

Partnership minute



Strathclyde Partnership for Transport

Minute of meeting

28 September 2018

held in the Lewis Room, 131 St Vincent Street, Glasgow

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**Minute of the meeting of the Strathclyde Partnership for Transport
held in the Lewis Room, 131 St Vincent Street, Glasgow, on 28 September 2018**

Present Councillors Dr Martin Bartos (Chair), Malcolm Balfour, Colin Cameron, Tracy Carragher, Allan Casey, Ian Cochrane, Graham Hardie, Alan Lafferty, Alan Moir, Richard Nelson, Donald Reid, Anna Richardson, Jim Roberts, David Wilson, Graham Campbell and Alistair Mackay, and appointed members Gregory Beecroft, Anne Follin, Graham Johnston, Alex Macaulay, Jo MacLennan and Jim McNally.

Attending Valerie Davidson, Secretary/Assistant Chief Executive; Gordon MacLennan, Chief Executive; Charlie Hoskins, Senior Director, Neil Wylie, Director of Finance & HR, Bruce Kiloh, Head of Policy & Planning, Stuart Paul, Chief Accountant and Jim Griffin, Solicitor

Chairs Opening Remarks

Cllr Dr Bartos opened the meeting by intimating that a number of membership changes had been made by the constituent councils, and welcomed newly appointed members present to the meeting.

Mrs Davidson intimated two changes in Partnership membership had been received as follows:

- Cllr Jacqueline McLaren (GCC) had been replaced by Cllr Graham Campbell, and
- Cllr Allan Falconer (SLC) had been replaced by Cllr Maureen Devlin.

The Chair extended his thanks to Councillors Jacqueline McLaren and Allan Falconer for their contribution to the work of the Partnership.

Furthermore, the Chair intimated that draft dates for all Partnership and Committee meetings scheduled for 2019 had now been circulated to all members, intimating that the dates circulated did not preclude subject specific meetings being called if necessary. The Partnership agreed to the scheduled dates.

1. Apologies

Apologies were submitted from Councillors Maureen Devlin, Jim Finn and Michael McPake and appointed members Brian Davidson and Ann Faulds.

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

Appointed Member Graham Johnston declared an interest in Agenda Item no. 5 in that he is the subject of that report. Councillor Colin Cameron declared an interest in Agenda Item no. 9 intimating that he is an SPT appointed board member of Nevis Technologies Ltd.

3. Minute of previous meeting

The minute of the meeting of 22 June 2018 was submitted and approved as a correct record, with no matters arising.

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4. Committee Minutes

The minutes (issued) of the undernoted committees were noted and, subject to the comments and matters arising noted below, approved as an accurate record:

(a) Operations Committee of 24 August 2018

Councillor Reid reminded the Partnership that rail services in Ayrshire were continuing to be adversely affected due to problems at Ayr Station and asked that an update on the position be sought from Scotrail. The Chair confirmed that this would be raised with Alex Hynes, Chief Executive, Scotrail Alliance and an update provided to the next Operations Committee.

(b) Strategy & Programmes Committee of 7 September 2018

The Partnership resolved that the press and public be excluded prior to discussion on item 11 of the minute, it being considered that there would otherwise be disclosure of exempt information in terms of paragraph 9 of Part 1 of Schedule 7a to the Local Government (Scotland) Act 1973

After considerable discussion, the Chair confirmed that as the issue was not as time sensitive as originally anticipated, a Chair's Committee was not required and approval subject to discussion of matters arising was being sought from the Partnership.

In response to questions from members, Mrs Davidson and Mr Maclennan provided further background information relating to the site, its valuation and the proposed sale, confirming the site was not earmarked in the last conurbation study as being required to be safeguarded for transport purposes.

Thereafter, the Chair proposed and the Partnership approved an amendment to the Committee minute to reflect the concerns raised at the Strategy & Programmes Committee, as follows:

After discussion and hearing from Mr Maclennan in answer to members' questions and concerns relating to the proposal, and following an assurance given to the Partnership by the Chair, it was agreed that the report would be brought to the full Partnership if there were no time sensitive requirements. Otherwise the Committee agreed:

- (i) to approve the recommendation to sell the outstanding surplus land, subject to final terms being agreed by the Chief Executive; and
- (ii) to remit to a Chairs Committee in the interests of expediency for final approval and report the outcome to the Partnership.

Further, the Partnership approved the sale of the land at Collegelands as detailed in the report.

(c) Audit & Standards Committee of 14 September 2018

After discussion and on hearing Cllr Shearer, it was agreed that the minute be amended to reflect the motion raised by himself, seconded by Cllr Finn, and agreed unanimously by the Committee that in future years audited draft financial statements should be considered together with the Report to those charged with Governance by the Audit and Standards Committee in the first instance, prior to consideration for approval by the Partnership.

