amendment to the Partnership Standing Orders that embraces consideration of gender when making appointment to the roles of Partnership office bearers.

After hearing from Mrs Davidson in response to members' questions, the Partnership approved the amendment to Paragraph 2.5.1 of the Partnership Standing Orders will stand adjourned without discussion to the next meeting of the Partnership on 17 March 2023, and following any relevant comments received, will be submitted to the next Partnership meeting for approval.

7. Regional Transport Strategy – Public Consultation – Initial Summary Findings and Recommended Actions

[Click here to view the report](#)

There was submitted a report (issued) of 24 November 2022 by the Chief Executive updating the Partnership on the initial summary findings of the recently completed consultation on the Draft Regional Transport Strategy (RTS) and recommending approval of actions as a result of the consultation.

After discussion and hearing from Mrs Davidson and Mr Dickson in response to members' questions, particularly on the Fair Fares Review being conducted by Transport Scotland, and providing a further clarification to that contained within the report that an RTS Action Plan will address how SPT aim to deliver on all RTS objectives, the Partnership:

- (i) noted the initial summary findings of the Draft RTS public consultation;
- (ii) consideration would be given to whether affordability of public transport should include "for all", and inclusion of a public transport guarantee was appropriate; and
- (iii) approved the recommended actions in Section 4 for taking forward for the development of the Final Draft RTS, which will be presented for approval to the Partnership meeting on 17 March 2023.

8. Subway Modernisation – progress update

[Click here to view the report](#)

There was submitted a report (issued) of 23 November 2022 by the Director of Subway providing the Partnership with the latest progress update on the Subway Modernisation programme.

After hearing from Mr Smith, the Partnership noted:

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- (i) the continued progress made on all Subway Modernisation and improvements works since the last written update to the Partnership in June 2022;
- (ii) ongoing progress on the MSA contract including the commencement of in-tunnel train unit testing, and also on the existing signalling;
- (iii) the continued challenge towards performance improvement on the TSSSA contract;
- (iv) progress made on operational readiness and delay mitigation actions including existing infrastructure and fleet maintenance improvements;
- (v) that the modernisation programme remains within overall budget and funding; and
- (vi) that a further report on progress will be presented to the Partnership meeting on 23 June 2023.

Thereafter, the Chair expressed his thanks to SPT staff for their continued work on the modernisation project.

9. Subway Patronage, Revenue and Fares: Update

[Click here to view the report](#)

There was submitted a report (issued) of 30 November 2022 by the Director of Finance & Corporate Support:

- (i) providing members with an update on the strong recovery of Subway patronage following the Covid 19 pandemic;
- (ii) recommending approval of the postponement of the previously proposed Subway fare increase in January 2023; and
- (iii) informing the Partnership that a future Subway fare increase will be considered within the context of 2023/2034 SPT revenue budget considerations.

After hearing from Mr Wylie and Mrs Davidson in response to members' questions and hearing that the proposal affected users from a much wider area than just Glasgow, and the issue of access to data for sound transport planning would be raised with the Transport Minister in January 2023, the Partnership:

- (i) noted the strong recovery of Subway patronage;
- (ii) approved the postponement of the previously proposed Subway fare increase in January 2023 and noted that this be considered further as part of the 2023/2024 budget deliberations; and
- (iii) noted that SPT will continue to engage with Transport Scotland and other partners regarding inclusion of Subway in the Young Persons' Free Bus Travel Scheme.

10. Strategic Transport Projects Review 2 – Final Report

[Click here to view the report](#)

There was submitted a report (issued) of 8 December 2022 by the Chief Executive informing the Partnership of the publication of the second Strategic Transport Projects Review (STPR2) final report by Transport Scotland

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Following the extensive and wide ranging discussion particularly on whether the Clyde Metro project addressed the transport concerns affecting rural areas in the city region area, and hearing from Mr Dickson and Mrs Davidson, the Partnership noted:

- (i) the contents of the report;
- (ii) that SPT continued to highlight during discussions relating to project governance that the project was a regional project; and
- (iii) that SPT officers will continue to consider solutions to all areas of the SPT area, including those not covered by the Clyde Metro project.

11. Climate Change and Carbon Management – progress update

[Click here to view the report](#)

There was submitted a report (issued) of 24 November 2022 by the Chief Executive updating the Partnership on recent progress by SPT in relation to climate change and carbon management.

After hearing from Mr Dickson, Mr Wylie, Mrs Davidson and Mr Smith in response to members' questions and hearing of the actions already implemented by SPT including solar panel installations at Buchanan Bus Station and at Broomloan Depot, the Partnership noted the contents of the report.

12. Media Buying Tender Variation Request

[Click here to view the report](#)

There was submitted a report (issued) of 24 November 2022 by the Director of Finance & Corporate Support recommending the Partnership approve the issue of a contract variation regarding the existing media buying contract with The Media Shop.

After hearing from Mr Wylie and Mrs Davidson in response to members' questions on marketing of the Subway, the Partnership approved the extension of the current media buying contract for the provision of these services to The Media Shop for the period of up to August 2023 and at SPT's discretion, subject to performance and available funding, to a maximum of £70k.

Chair's Closing Remarks

The Chair extended best wishes for the new year to the Partnership and SPT staff.