

## Strathclyde Partnership for Transport

### Minute of Operations Committee meeting

**13 March 2009**

held at: Consort House, Glasgow

**contact officers:**

Valerie A Bowen	phone: 0141 333 3130
Kirsten Clubb	phone: 0141 333 3576
Sharon MacKinnon	phone: 0141 333 3172

## Minute of the meeting of the Strathclyde Partnership for Transport's Operations Committee held in Consort House, Glasgow, on 13 March 2009

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<b>Present</b>	Councillors David McLachlan (Chair), Tom Barr (deputy), David Fagan, Bill Grant, William Hendrie, Bobby McDill, Tommy Morrison, John Murray (deputy), Eddie Philips, David Wilson and appointed member Tom Hart.
<b>Apologies</b>	Councillors Archie Graham, Kaye Harmon, John Reid, Chris Thompson, Alistair Watson and appointed member Ronnie Mellis.
<b>Attending</b>	Valerie A Bowen, Senior Clerk; Gordon MacLennan, Assistant Chief Executive (Operations); Eric Stewart, Director, Bus Operations and Neil Wylie, Director of Finance.
<b>Also Attending</b>	John Yellowlees, First ScotRail.

### 1. Minute of previous meeting

The minute of the meeting of 23 January 2009 (issued) was submitted and approved as a correct record.

Arising from the minute with regard to page 7 paragraph (ii) Mrs Bowen informed members

- (1) that although representation had been made to the rail authorities seeking an amendment to ensure that the Glasgow – Edinburgh via Shotts service stopped at Uddingston instead of Bellshill no response had been received;
- (2) that the Assistant Chief Executive (Business Support) would send a reminder to them and report back to a future committee;
- (3) that the Chair of the Operations Committee had written to all MSPs and MPs to raise members' concerns on the matter; and
- (4) that although the Assistant Chief Executive (Business Support) had met with Dr Reed before he retired from his post of Chief Executive, Transport Scotland to raise SPT's various concerns regarding the new rail service proposals programmed to commence in 2009/10, this would now be a matter for his successor, David Middleton.

### 2. Public transport services monitoring report

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There was submitted a report (issued) of 4 March 2009 by the Assistant Chief Executive (Operations)

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- (1) informing the committee of the latest trends in the number of passengers carried and the reliability of services directly operated and supported by the Partnership and on ScotRail services in the SPT area; and
- (2) providing information on the current status of SPT's six point bus action plan for the continuing improvement of bus service delivery within the region, together with regulating and fleet profile statistics.

After discussion and having heard Messrs MacLennan and Stewart in further explanation of the report and together with Mr Yellowlees in answer to members' questions, the committee noted

- (a) the contents of the report; and
- (b) that the DDA compliance figures for April 2009 would be available in the monitoring report being submitted to the next committee.

### 3. Subsidised local bus recommendations – financial implications

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There was submitted a report (issued) of 4 March 2009 by the Assistant Chief Executive (Business Support) advising the committee of the financial implications of members' possible decisions relating to the remaining items on the agenda.

After discussion and having heard Mr Wylie inform members of the current funding position for the subsidised local bus budget for 2009/10, the committee noted the report in relation to the financial implications of awarding any contracts and agreed to give due consideration to these implications when making decisions on these contracts.

### 4. Award of contracts

There were submitted various reports (issued) by the Assistant Chief Executive (Operations), outlining tenders received for the award and renewal of subsidised local bus services.

After discussion and having heard Mr Stewart advise members that Contract LS023 Morningside – Wishaw (service 26) would now be operating as a Monday – Saturday service and not Monday – Friday as intimated in the report, the committee agreed to award the undernoted contracts:-

Agenda item No	Contract	Operator	Contract Amount	Equivalent Annual Cost	Remarks
4.	<a href="#">Click here to view report</a>				
Award of subsidised local bus service contracts	Contract LS023 Morningside – Wishaw (service 26)	Nordi Travel Ltd	£61,560	£27,360	27 month contract.  Lowest compliant

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tender.

