

*joining up
journeys*

SPT

partnership minute

Strathclyde Partnership for Transport

Minute of meeting

8 October 2010

held in Consort House, Glasgow

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Minute of the meeting of the Strathclyde Partnership for Transport held in Consort House, Glasgow, on 8 October 2010.

Present:	Argyll and Bute	Duncan MacIntyre
	East Dunbartonshire	Alan Moir
	East Renfrewshire	Eddie Phillips
	Glasgow	Jonathan Findlay (Chair)
	Glasgow	Tommy Morrison
	Glasgow	Jim McNally
	Glasgow	William O'Rourke (Deputy)
	Glasgow	George Roberts
	Inverclyde	David Wilson
	North Ayrshire	John Reid
	North Lanarkshire	Robert Burrows
	North Lanarkshire	David Fagan
	North Lanarkshire	Mark Griffin
	Renfrewshire	Marie McGurk
	South Ayrshire	Bill Grant
	South Lanarkshire	Ian Gray
	South Lanarkshire	Denis McKenna
	South Lanarkshire	Chris Thompson
	West Dunbartonshire	William Hendrie
	Appointed Member	John Boyle
	Appointed Member	Tom Hart
	Appointed Member	Alan Malcolm
	Appointed Member	Niall McGrogan
	Appointed Member	Gavin Scott

Apologies	East Ayrshire	Robert McDill
	Glasgow	Archie Graham
	Appointed Member	Bill Ure

Attending: Valerie Davidson, Secretary; Valerie A. Bowen, Senior Clerk; Gordon MacLennan, Chief Executive; Eric Stewart, Assistant Chief Executive (Operations); Charlie Hoskins, Director of Projects; Kate Whittaker, Senior Environmental Officer and John MacDonald, Assistant Environmental Officer.

1. Declaration of interest

The Partnership noted that there were no declarations of interest.

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2. Chair's announcements

Before the commencement of the meeting, the Chair advised members

(1) that it was his intention to establish a Recruitment Committee for the post of Chief Executive at the next meeting of the Partnership; and

(2) of the following attendance at the forthcoming political party conferences:-

Councillor McKenna, Liberal Democrat conference on 9 October 2010;

Councillor Findlay, SNP conference on 15 October 2010; and

Councillor Fagan, Labour Party conference on 29 October 2010.

3. Minute of previous meeting

The minute of the meeting of 20 August 2010 was submitted and approved as a correct record.

Arising from the minute with regard to

(1) page 6, paragraph 11,

(a) Mr Stewart updated members on the progress with the Subway Integrated Ticketing Contract. He explained that the contract was at the final negotiation stage and competitive dialogue was ongoing. He advised members that an update would be available at the February meeting of the Partnership; and

(b) Mr Fagan reminded members of the work of the Design Advisory Group established to examine specifically design and quality issues for the modernisation of the Subway and advised members that Alasdair Gray had been commissioned to design a mural for display at Hillhead Subway Station;

(2) page 3, paragraph 4, Mr Findlay advised members that volunteers would be sought at the next meeting of the Partnership to form a member/officer working group to examine budget pressures relating to bus subsidy guideline criteria and service provision; and

(3) page 5, paragraph 7, Mr Stewart updated members on the progress being made by SPT and various constituent councils in the development of a shared services network.

4. Committee minutes

The minutes (issued) of the undernoted committees were noted:-

(1) Personnel Appeals Sub-Committee of 30 August 2010;

(2) Operations Committee of 3 September 2010;

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- (3) Audit and Standards Committee of 17 September 2010;
- (4) Strategy & Programmes Committee of 17 September 2010; and
- (5) Personnel Appeals Sub-Committee of 30 September 2010.

Arising from the minute

- (a) of the Audit and Standards Committee with regard to page 5, paragraph 10 in response to a question raised regarding the review of SPT's expenses policy, particularly relating to the purchase of alcohol/corporate hospitality, Mrs Davidson advised members
 - (i) that a benchmarking exercise was currently being carried out and a best practice document would be introduced; and
 - (ii) that training for members and officers on roles and responsibilities would be arranged, following finalisation of the best practice document; and
- (b) of the Strategy and Programmes Committee with regard to page 3, paragraph 7, Mr Hoskins updated members on recent correspondence with the Scottish Government requesting formal confirmation of funding for the Fastlink project. After having heard various members raise their concerns that the Scottish Government did not view Fastlink as a strategic priority, particularly when the Outline Business Case demonstrated that it could bring significant transport and wider economic benefits to the region, the Partnership agreed that the Chair would write to the Scottish Government highlighting members' concerns and requesting support and a funding contribution for the full regional scheme.

