

Strathclyde Partnership for Transport

Minute of meeting

12 March 2021

held via Video Conference

Contact:

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Minute of the meeting of the Strathclyde Partnership for Transport held via Video Conference at 11am on 12 March 2021

Present Councillors Dr Martin Bartos (Chair), Malcolm Balfour, Richard Bell, Colin Cameron, Graham Campbell, Maureen Devlin, William Goldie (until Agenda Item 9), Graham Hardie, Alan Lafferty, Marie McGurk (until Agenda Item 9), Marie McNair, Michael McPake (until Agenda Item 9), Alan Moir, Donald Reid, Jim Roberts (from Agenda Item 7), David Shearer, David Wilson and appointed members Greg Beecroft, Brian Davidson, Ann Faulds, Anne Follin, Alex Macaulay.

Attending Gordon Maclennan, Chief Executive; Valerie Davidson, Assistant Chief Executive, Neil Wylie, Director of Finance; Antony Smith, Director of Subway; Bruce Kiloh, Head of Policy & Planning; Gordon Dickson, Head of Bus Strategy & Delivery; and Andrea Thomson, 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.

The Chair welcomed the newly appointed members who were attending the meeting in an observer capacity prior to the effective date of their appointment (Agenda Item 5).

1. Apologies

Apologies were submitted from Councillors Ian Cochrane, Richard Nelson and Anna Richardson and appointed members Graham Johnston and Jim McNally.

2. Declaration of interest in terms of the Ethical Standards in Public Life etc (Scotland) Act 2000

All appointed members declared an interest in Agenda Item 5. Councillor Bell declared an interest in Agenda Item 6 as Chair of the Strathclyde Pension Fund.

3. Minute of previous meeting

[Click here to view the minute](#)

The minute of the meeting of 11 December 2020 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 29 January 2021;
- (b) Strategy & Programmes Committee of 19 February 2021; and
- (c) Audit & Standards Committee of 19 February 2021.

5. Appointed Member Recruitment

[Click here to view the report](#)

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There was submitted a report (issued) of 16 February 2021 by the Assistant Chief Executive advising the Partnership of the receipt of agreement from the Cabinet Secretary for Transport, Infrastructure and Connectivity to the appointment of four new members and the reappointment of two current members.

Members expressed their thanks to outgoing appointed members for their valued contributions, welcomed the newly appointed and reappointed members to SPT and after hearing from Mrs Davidson, the Partnership:

- (i) noted the appointments with effect from 1 April 2021 of the appointed members;
- (ii) noted the committee composition effective from 1 April 2021; and
- (iii) noted the training and briefing sessions planned in support of all members.

6. Revenue Budget for 2021/22 – Update

[Click here to view the report](#)

There was submitted a report (issued) of 23 February 2021 by the Assistant Chief Executive recommending the Partnership, following consideration by the Strategy and Programmes Committee, approve a balanced revenue budget for 2021/22 and noting the risks and challenges of preparing a balanced budget during the current period of uncertainty.

This report also highlighted the assumptions being made in the preparation of the budget, proposals for fees and charges and the proposed local authority requisition. In addition, members were asked to approve the amendment to the reserves policy, also as recommended following consideration by the Strategy and Programmes Committee.

After hearing from Mrs Davidson in response to members' questions, and noting that the final Local Government Settlement had been confirmed resulting in a marginal increase of 0.9% to SPTs requisition, the Partnership:

- (i) considered and approved the proposed revenue budget and the assumptions being made, noting the final local authority requisition level will be increased by 0.9%;
- (ii) noted the current and projected reserve balances as detailed in section 5 of the report; and
- (iii) approved the update to the Reserves Policy.