Agenda item No	Contract	Operator	Contract Amount	Equivalent Annual Cost	Remarks	
4.	Award of subsidised local bus services contracts	Contract LS024 Cleland – Coltness – Pather (service 193)	Henderson Travel Ltd	£166,716	£55,752	3 year contract.  Lowest compliant tender.
5.	<a href="#">Click here to view report</a>					
Renewal of subsidised local bus service contracts	Contract 0950C Maryhill – Riddrie (service 8)	First Glasgow	£110,412	£36,804	3 year contract.  Sole tender.	
	Contract LS018 Glasgow City Centre – Silverburn Centre (Service 3)	} } } } First Glasgow	£214,414	£64,324.20	3 year contract.	
	Contract LS019 Buchanan Bus Station – Bargeddie (service 213)	} (package) } Ref 14308 } }			Lowest compliant tender	
	Contract LS022 Helensburgh/Vale of Leven – Royal Alexandra Hospital, Paisley (service 340)	Wilson's of Rhu Ltd	£284,872	£87,652.92	39 month contract.  Subject to NHS Greater Glasgow & Clyde approval.  Contribution from SPT of: £28,487 for contract period equivalent to £8,765 per annum.	

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## 5. **Renewal of Demand Responsive Transport (DRT) contracts**

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There was submitted a report (issued) of 4 March 2009 by the Assistant Chief Executive (Operations)

- (1) detailing tenders received for the renewal of various Demand Responsive Transport (DRT) contracts comprising of Dial-a-Bus and Ring'n'Ride services;
- (2) informing members that the tendering exercise had been based on options whereby:-
  - the vehicles required for operation of the various services would be purchased by SPT and supplied to the respective operators on a full repairing basis; or
  - the operator supplied the vehicle;
- (3) highlighting that tenderers were required to submit prices for the DRT contracts on a 'gross cost' basis under which all passenger revenue would revert to SPT which would offset the contract costs;
- (4) advising members
  - (a) that award of contracts whereby SPT would supply the vehicles would require 19 buses to be purchased which had been accommodated within the 2009/10 capital programme; and
  - (b) that a report would be submitted to the Partnership seeking approval for the procurement of these vehicles;
- (5) explaining
  - (a) that in the event of any vehicles purchased by SPT not being delivered on time for the scheduled renewal date of the contracts, tender prices for the award of temporary contracts with the operator providing the vehicles had been invited until the SPT supplied vehicles were in place; and
  - (b) that although the cost of each full period contract would be adjusted on a pro-rata basis to take account of the eventual start date, it was intended that the contract end date in each case should remain 12 July 2014; and
- (6) recommending
  - (a) the award of the following contracts based on the operator supplying the vehicles:-
    - (i) contract LS013A Coatbridge – Townhead (service 117) to Henderson Travel as part of Package 14303, at a cost of £48,668

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for the contract period of 36 months, equivalent to £16,223 per annum, with the costs apportioned as detailed in the report; and

- (ii) contract 4833G Hairmyres rail station – Whitehills (service 399) to Henderson Travel as part of Package 14303, at a cost of £38,356 for the contract period of 24 months, equivalent to £19,178 per annum, with the costs apportioned as detailed in the report;
- (b) the award of the following contracts based on the contract start date being determined by the availability of SPT supplied vehicles and the contract price adjusted on a pro rata basis:-
- (i) contract 9556C East Ayrshire DRT to Shuttle Buses at a cost of £395,713 for the contract period, equivalent to £79,142 per annum, with the costs apportioned as detailed in the report;
  - (ii) contract 9592C Greater Glasgow Dial-a-Bus to Slaemuir Coaches Ltd at a cost of £2,281,154 for the contract period, equivalent to £456,231 per annum, with the costs apportioned as detailed in the report;
  - (iii) contract 9593C Hamilton/East Kilbride Dial-a-Bus to Henderson Travel as part of Package 14303, at a cost of £2,203,638 for the contract period, equivalent to £440,728 per annum, with the costs apportioned as detailed in the report;
  - (iv) contract 9594B Inverclyde Dial-a-Bus to Slaemuir Coaches Ltd at a cost of £822,506 for the contract period, equivalent to £164,501 per annum, with the costs apportioned as detailed in the report;
  - (v) contract 9595C Greater Glasgow Dial-a-Bus to Slaemuir Coaches Ltd at a cost of £707,912 for the contract period, equivalent to £141,582 per annum, with the costs apportioned as detailed in the report;
  - (vi) contract 9596C Kilmarnock Dial-a-Bus/Irvine Valley Ring'n'Ride to Shuttle Buses at a cost of £715,489 for the contract period, equivalent to £143,097 per annum, with the costs apportioned as detailed in the report;
  - (vii) contract 9597C Cumbernauld Dial-a-Bus to Henderson Travel as part of Package 14303 at a cost of £849,777 for the contract period, equivalent to £169,955 per annum, with the costs apportioned as detailed in the report; and
  - (viii) contract 9598C Greater Glasgow Dial-a-Bus to Arriva Scotland West at a cost of £788,934 for the contract period, equivalent to £157,787 per annum, with the costs apportioned as detailed in the report; and
- (c) the award of the following temporary contracts which would operate from 19 July 2009 until the vehicles supplied by SPT were in place for the contracts detailed in 6(b) above:-