5. Scottish Ferries review – response to consultation

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With reference to the minute of the Strategy and Programmes Committee of 18 September 2009 (page 7, paragraph 7) when that committee had

- (1) considered a report on the Scottish Ferries Review by the Scottish Government which had included a comprehensive study and analysis of all aspects of ports and ferries, including issues of funding, safety, ownership models, operators, accessibility, freight, procurement of vehicles and the ferry route network; and
- (2) noted that the review, once completed, would provide background information to be used to prepare a long term Scottish Ferries Strategy to 2022 which would influence the next round of tendering for services for Orkney and Shetland together with the Clyde and Hebridean routes, the contract for which would start in October 2013,

there was submitted a report (issued) of 16 September 2010 by the Assistant Chief Executive (Business Support)

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- (a) informing members that a long term ferries strategy would affect ferry operations in the West of Scotland and how SPT would plan for related transport infrastructure and services;
- (b) explaining that following a further consultative period to analyse the responses received and to align the review further to reflect the views of all interested parties, the final Ferry Strategy would be published in spring/early summer 2011;
- (c) enclosing SPT's proposed response to a questionnaire issued by the Scottish Government as part of the Scottish Ferries Review; and
- (d) outlining the following key points contained within the response:-
 - that although Clyde area ferry services could be seen as providing for different needs when compared to the more remote ferry services in Scotland, ferry services on the Clyde still provided a lifeline service;
 - the economic, educational and social needs of the islands/peninsula communities should be paramount, including the economic well-being brought by visitors;
 - the current economic situation placed considerable stress on the ability to finance routes, vessels and port infrastructure. Innovative solutions to provision should be sought; and
 - constituent authorities and SPT should have a stronger more defined role in ferry service provision, including being consulted on fares policy which best met local requirements.

After considerable discussion, particularly relating to the Partnership's view that ferry travel should be included within the National Concessionary Travel Scheme and having heard Mrs Davidson in further explanation and in answer to members' questions, the Partnership approved the response, taking into consideration the comments raised by members.

6. SPT's response to consultation on Blue Badge reform

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There was submitted a report (issued) of 16 September 2010 by the Assistant Chief Executive (Business Support)

- (1) informing members
 - (a) that the Scottish Government planned to make improvements by 2013 to the Blue Badge Scheme which was a critical service for enabling improved mobility for disabled people; and
 - (b) that the proposed improvements to the scheme would make it easier to access and use by those who were eligible, easier to enforce and more efficient to administer;
- (2) advising members that SPT had been invited by the Scottish Government to respond to its proposals to reform the Blue Badge Scheme; and

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- (3) enclosing SPT's response to the consultation which had been submitted to the Scottish Government on 31 August 2010.

After discussion, the Partnership noted

- (i) the response, taking into consideration the comments raised by members; and
- (ii) that the proposed changes to the Blue Badge Scheme reforms would be submitted to a future meeting of the Partnership once published.

7. Consultation on implementation of directive 2009/33/EC – the promotion of clean energy-efficient road vehicles

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There was submitted a report (issued) of 29 September 2010 by the Assistant Chief Executive (Business Support)

- (1) informing members of Directive 2009/33/EC of the European Parliament which aimed to stimulate the market for clean and energy efficient vehicles through the public procurement of road transport vehicles and required that the lifetime energy and environmental impacts of such vehicles were taken into account in purchasing decisions;
- (2) advising members
 - (a) that the requirements of the directive were mandatory and applied to contracting authorities, contracting entities and certain public passenger transport services and required to be adopted by all European Member states by 4 December 2010; and
 - (b) that the directive applied to passenger cars, light commercial vehicles, heavy goods vehicles and buses; and
 - (c) that the directive would apply to all directly procured vehicles, as well as those leased under a contract where the EU procurement directives applied;
- (3) highlighting the fact that when tendering for operators to carry out public service obligation contracts, SPT would have to ensure that the requirements of this directive were applied; and
- (4) enclosing SPT's response to the Directive which had been submitted to the Scottish Government on 26 September 2010.

After considerable discussion and having heard Mr Stewart in further explanation and in answer to members' questions and Ms Whittaker advise members of the carbon reduction schemes undertaken by SPT, the Partnership

- (i) congratulated

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- (A) Ms Whittaker and Mr MacDonald for their work towards SPT's achievement of the Green Management Certificate issued by the Carbon Trust for completion of the first stage in the field of carbon and management omission reductions; and
 - (B) Councillor Phillips on his recent award of Scottish Green Campaigner of the Year; and
- (ii) noted
- (A) the response; and
 - (B) the potential increase in the cost of contracted services when specifying minimum criteria within the tender process.

