

Strathclyde Partnership for Transport

Minute of Strategy & Programmes Committee meeting

27 March 2009

held in Consort House, Glasgow

contact officers:

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| 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 Strategy & Programmes Committee held in Glasgow on 27 March 2009

- Present** Councillors David Fagan (Chair), Charlie Gilbert (deputy), Ian Gray, Bill Grant, Duncan MacIntyre, Davie McLachlan, Alan Malcolm and George Roberts and appointed members John Boyle, Liz Connolly and Gavin Scott.
- Apologies** Councillors Robert Burrows, Alex Hannah, Billy Hendry (deputy), Eddie Phillips, Tom Barr (deputy), John Reid, Ruth Simpson and Alistair Watson and appointed member Elizabeth Cameron.
- Attending** Valerie Davidson, Assistant Chief Executive (Business Support)/Secretary; Valerie A Bowen, Senior Clerk; Gordon MacLennan, Assistant Chief Executive (Operations) and Neil Wylie, Director of Finance.

1. Minute of previous meeting

The minute of the meeting of 30 January 2009 (issued) was submitted and approved as a correct record.

2. Revenue monitoring as at 28 February 2009

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P* There was submitted a report (issued) of 12 March 2009 by the Assistant Chief Executive (Business Support)

- (1) reminding members that the Partnership had approved a revenue budget for 2008/09 of £47.230m;
- (2) appending the revenue monitoring report for the period to 28 February 2009 (period 12);
- (3) informing members that, based on the information to date, an underspend of £44,000 was forecast at this stage and all expenditure heads would be monitored closely to ensure the projected underspend was achieved; and
- (4) outlining the main reasons for the underspend and advising that it was partially offset by a debt write off of £48,667.

After consideration and having heard Mr Wylie in further explanation of the report and in answer to members' questions, the committee

- (a) noted the projected outturn position on the information available at the end of period 12; and
- (b)* agreed to recommend approval of the debt write off of £48,667 to the Partnership.

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3. Capital programme monitoring and proposed amendments and additions as at 28 February 2009

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There was submitted a report (issued) of 19 March 2009 by the Assistant Chief Executive (Business Support)

- (1) providing a financial analysis of the capital programme budget and actual spend as at 28 February 2009 (period 12) in summary by service and in detail by project, which highlighted an actual spend to date of £11.988m compared to a planned spend position by the end of period 12 of £20.327m;
- (2) highlighting the following projects which had been selected for detailed reporting:
 - Clydebank Interchange redevelopment
 - Greenock Bus Interchange
 - Hamilton Central Interchange redevelopment
 - Partick Interchange redevelopment
 - West of Scotland conurbation public transport study
 - Data network upgrade
 - Local authority projects
- (3) appending a list of various proposed amendments to the capital programme which, if approved, would result in an anticipated outturn of £29.329m at the end of the financial year; and
- (4) recommending that the committee
 - (a) note the delivery and financial performance of the 2008/09 SPT capital programme as at period 12; and
 - (b) approve the formal amendments to the 2008/09 capital programme to reflect project delivery issue as undernoted:-

New projects

| Capital project | Value (£) | Status |
|---|------------------|---------------|
| Performance, planning and policy system | 25,000 | New project |

Project amendments

| | | |
|---|----------|-----------------|
| Traffic counter upgrade – South Ayrshire | 800 | Outturn amended |
| Airdrie/Bathgate Transport Interchanges – North Lanarkshire | (10,000) | Outturn amended |
| Harthill Park & Ride extension – North Lanarkshire | (33,000) | Outturn amended |

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| Capital project | Value (£) | Status |
|--|------------------|-----------------|
| A70 route improvements – East Ayrshire | (25,000) | Outturn amended |
| A803 corridor improvement strategy – East Dunbartonshire | (9,000) | Outturn amended |
| Harvie Avenue bus layover – East Renfrewshire | (4,000) | Outturn amended |
| Greenock Bus Interchange | 12,880 | Outturn amended |
| Hamilton Interchange redevelopment | (75,000) | Outturn amended |
| Croy Park & Ride | 3,100 | Outturn amended |
| Dalmarnock Rail Station feasibility study | 11,000 | Outturn amended |
| Easterhouse car park extension | 1,735 | Outturn amended |
| Motherwell Transport Interchange | 1,920 | Outturn amended |
| Partick Interchange redevelopment | 4,273,000 | Outturn amended |
| Travel Point roll out | 1,824 | Outturn amended |
| Extension of speed monitoring system to SPT bus stations | 1,475 | Outturn amended |
| PASS-CT Licences | 1,343 | Outturn amended |
| Timetable/Information production system | 10,600 | Outturn amended |
| Train radio system | 31,000 | Outturn amended |
| Refurbishment of trailer cars | 150,000 | Outturn amended |
| Replacement of locomotives | (241,400) | Outturn amended |
| Train wash | (104,300) | Outturn amended |
| Replacement compressors for power cars | 20,000 | Outturn amended |
| Life extension of autocouplers | (20,000) | Outturn amended |
| Power car cab – sound insulation | (15,000) | Outturn amended |
| Replacement power car batteries | (200) | Outturn amended |

