



Motherwell Rail Station Redevelopment and Town Centre Transport Interchange - Project Update

Date of meeting 18 March 2022

Date of report 23 February 2022

Report by Chief Executive

1. Object of report

The object of this report is to:

- Update members on progress of the redevelopment of Motherwell Rail Station in conjunction with the Town Centre Transport Interchange project;
- Highlight the collaborative working approach that is helping oversee the delivery of the redeveloped station, transport interchange and related complementary measures; and
- Provide an update on project funding.

2. Background

2.1 Motherwell Rail Station Redevelopment

2.1.1 The £15.3 million redevelopment of Motherwell Rail Station, together with the £2 million Town Centre Transport Interchange, represents delivery of a multi-partnered and funded major transport infrastructure investment being delivered by ScotRail and North Lanarkshire Council respectively, and is funded by Transport Scotland, North Lanarkshire Council through the Glasgow City Region (GCR) City Deal, and SPT.

2.1.2 Motherwell Rail Station was built in its current location in 1885 having previously been sited further north near Orbiston. The station is regionally significant as the south-east hub for the Greater Glasgow conurbation serving North and South Lanarkshire as well as being linked by rail and by the nearby motorway network to destinations across west central Scotland including Ayrshire, Stirling/Falkirk, Central Scotland and north, as well as Edinburgh, south-east Scotland, north east England and beyond. On average, six trains per hour in each direction serve the station's local suburban rail routes, with around 20 trains per day serving cross-border routes.

2.1.3 The last major refurbishment of the station and the existing building, dates from the early 1970s and, whilst incremental improvements have been made over time, the current redevelopment will bring the station up to modern standards, meeting passenger and stakeholder expectations.

- 2.1.4 The station works are being delivered by ScotRail as part of its franchise commitment to redevelop large stations in Scotland. The project will deliver transformational change including an enhanced station forecourt building with glazed roof; a brighter larger concourse and a larger, more open station frontage area; improved facilities for passengers including a better retail environment; refurbished customer toilets and waiting facilities. New ticket gateline barriers and passenger information screens will be introduced within the redeveloped station building.
- 2.1.5 The station also acts as a base for British Transport Police (BTP) and incorporates a ScotRail traincrew depot. The works have necessitated new accommodation spaces being created for staff, along with the relocation of staff car parking facilities.
- 2.1.6 Works on the station redevelopment began in June 2020 and are programmed to complete in July 2022.

2.2 Motherwell Town Centre Transport Interchange

- 2.2.1 The Motherwell Town Centre Transport Interchange project is a sub-project of North Lanarkshire Council's £189.5 million Glasgow City Region City Deal Pan-Lanarkshire Orbital Transport Corridor, one of the three core City Deal infrastructure projects in North Lanarkshire that also includes the East Airdrie Link Road and Ravenscraig Access Infrastructure.
- 2.2.2 The bus stop immediately outside the station on Muir Street and stops located on the adjoining streets of Hamilton Road and Merry Street are important both locally and regionally by offering connections across Lanarkshire including services serving communities between Motherwell and Airdrie, Coatbridge, East Kilbride and Hamilton as well as services into Glasgow.
- 2.2.3 The Interchange works involve the creation of an expanded and enhanced bus facility outside Muir Street that includes delivering new public realm and a reconfigured and widened station forecourt area. The bus stop will incorporate Real-Time Passenger Information displays. A new access road and footpath is to be built from Hamilton Road, running behind properties on Muir Street and joining with the existing road in front of the station. This configuration will create a new arrangement for taxis and will introduce disabled parking and a drop off/pick up point at the station entrance as well as allowing additional capacity on Muir Street for buses.
- 2.2.4 The Interchange works commenced in January 2022 and are due for completion in July 2022.