7. Proposed Capital Plan 2021/22 to 2023/24 including the Capital Budget 2021/22

[Click here to view the report](#)

There was submitted a report (issued) of 2 March 2021 by the Assistant Chief Executive asking the Partnership to consider and if appropriate approve the proposed Capital Plan for financial years 2021/22 to 2023/24, the Capital Budget for financial year 2021/22 and to Grant Fund to the Local Authorities or other bodies as per Appendix 4 of the report and authorise the Assistant Chief Executive to complete the grant award letters.

After hearing from Mrs Davidson, and noting that the Capital Plan and budget had been scrutinised and recommended for approval by the Strategy & Programmes Committee, the Partnership approved:

- (i) the proposed Capital Plan for financial years 2021/22 to 2023/24;

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- (ii) the Capital Budget for financial year 2021/22; and
- (iii) to Grant Fund to the Local Authorities or other bodies as per Appendix 4 of the report and authorised the Assistant Chief Executive to complete the grant award letters.

8. Treasury Management Strategy Statement, Annual Investment Strategy and Capital Strategy 2021/22

[Click here to view the report](#)

There was submitted a report (issued) of 2 March 2021 by the Assistant Chief Executive updating the Partnership on treasury management processes and seek approval for the proposed treasury management strategy and annual investment strategy for financial year 2021/22; and seeking approval for the proposed capital strategy which forms part of SPT's integrated revenue, capital and treasury management planning.

After hearing from Mr Wylie in response to members' questions, the Partnership considered the report and approved:

- (i) the Treasury Management Strategy Statement and Annual Investment Strategy for financial year 2021/22;
- (ii) SPT's prudential indicators as detailed in the report;
- (iii) the Permitted Investment Types detailed in Appendix 1;
- (iv) the Counterparty List detailed in Appendix 3; and
- (v) the Capital Strategy.

9. Developing the Regional Transport Strategy – Consultation on the Draft 'Case for Change'

[Click here to view the report](#)

There was submitted a report (issued) of 16 February 2021 by the Chief Executive updating the Partnership on the development of the new Regional Transport Strategy (RTS) and the forthcoming consultation on the draft Case for Change report.

After extensive discussion and after hearing from Mr Kiloh in response to members' questions, the Partnership expressed thanks to Mr Kiloh's team and:

- (i) noted the contents of the report subject to the comments made by members being considered for incorporation; and
- (ii) noted the update on development of the RTS and the forthcoming consultation on the draft Case for Change at Appendix 1.

10. Meeting the Public Sector Equality Duty 2021

[Click here to view the report](#)

There was submitted a report (issued) of 15 February 2021 by the Assistant Chief Executive providing a progress update on how SPT is meeting its obligations under the UK Equality Act 2010 and Scottish Public Sector Equality Duties; and recommending approval of the 'SPT Advancing Equality 2021' report attached at Appendix 1.

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After extensive discussion and hearing that the Gender Pay Gap Report and Equalities Reporting relating to staff would be presented to a future Personnel Committee, and after hearing further from Mrs Davidson and Mr Smith in response to members' questions, the Partnership:

- (i) noted the contents of the report; and
- (ii) approved the report attached at Appendix 1, subject to the changes requested by members, for publication on SPT's website in line with statutory timescales.

11. Data Protection Policy

[Click here to view the report](#)

There was submitted a report (issued) of 18 February 2021 by the Assistant Chief Executive recommending the Partnership approve the revised Data Protection Policy.

After hearing from Mrs Davidson, the Partnership approved the revised Data Protection Policy attached at Appendix 1 of the report.

12. Member Training & Conference Attendance

[Click here to view the report](#)

There was submitted a report (issued) of 16 February 2021 by the Assistant Chief Executive seeking the Partnership's agreement of a revised process for the approval of member training and conference attendance.

After discussion and hearing from Mrs Davidson in response to members' questions, the Partnership approved the new streamlined process for member training and conference attendance, noting that any approved expenditure would be reported to the Audit & Standards Committee.

Closing Remarks

The Chair expressed thanks on behalf of Partnership to Ms Faulds and Mr Macaulay for their contributions to the work of SPT and wished them well and success for the future.