8. Bus stop maintenance: proposed award of contracts

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There was submitted a report (issued) of 15 September 2010 by the Assistant Chief Executive (Operations)

- (1) detailing tenders received for the provision of bus stop maintenance for bus infrastructure throughout the Partnership area;
- (2) advising members that the contracts had been advertised in the European Journal of Procurement and had comprised of the following four lots:-
 - Lot 1 – Bus stop poles, information cases and flag maintenance (labour contractor);
 - Lot 2 – Supply of bus stop poles, flags and information cases (components supply);
 - Lot 3 – Bus stop tablet graphics; and
 - Lot 4 – Solar illumination of bus stops;
- (3) outlining the tender assessment procedure; and
- (4) recommending that the Partnership approve the award of the following contracts on a call off basis from 1 December 2010 for a three year period:-
 - (a) Lots 1, 2 and 3 to Externiture based on the tendered rates as detailed in the report; and
 - (b) Lot 4 to Commutaports based on the tendered rates as detailed in the report.

After discussion and having heard Mr Stewart advise that it was anticipated that the yearly spend for Lots 1 - 4 would be in the region of £302,000, the Partnership

- (i) approved the recommendation at (4) above; and
- (ii) noted that formal award of the contracts was subject to satisfaction of the requirements of the mandatory standstill period for public sector contracts.

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9. Office equipment contract

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After consideration of a report (issued) of 17 September 2010 by the Assistant Chief Executive (Operations), detailing tenders received for the award of a contract for an office equipment device and service for internal printing, scanning and copying, the Partnership approved acceptance of the tender submitted by Capital Solutions up to a maximum cost of £333,181 for a three year period with a possible extension period of up to an additional two years.

10. Invitation to participate in a scrutiny exercise

[Click here to view report](#)

There was submitted a report (issued) of 1 October 2010 by the Chief Executive,

- (1) informing members that Renfrewshire Council had invited SPT to participate in a review to be undertaken by their Scrutiny and Petitions Committee to ascertain the benefits of SPT activity to Renfrewshire set against the costs of SPT to the Council, with a view to considering whether or not SPT offered best value in delivering functions and services to the local area;
- (2) explaining that, although the scope of the review was for the Scrutiny and Petitions Committee to examine seven issues as detailed in the report, some of the issues being considered were matters for the Scottish Parliament to determine and consequently did not lie within the remit of either SPT or Renfrewshire Council; and
- (3) seeking the Partnership's views on whether SPT should participate in the scrutiny process.

After considerable discussion and having heard Mr MacLennan outline the background to the request, Councillor Findlay, seconded by Councillor Morrison, moved that the request from Renfrewshire Council be declined, given that there were appropriate methods of scrutiny within the Partnership and its committees.

Councillor McGurk, seconded by Councillor Hendrie, moved as an amendment that the request be accepted.

Thereon, a sufficient number of the members present having so required in terms of Standing Order No. 3.17.1, the vote was taken by calling the roll.

On the roll being called, the following three members voted for the amendment:- Councillors William Hendrie, Marie McGurk and George Roberts, and the following fourteen members voted in favour of the motion:- Councillors Robert Burrows, David Fagan, Jonathan Findlay, Bill Grant, Mark Griffin, Alan Moir, Tommy Morrison, Denis McKenna, Jim McNally, Duncan MacIntyre, William O'Rourke, Eddie Phillips, Chris Thompson and David Wilson.

Three members having voted for the amendment and fourteen members having voted for the motion, the motion was accordingly declared to be carried.

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11. Exclusion of press and public.

The Partnership resolved that the press and public be excluded for the next item of business on the agenda, it being considered that otherwise there would be disclosure to them of exempt information in terms of paragraphs 6 and 9 of Part 1 of Schedule 7a to the Local Government (Scotland) Act 1973.

12. Proposed letting of premises at Consort House

There was submitted a report (issued) of 29 September 2010 by the Assistant Chief Executive (Business Support) seeking approval to enter into an agreement to lease part of the ground and first floor of Consort House, following termination of the current lease arrangements.

After discussion, the Partnership

- (1) agreed
 - (a) that SPT should enter into a proposed agreement to lease the premises to a retailer based on the rental and lease terms outlined in the report; and
 - (b) to delegate authority to the Head of Property, in consultation with the Senior Legal Advisor, to conclude the agreement with the retailer on the basis of the terms detailed in the report; and
- (2) noted the irritancy of the previous leases which would allow the transaction to proceed.