2.3 Complementary Measures

- 2.3.1 There are a range of complementary measures which are being delivered to support the Rail Station redevelopment and Transport Interchange works. SPT capital funding of £450,000 in 2019 supported the expansion and enhancement to park and ride provision in Motherwell town centre in order to meet both current and future demand at the rail station. The project focused on expanding park and ride capacity at Farm Street to the west of the station and Pollock Street to the east. A redesign of the existing facilities created a total of 80 additional car parking spaces, with improvements made to walking routes between car parks and the station, including significantly widened footpaths.

- 2.3.2 Options are being investigated to upgrade the Station's Platform 1 waiting area which is used predominantly by passengers for cross-country services. Whilst this was not within the original scope of the Station project, ScotRail is leading the GRIP 3 (feasibility and option selection) stage for investment in rail projects on behalf rail operator Avanti West Coast (AWC). Furthermore, SPT, alongside North Lanarkshire Council are engaging with AWC to examine town centre car parking options. There is currently no committed funding for Platform 1 enhancements beyond the current feasibility and option selection stage.
- 2.3.3 SPT's Capital Programme is also supporting North Lanarkshire Council in delivery of their Motherwell Station Active Travel Links project. This seeks to build on sustainable transport improvements being delivered at Motherwell Rail Station and Transport Interchange by improving active travel links between the town centre, surrounding communities and Strathclyde Country Park.
- 2.3.4 SPT has provided £150,000 of funding support to the Council within the current financial year 2021/22 for new and improved active travel connections at Hope Street, Pollock Street in Motherwell town centre and on Muir Street between Motherwell Rail Station and Ladywell Bridge/Ladywell Road. SPT is working alongside the Council to identify further opportunities for active travel connections to the wider Motherwell area, including improved connections with Ravenscraig, one of Scotland's largest urban regeneration sites and where significant investment by SPT in active travel is already underway.

3. Project Co-ordination

- 3.1 The project encompasses several key interdependencies, including the construction of a new platform level retaining wall to enable expansion of the station forecourt and allow provision of the new access road (a shared deliverable between North Lanarkshire Council and ScotRail) as well as land agreements that needed to be reached between partners.
- 3.2 In order to ensure a fully co-ordinated approach, a multi-partnered Project Client Steering Group (PCSG), chaired by SPT, was established in October 2018 to oversee the delivery of both projects in a coordinated manner.
- 3.3 Coordination of overlapping construction phases is key to ensuring successful delivery of each project element and provides opportunity for construction efficiencies to be realised as well as helps manage risk and mitigation measures more effectively.
- 3.4 Coordination is helping minimise disruption to the public, rail and bus passengers and local businesses. Furthermore, Balfour Beatty Ltd, contractor for the station work, has been appointed by North Lanarkshire Council to complete Muir Street works. This approach, using the same contractor, assists in coordinating the work on both projects and delivers operational efficiencies.
- 3.5 Membership of the PCSG, which meets eight-weekly, includes ScotRail, North Lanarkshire Council, Transport Scotland, Network Rail and SPT. The remit of the group includes co-ordinating matters relating to the overall project programme and timescales; agreeing matters relating to budgets, funding and financial decisions and to resolve any issues and matters arising.
- 3.6 The PCSG is supported by a project delivery group who meet regularly on site to progress ongoing technical matters and by a Communications group representing all key partners to ensure up-to-date and consistent messaging around project progress.

- 3.7 The coordination approach is a key factor behind both projects targeting the same completion date of July 2022.

4. Funding

- 4.1 Funding for the £15.3 million Station redevelopment is being provided by Transport Scotland (as project sponsor and the major funder), through its Scottish Stations Investment Fund (SSIF), North Lanarkshire Council using GCR City Deal funding and SPT.
- 4.2 SPT has so far contributed £1.5 million towards overall construction costs, with a further £750,000 contribution requested by ScotRail in the current financial year 2021/22 to fund emerging project cost increases¹. This would take SPT's total investment in the station project to £2.25 million.
- 4.3 The cost increases are the result of unforeseen issues with the existing building fabric as well as with ground conditions beneath the station forecourt. These issues have required additional design work and construction activity in order to progress with redevelopment. Transport Scotland have committed to a shared contribution towards cost increases.
- 4.4 Funding for the Motherwell Town Centre Transport Interchange works are being provided by GCR City Deal.