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- (i) contract 9556CT East Ayrshire DRT to Shuttle Buses at a cost of £1,698 per week, with the costs apportioned as detailed in the report;
- (ii) contract 9592CT Greater Glasgow Dial-a-Bus to Slaemuir Coaches Ltd at a cost of £10,871 per week, with the costs apportioned as detailed in the report;
- (iii) contract 9593CT Hamilton/East Kilbride Dial-a-Bus to Henderson Travel at a cost of £11,112 per week, with the costs apportioned as detailed in the report;
- (iv) contract 9594BT Inverclyde Dial-a-Bus to Slaemuir Coaches Ltd at a cost of £3,872 per week, with the costs apportioned as detailed in the report;
- (v) contract 9595CT Greater Glasgow Dial-a-Bus to Slaemuir Coaches Ltd at a cost of £3,420 per week, with the costs apportioned as detailed in the report;
- (vi) contract 9596CT Kilmarnock Dial-a-Bus/Irvine Valley Ring'n'Ride to Shuttle Buses at a cost of £3,497 per week, with the costs apportioned as detailed in the report;
- (vii) contract 9597CT Cumbernauld Dial-a-Bus to Stuarts Coaches Ltd at a cost of £4,000 per week, with the costs apportioned as detailed in the report; and
- (viii) contract 9598CT Greater Glasgow Dial-a-Bus to Arriva Scotland West at a cost of £3,844 per week, with the costs apportioned as detailed in the report.

After considerable discussion particularly relating to whether a policy existed on the carriage of more than one guide dog on a Dial-a-Bus at the same time and having heard Mr Stewart advise members that as this was such an infrequent occurrence there was no firm policy but that all cases were dealt with on an individual basis, the committee

- (A) approved the recommendations at (6) above;
- (B) congratulated Mr Stewart and his team for their excellent report; and
- (C) agreed that as commercial bus operators had their own policies regarding guide dog exceptions from vehicles it would be appropriate to determine the exact position and report back to a future committee.

## **6. Proposed extension of local bus service contract 2876T**

[Click here to view report](#)

With reference to the minute of 23 January 2009 (page 4, paragraph 7) and (page 2, paragraph 5) when the committee had agreed, *inter alia*,

- (1) to award contract 2876A Cumbernauld Town service to First Glasgow based on the vehicle being supplied by SPT at a cost of £177,388 for the three year contract period equivalent to £59,129 per annum from July 2009, and

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- (2) to award temporary contract 2876T Cumbernauld town service (service 343/346) to First Glasgow at a cost of £1824 per week until 11 April 2009, following the cessation of Jay Coach Travel on 29 December 2008,

there was submitted and approved a report (issued) of 5 March 2009 by the Assistant Chief Executive (Operations) recommending that in order to maintain the current service until the long term contract came into operation, that temporary contract 2876T be extended from 12 April until 19 July 2009 at a cost of £25,536.

## **7. Proposed cessation of temporary local bus service contract LS016T**

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With reference to the minute of 27 June 2008 (page 2, paragraph 4) when the committee had agreed to award temporary contract LS01T Coatbridge – Cliftonville Airdrie (service 107) to Stuart's Coaches Ltd at a cost of £250 per day, there was submitted and approved a report (issued) of 5 March 2009 by the Assistant Chief Executive (Operations)

- (1) advising members that passenger surveys had shown that service 107 was consistently poorly used with an average of two passengers using the service per journey which equated to a subsidy of £6.25 per passenger which was significantly in excess of the maximum guideline criteria of £2.90;
- (2) recommending that in view of the low uptake of the service, long term tenders were not invited and that temporary contract LS016T was not extended beyond its expiry date of 11 April 2009; and
- (3) highlighting that the local Ring'n'Ride service would accept bookings to take passengers from Cliftonville to either Coatbridge or Airdrie town centres for a further trial period.

## **8. Requests for subsidised local bus services**

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There was submitted a report (issued) of 5 March 2009 by the Assistant Chief Executive (Operations), advising members of various requests for the provision of subsidised local bus services. After discussion, the committee agreed not to take any further action in respect of the subsidised local bus service requests as detailed in the report.

## **9. Conference**

The committee agreed that Councillor David McLachlan be authorised to attend the conference entitled 'Public Transport 2009: Keeping people moving' to be held in Birmingham on 30 April 2009.