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| Capital project | Value (£) | Status |
|---|------------------|-----------------|
| Tunnel lighting & service power supply | 15,300 | Outturn amended |
| Platform screens (Ibrox & Hillhead) | (71,400) | Outturn amended |
| Replacement Subway ticketing system | 30,600 | Outturn amended |
| Subway crash bollards | (40,000) | Outturn amended |
| Public Address Voice Alarm (PAVA) system | (74,700) | Outturn amended |
| Station lighting – Clean Glasgow | (113,400) | Outturn amended |
| Station security | (19,400) | Outturn amended |
| Staff accommodation/alterations and refurbishment | 11,277 | Outturn amended |
| Power car life extension and refurbishment | (25,000) | Outturn amended |
| Minor works | 2,300 | Outturn amended |
| General IT budget | 6,500 | Outturn amended |
| Park & Ride – Data collection | (65,000) | Outturn amended |
| Park & Ride – Development study | 33,000 | Outturn amended |
| High Speed Rail development programme | 8,800 | Outturn amended |

After discussion and having heard Mrs Davidson and Mr Wylie in further explanation of the report and in answer to members' questions, the committee approved the recommendations at (4) above.

4. Treasury Management Policy & Strategy 2009/10

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P There was submitted a report (issued) of 10 March 2009 by the Assistant Chief Executive (Business Support)

(1) reminding members that SPT managed the cash balances at its disposal with outstanding debt being managed by Glasgow City Council;

(2) appending

(a) a list of treasury management practices adopted by SPT (appendix 1);

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- (b) SPT's Treasury Management Agreement with Glasgow City Council (appendix 2);
 - (c) SPT's current counterparty list (appendix 3);
 - (d) SPT's prudential indicators which were relevant for the purpose of setting an integrated treasury management strategy (appendix 4); and
 - (e) SPT's current treasury management policy statement (appendix 5); and
- (3) detailing the proposed treasury management strategy for SPT for the financial year 2009/10 under the following headings:-
- Treasury limits in force which would limit the treasury risk and activities of the Partnership;
 - Prudential indicators
 - The current treasury position
 - The borrowing requirement
 - Prospects for interest rates
 - Major economic factors
 - Borrowing strategy
 - Investment strategy
 - Loan debt rescheduling

After consideration and having heard Mr Wylie in answer to members' questions, the committee

- (i) agreed to recommend approval of the treasury strategy for 2009/10 to the Partnership;
- (ii) approved the counterparty list as detailed in appendix 3; and
- (iii) otherwise noted the terms of the report.

5. Subway car parking charges

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There was submitted a report (issued) of 19 March 2009 by the Assistant Chief Executive (Operations)

- (1) reminding members that as part of the recent price review an effort to standardise the fares situation across all of SPT's park and ride sites had been made with the introduction of a car parking only charge of £3 per day;
- (2) explaining
 - (a) that the introduction of this "parking only" fare had resulted in the car parks being used as cheap alternative city or near city centre parking facilities as opposed to park and ride facilities which was never the intention; and
 - (b) that comparable parking rates for near city centre commenced at at least £5 per day;

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- (3) proposing that SPT revert to the arrangement which was in place prior to the introduction of the "parking only" fare, and apply the following park and ride fares across all sites:-

| Location | Pre 1/1/09** | Current position | Revised proposal*** |
|--|---------------------|-------------------------|----------------------------|
| Shields Road (car parking only/no ticket issued) | £4.20 | £3.00 | £5.00 |
| Kelvinbridge (park and ride/ticket issued)* | £4.20 | £3.00 | £5.00 |
| Bridge Street (park and ride/ticket issued)* | £4.20 | £3.00 | £5.00 |