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(d) Personnel Committee of 14 September 2018.

5. Appointed Members – proposal to extend period of appointments

Appointed Member Graham Johnston, having declared an interest, left the meeting whilst this item was being considered.

There was submitted a report (issued) of 6 September 2018 by the Assistant Chief Executive advising the Partnership that the four-year tenure of Appointed Member Graham Johnston concluded on 14 September 2018 and recommending the extension of this appointment, subject to the consent of the Scottish Ministers for a further period of four years.

After having heard Mrs Davidson confirm to Cllr Cochrane that the Diversity Plan would be given due regard in relation to the appointment of Members, the Partnership agreed to the extension of the appointment of Graham Johnston for a further four year period.

Appointed Member Graham Johnston was then invited to return to the meeting.

6. Transport (Scotland) Bill – Call for Evidence by Scottish Parliament Rural Economy and Connectivity Committee – SPT response

There was submitted a report (issued) of 20 September 2018 by the Senior Director seeking approval of the Partnership to SPT's draft response to the Call for Evidence, following consideration of the response by the Strategy & Programmes Committee.

The Chair advised Members that the legislative process was lengthy and progress of the Bill has been discussed previously. The Bill is now at the stage where evidence was being presented to the Parliamentary Committee.

After discussion, and Mr Hoskins responding to members' questions, the members:

- (i) commended the work of officers both in compiling the response and the evidence given at Committee;
- (ii) agreed that page 38 of the report, the last line of Part 4 be amended by the deletion of "be made" and the insertion of "continue to be";
- (iii) noted that the Bill Committee are meeting at SPT Offices on 2 November 2018, and all members are invited and encouraged to attend.

The Partnership then approved the draft response.

7. Data Protection Policy Update

There was submitted a report (issued) dated 12 September 2018 by the Assistant Chief Executive recommending the Partnership's approval to SPT's proposed updated Data Protection Policy.

After further explanation from Mrs Davidson, the Partnership approved the updated policy.

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8. Annual Accounts 2017/18

There was submitted a report (issued) dated 18 September 2018 by the Assistant Chief Executive recommending the Partnership approve:

- (i) the signing of the Partnership financial statements for year ended 31 March 2018, and
- (ii) the signing of the Strathclyde Concessionary Travel Joint Committee financial statements for the year ended 31 March 2018.

In further explanation, Mrs Davidson explained that the Joint Committee had previously approved the Partnership consider its financial statements, there being much commonality of systems and process between the two separate entities. Mrs Davidson further explained that the accounts differed from those presented to the June Partnership as a result of Audit Scotland raising a Scotland wide issue regarding the actuarial valuation of pension information applicable to all local government in Scotland. Mrs Davidson highlighted that the accounts were again an unqualified set of financial statements and that external auditors had not raised any significant issues. Mrs Davidson commended the Finance Team on their hard work and professionalism in producing the financial statements and working papers for audit to a high standard.

The Partnership approved the report and the recommendations as outlined in the report.

9. Intelligent Transport Systems – Information Paper

There was submitted and approved a report (issued) dated 10 September 2018 by the Senior Director to provide members with an insight and understanding of Intelligent Transport Systems and their application to the work of SPT.

Members thanked Mr Hoskins for his report and requested that the Partnership be kept apprised of this important area of work going forward.

10. SPT Subway Modernisation: Station Refurbishments – award of contracts

There was submitted a report (issued) dated 6 September 2018 by the Senior Director recommending approval of:

- (i) the award of a contract to John Graham Constriction Ltd to a value of £3,097,366.80 for Lot One (St Georges Cross and Kinning Park Station); and
- (ii) the award of a contract to John Graham Constriction Ltd to a value of £3,449,651.70 for Lot Two (Cowcaddens and West Street Station).

Having heard Mr Hoskins explain that this work requires to be completed to the same high standard as earlier contracts and confirm that quality tenders had been received and that all work would be closely monitored, the Partnership approved the recommendations.

11. Subway Automatic Train Operation System – award of support contract

There was submitted and approved a report (issued) dated 11 September 2018 by the Senior Director recommending the award of a contract for support services to assist SPT in maintaining the Subway automatic train operation system to Mott MacDonald Ltd in the sum of £273,431.08.

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12. Subway Optical Transport Network – award of maintenance support contract

There was submitted and approved a report (issued) dated 11 September 2018 by the Senior Director recommending the award of contract for maintenance support services for the Subway optical transport network to Siemens Mobility Ltd in the sum of £49,598 per annum, subject to annual CPI indexation, for a period of four years commencing September 2018.