

*joining up  
journeys*



partnership minute

## **Strathclyde Partnership for Transport**

### **Minute of meeting**

**9 October 2009**

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 9 October 2009.

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<b>Present:</b>	East Dunbartonshire	Alan Moir
	East Renfrewshire	Charlie Gilbert (deputy)
	Glasgow	Alex Glass (deputy)
	Glasgow	George Roberts
	Inverclyde	David Wilson
	North Lanarkshire	David Fagan
	South Ayrshire	Bill Grant
	South Lanarkshire	Ian Gray
	South Lanarkshire	Davie McLachlan (Chair)
	West Dunbartonshire	William Hendrie
	Appointed Member	John Boyle
	Appointed Member	Alan Malcolm
	Appointed Member	Ronnie Mellis
	Appointed Member	Niall McGrogan

<b>Apologies:</b>	Argyll and Bute	Duncan MacIntyre
	East Ayrshire	Bobby McDill
	East Renfrewshire	Eddie Phillips
	Glasgow	Archie Graham
	Glasgow	Jim McNally
	Glasgow	Alistair Watson
	Renfrewshire	Marie McGurk
	Appointed Member	Liz Connolly
	Appointed Member	Tom Hart
	Appointed Member	Gavin Scott

**Attending:** Valerie Davidson, Secretary; Valerie Bowen, Senior Clerk; Ron Culley, Chief Executive; Gordon Maclennan, Assistant Chief Executive (Operations) and Eric Stewart, Director, Bus Operations.

### 1. Minute of previous meeting

The minute of the meeting of 14 August 2009 was submitted and approved as a correct record.

Arising from the minute (page 2 paragraph 2), Mr Culley advised members that a report would be prepared on SPT's property and airspace interests at Buchanan Bus Station, including any proposed transaction(s) and the terms and conditions on which these might prove to be acceptable, for consideration by the Partnership at a future meeting.

The Partnership agreed that that any conditions applying to the future development of the airspace above Buchanan Bus Station should be consistent with the Regional Transport Strategy.

## 2. Committee minutes

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

- (1) Operations Committee of 4 September 2009;
- (2) Strategy and Programmes Committee of 18 September 2009; and
- (3) Audit and Standards Committee of 18 September 2009.

## 3. Membership update

Mrs Davidson advised members that, following a request from Councillor Moir to change committees, Councillor Graham had agreed to replace him on the Strategy and Programmes Committee with Councillor Moir now taking his place on the Operations Committee.

## 4. Declaration of interest

Ronnie Mellis, having declared an interest in the following item due to his employment with Transport Scotland, took no part in its determination.

## 5. Glasgow Airport Rail Link - Update

[Click here to view report](#)

There was submitted a report (issued) of 30 September 2009 by the Assistant Chief Executive (Business Support)

- (1) advising members formally of the Scottish Government's pre-budget announcement to cancel the Glasgow Airport Rail Link (GARL) project;
- (2) reminding members
  - (a) that the project had been strongly supported by SPT and its predecessor organisations;
  - (b) that responsibility for delivery of the project had transferred from SPT to Transport Scotland in May 2008, at which time the Transport Minister had commended SPT on the quality of work undertaken to get the project ready for delivery; and
- (3) informing members that the recent announcement to cancel the project due to financial constraints was a major impediment in the delivery of the regional transport strategy objectives and commitments to the successful delivery of the Commonwealth Games.

After considerable discussion, Councillor McLachlan, seconded by Councillor Fagan, moved that the Partnership re-state its support for the GARL project.

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Councillor Roberts, seconded by Councillor Hendrie, moved as an amendment that, as he did not believe that the cancellation of the project was a major impediment to the delivery of either the regional transport strategy objectives or the Commonwealth Games, SPT give its support to the project when it was financially prudent for the project to go ahead.

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 Ian Gray, William Hendrie and George Roberts, and the following seven members voted in favour of the motion:- Councillors David Fagan, Charlie Gilbert, Alex Glass, Bill Grant, Alan Moir, Davie McLachlan and David Wilson.

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

## **6. Greenock Bus Station – Proposed award of construction contract**

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After consideration of a report (issued) of 30 September 2009 by the Assistant Chief Executive (Operations), detailing tenders received for the award of a construction contract for improvements to Greenock Bus Station, the Partnership approved

- (1) the award of the contract to Luddon Construction Ltd at a cost of £677,748 with the final contract sum subject to the inclusion of further complementary works in Nicholson Street being undertaken in line with tendered rates and the re-measurement elements in accordance with the contract terms and conditions; and
- (2) the reallocation of £100,000 from Inverclyde Council's existing project, A770 Quality Bus Corridor, to fund the complementary measures in Nicholson Street/West Stewart Street.

## **7. Media report**

[Click here to view report](#)

There was submitted and noted a report (issued) of 21 September 2009 by the Assistant Chief Executive (Business Support)

- (1) enclosing a report provided by the media monitoring company Pressdata summarising the media coverage on SPT's activities during the months July and August 2009;
- (2) informing members that media coverage
  - (a) for July had a higher than normal amount of adverse coverage related directly to two issues
    - the possible re-development of Buchanan Bus Station; and
    - suggested misconduct involving a number of staff; and
  - (b) for August was overwhelmingly beneficial or factual with considerable coverage on

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- SPT's provision of free buses to take fans to a U2 concert; and
- the pilot of solar powered lighting for a number of bus shelters across the region.

#### **8. 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 paragraph 12 of Part 1 of Schedule 7a to the Local Government (Scotland) Act 1973.

#### **9. GARL – Arrangements with Transport Scotland**

There was submitted a report (issued) of 23 September 2009 by the Assistant Chief Executive (Business Support)

- (1) advising members of legal action raised against SPT and Transport Scotland; and
- (2) recommending that Transport Scotland be authorised to deal also with SPT's interests in the matter including settlement of the action if that situation arose.

After consideration, the Partnership noted the contents of the report and approved the recommendation at (2) above.

#### **10. Visit to Kamppi Bus Station, Helsinki**

The Director, Bus Operations gave a presentation to the Partnership,

- (1) detailing the outcome and the valuable insights gained during a recent visit to Kamppi Bus Station, Helsinki with the Chair and Service Delivery Manager; and
- (2) providing members with information on the ongoing revenue costs, maintenance and day to day operation of the station.

After discussion and having heard Mr. Stewart in answer to members' questions, the Chair thanked him for his interesting and informative presentation.

#### **11. Additional Item**

In terms of Standing Order No 3.2, the Partnership agreed to consider the following additional item at this stage of the meeting.

#### **12. Conference**

The Partnership agreed that the Chair (or substitute) plus one other member be authorised to attend the "Rail in Scotland: Capacity, Accessibility & Sustainability" conference to be held in Glasgow on 17 November 2009.