* Park and Ride charged and a Subway return ticket issued

** Charge based on return Subway Ticket (£2.20) plus Car Park Charge (£2.00)

*** Charge based on return Subway Ticket (£2.40) plus Car Park Charge (£2.60)

- (4) recommending
- (a) that the committee recommend to the Partnership the revisions as outlined at (3) above to the previously agreed fees and charges in relation to parking charges from Monday 13 April 2009; and
 - (b) that, on the grounds of urgency, the matter be remitted to a Chairs Committee for consideration; and
- (5) concluding that adopting these proposals would allow a consistent policy to be adopted across all locations and would deter the use of the facilities for cheap parking.

After discussion, the committee approved the recommendations at (4) above.

6. SPT's response to Climate Change (Scotland) Bill

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There was submitted and noted a report (issued) of 5 March 2009 by the Assistant Chief Executive (Business Support)

- (1) informing members that the Climate Change (Scotland) Bill, which had been introduced to the Scottish Parliament on 4 December 2008, set targets for reducing greenhouse gas emissions, introduced a framework for advice and reporting on climate change, allowed for climate change duties to be placed on local authorities and other agencies and included provision on forestry, energy efficiency, waste reduction and recycling;
- (2) enclosing SPT's response to the Bill; and
- (3) advising members that the response afforded SPT the opportunity to be involved further in the development of legislation which would have a major impact on the

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future activities of the organisation and emphasised the importance of sustainable transport choices in reducing carbon emissions.

7. SPT's response to consultation on Regulation of Bus Services Bill

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There was submitted a report (issued) of 18 March 2009 by the Assistant Chief Executive (Business Support)

- (1) informing members that Charles Gordon MSP had published a consultation paper on his proposed Regulation of Bus Services Bill 2008, requesting that interested parties should respond by 28 February 2009;
- (2) enclosing SPT's response to the consultation which had been submitted within the deadline; and
- (3) advising members that the Chair and Vice-Chairs had offered to meet with Mr Gordon to discuss the response.

After discussion, the committee noted the report.

8. Bus Scoping Study Report and recommendations

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There was submitted a report (issued) of 18 March 2009 by the Assistant Chief Executive (Operations)

- (1) informing members
 - (a) that in May 2008, Faber Maunsell had been commissioned to carry out a Bus Scoping Study; and
 - (b) that the study comprised the undernoted three specific elements, which would influence region wide bus initiatives and feed into the ongoing Public Transport Conurbation Study:-
 - the current and future operation of Buchanan Bus Station;
 - the provision of bus services and infrastructure within Glasgow City Centre; and
 - standards for bus stations and related infrastructure across the SPT area; and
- (2) detailing the main conclusions and recommendations.

After hearing Mr Maclennan in further explanation of the report, the committee

- (i) approved the main recommendations from the three elements of the study , including the commissioning of a focused study into a south biased bus station/interchange; and the undertaking of Microsimulation modelling (using VISSIM software) in relation to Buchanan Bus Station at a cost of £12,500; and
- (ii) otherwise noted the report.

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9. Additional item

In terms of Standing Order no 3.2, the committee agreed to consider the following additional item of business.

10. M8/M73/M74 Network Improvements

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There was submitted a report (tabled) of 25 March 2009 by the Assistant Chief Executive (Business Support)

- (1) informing members
 - (a) of a proposal by Transport Scotland to widen the M8, M73 and M74 motorways by one lane at locations detailed below
 - M8 eastbound from J10 Westerhouse Road to J8 Baillieston Interchange;
 - M73 both carriageways between J1 Maryville Interchange and J2 Baillieston Interchange;
 - M74 both carriageways between J2 Carmyle Avenue and J5 Raith Interchange; and
 - M74 southbound between J5 Raith Interchange and J6 Hamilton Interchange;
 - (b) that as a number of objections to the Roads Orders for the scheme had been raised, a Public Local Inquiry had been arranged to consider these; and
 - (c) that Transport Scotland had asked SPT to provide confirmation that it was in support of the scheme;
- (2) appending a draft letter outlining how the road widening would support the Regional Transport Strategy and SPT's Delivery Plan; and
- (3) recommending approval of the response.

After discussion, the committee approved the response and agreed to forward the letter as attached to the Project Sponsor for consideration at the Public Local Inquiry.