

Statement of efficiency gains 2021/22

Period covering 1 April 2021 to 31 March 2022

The Public Services Reform (Scotland) Act 2010 requires SPT to publish an efficiency statement after the end of each financial year. This statement identifies the steps taken by SPT during that financial year to improve efficiency, effectiveness and economy in the delivery of its functions.

The relevant efficiency statement for SPT for the year ending 31 March 2022 is set out below.

The Act also requires SPT to provide details on the current level of shared services provided by the public body. During the year SPT has:

- delivered on behalf of 11 local authorities school transport planning, delivery and monitoring of services ensuring that approximately 40,000 children per day were carried on school transport services,
- delivered the management and maintenance of bus stops and shelters for 12 local authorities,
- managed and monitored the Strathclyde Concession Scheme on behalf of 12 local authorities,
- worked with local authorities to maximise fleet efficiencies, and
- wherever possible, utilised procurement portals and public sector framework contracts to achieve best value.

Statement of Efficiency

SPT achieved savings and increased income of £3.576m million in 2021/22. Due to the Covid pandemic which started in March 2020 a number of expenditure areas have achieved savings in 2021/22 with some of these at least in part, as a direct result of the pandemic. Similar to 2020/21 savings were required in 2021/22 in order to achieve a balanced budget. The main areas are listed below.

Theme	Description of efficiency, effectiveness, economy measure delivered	Impact on service delivery and performance / other information
Workforce Planning	Staff Turnover and Recruitment Timeline	Staff savings achieved due to the number of employee's in post being below the budgeted establishment throughout the year. Staff turnover and the time taken to recruit suitable replacements took longer than usual due to competition in the market for specific roles which

		also contributed to reduced costs in 2021/22.
Theme	Description of efficiency, effectiveness, economy measure delivered	Impact on service delivery and performance / other information
Workforce Planning	Overtime	Efficiencies achieved through reduced reliance on overtime across the organisation and was reflective of anticipated workloads.
Procurement	Property Costs	Savings obtained through efficiencies in electricity usage, including hybrid working and also savings in ongoing repairs and maintenance due to refurbishment of Buchanan bus station in 2020.
Procurement	Supplies and Services	Efficiencies achieved in this area are, in part, as a result of the Covid pandemic. Savings across the organisation were achieved in printing and postage reflecting the move to being as paperless as possible and also due to hybrid working. Mobile phone costs have also reduced as a result of the use of Microsoft teams as a method of communicating both internally and externally. Savings were achieved within the Subway for rolling stock supplies and services costs. Corporate costs such as training were reduced due to availability of courses and general supplies costs due to hybrid working and reduced need for

		stationery and general office supplies.
Procurement	Management of Subsidised Bus Contracts	Maintained subsidised bus services in SPT area whilst achieving efficiencies through electronic procurement and management of contracts. Improved relationships with bus operators also assisted in achieving efficiencies via improved prices for bus contracts and the consolidation of My Bus services in line with current demand.
Procurement	Transport & Plant	Savings obtained by prior investment in fleet replacement resulting in a subsequent reduction in fleet repairs, maintenance and running costs. Further efficiencies achieved in Travel & Subsistence as a result of utilising digital platforms like Teams and Zoom for meetings where previously travel costs were incurred.
Other	Third Party Payments	Efficiencies were achieved over a number of third party payments including agency staff costs, legal fees, communications costs, consultancy fees and British Transport Police costs.
Other	Increased Interest Earned on Cash Balances	Obtained greater return on interest earned whilst maintaining priorities of security and liquidity on capital sums (cash balances)