5. Conclusion

- 5.1 The combined investment by partners will enhance the operation and role of Motherwell Rail Station as a regional transport hub and gateway into the Glasgow City Region and the wider SPT area. It will help to facilitate potential growth in rail and bus service patronage and support the transformation of Motherwell Station into a modern, accessible regional transport hub, creating a positive impression that will encourage investment and boost confidence in Motherwell and across the SPT area.
- 5.2 The station and the further development of Muir Street as a bus/rail interchange forms an important part of the regeneration of Motherwell and the surrounding area and forms part of the Pan-Lanarkshire City Deal infrastructure improvements with regard to orbital improved connectivity across the wider west central Scotland conurbation.
- 5.3 The creation of additional housing nearby on the former Ravenscraig Steel Works has driven much local regeneration and this can be enhanced by the provision of high quality, sustainable transport facilities. Walking, wheeling, cycling, as well as park-and-ride, facilities can ensure that these improvements at Motherwell Station and Muir Street Transport Interchange can offer the widest possible benefits to local residents and well as visitors.
- 5.4 Project visuals and photographs can be found in attached Appendix.

6. Partnership action

The Partnership is requested to note:

- The significant works being undertaken at this regional hub; and

¹ £750,000 funding request is with the Partnership Committee for approval ('P' paragraph), having been presented before the Strategy & Programmes Committee for scrutiny on 18 February 2022.

- The contribution of SPT to the funding and facilitation of the key stakeholders.

7. Consequences

Policy consequences	<i>Attractive, Seamless Reliable Travel is an outcome of the current RTS, and SPT's investment at Motherwell will help contribute towards achieving this outcome.</i>
Legal consequences	<i>None at present.</i>
Financial consequences	<i>Investment in Motherwell is funded through SPT's capital programme. The funding request was considered subject to Partnership approval on 26 February 2022.</i>
Personnel consequences	<i>None at present.</i>
Equalities consequences	<i>None at present.</i>
Risk consequences	<i>None at present.</i>

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For further information, please contact *Bruce Kiloh*, Head of Policy and Planning at bruce.kiloh@spt.co.uk or *Martin Breen*, Senior Transport Planner at martin.breen@spt.co.uk.

Appendix



Station entrance c.1967



Station Entrance (Before)



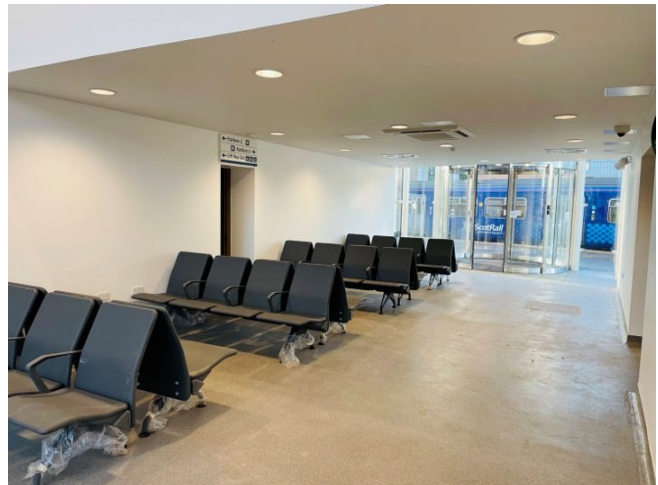
Visual of station entrance when completed



Visuals of new widened concourse with new travel shop, gateline, retail unit, glazed roof



New and refurbished staff facilities



Old and new customer waiting room

