

Strathclyde Partnership for Transport

Minute of meeting

12 October 2012

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 12 October 2012

Present Councillors George Redmond (Chair), Malcolm Balfour, Tony Buchanan, John Cairney (substitute), David Fagan, Kaye Harmon, Michael Holmes, Chris Kelly, Bobby Lawson, Alan Moir, Bobby McDill, Pauline McKeever, Denis McKenna, Robert G MacIntyre, Fariha Thomas, Paul Welsh and David Wilson and appointed members Tom Hart, Alan Malcolm, and Bill Ure.

Attending Valerie Davidson, Assistant Chief Executive (Business Support)/ Secretary; Gordon MacLennan, Chief Executive; Eric Stewart, Assistant Chief Executive (Operations) and Terry Lynch, Senior Legal Advisor.

Also Attending: Councillor Charlie Gilbert, East Renfrewshire Council.

1. Apologies

Apologies were submitted from Councillors John Bruce, Jim Coleman, Bill Grant, Chris Thompson, and appointed member Gavin Scott.

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

The Partnership noted that there were no declarations of interest.

3. Minute of previous meeting

The minute of the meeting of 17 August 2012 was submitted and approved as a correct record.

Arising from the minute with regard to page 1, paragraph 5, the Chair and Vice Chairs briefed members on their constructive and positive meetings with all Appointed Members of the Partnership. The Chair intimated that during discussions it became clear that the Appointed Members did not consider the issue of voting rights to be detrimental as most of the Partnership's decisions were made by consensus. However, it was recognised that there was a desire to be fully involved. The Chair informed members that a Partnership Seminar would be arranged in the near future for all members and substitutes, in order that members could provide more input to the strategic priorities for SPT in the future.

4. Committee minutes

The minutes (issued) of the undernoted committees were noted, subject to the 'P' paragraph contained in the Strategy and Programmes Committee minute which was approved:-

- (1) Operations Committee of 31 August 2012;
- (2) Strategy and Programmes Committee of 14 September 2012
- (3) Audit and Standards Committee of 14 September 2012; and
- (4) Recruitment Committee of 17 September 2012.

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Arising from the minute of

- (a) the Strategy and Programmes Committee
 - (i) page 4, paragraph 10, Mr Stewart advised members that SPT were still awaiting further details on a number of aspects of the revised proposals from Transport Scotland and Network Rail on the Edinburgh Glasgow Improvement Programme; and
 - (ii) page 6, paragraph 12, Councillor Holmes expressed his concern on the impact of the proposed reductions to off peak services between Paisley Gilmour Street and Ayr. Thereon, Mr MacLennan reminded members of SPT's attempts to find an alternative solution to the problem and advised that officers were continuing to work with Transport Scotland and First ScotRail to seek improvements to the new timetable;
- (b) the Audit and Standards Committee, the Partnership noted the omission of Councillor Grant from the list of those attending; and
- (c) the Recruitment Committee (page 1, paragraph 1), the Chair advised members that following interviews of the remaining candidates for the posts of appointed members on 2 November 2012, the Recruitment Committee's decision would be reported to the next meeting of the Partnership.

5. Assistant Chief Executive (Business Support)

At this point in the proceedings, Mrs Davidson left the meeting during the Partnership's discussion of the next item of business, due to a family member being an employee of one of the eight firms listed in the proposed legal framework.

6. Legal service framework – Panel of external legal advisors

[Click here to view the report](#)

There was submitted a report (issued) of 7 August 2012 by the Chief Executive,

- (1) outlining the tender assessment procedure for a proposed panel of legal firms which could be instructed on the basis of tendered rates or be asked to participate in tendering for legal services over a three year period, following the expiry of the existing framework in August 2012;
- (2) recommending that the following firms be included in the approved SPT framework for the provision of legal services:-
 - HBJ Gateley
 - Harper McLeod
 - Anderson Strathern
 - Simpson & Marwick
 - Morton Fraser
 - Brodies
 - Biggart Baillie
 - Dundas & Wilson

After discussion and having heard Messrs Lynch and MacLennan in answer to members' questions, the Partnership approved the recommendation at (2) above.

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7. Subway modernisation: station improvements – proposed award of contract for new travelators

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After consideration of a report (issued) of 16 August 2012 by the Assistant Chief Executive (Operations) on the proposed award of a contract for the design, manufacture, installation and maintenance of two new travelators at Buchanan Street Subway Station, the Partnership

- (1) agreed to the award of the contract to Otis at a cost of £776,477 (excluding VAT); and
- (2) approved the option as detailed in the report for the maintenance of the two new travelators at a cost of £25,544 per annum (excluding VAT and inflation uplift).

8. Transport for the Commonwealth Games 2014

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There was submitted and approved a report (issued) of 2 October 2012 by the Assistant Chief Executive (Operations)

- (1) reminding members of SPT's supporting role in planning for the Commonwealth Games in Glasgow in 2014 which had included working closely with Glasgow 2014 (the Organising Committee's delivery body) and colleagues from Glasgow City Council to ensure the timely delivery of transport for the Games;
- (2) informing members that Glasgow 2014 had now approached SPT for support in negotiating with operators who would provide transport for the Games;
- (3) intimating
 - (a) that a robust partnership approach towards the delivery of transport for the Games would be vital in ensuring their success; and
 - (b) that SPT was ideally placed to assist in the co-ordination and delivery of Games transport; and
- (4) recommending that the Partnership agree
 - (a) that SPT enter into an Agency Agreement which outlined the support that SPT would provide to the Commonwealth Games; and
 - (b) that SPT would recover all costs, including staff associated costs.

After discussion and having heard Councillor Wilson remind members of the hard work and professionalism of SPT in arranging the transport for the Tall Ships event at Greenock in July 2011, the Partnership approved the recommendation at (4) above.

9. Integrated transport service: pilot project

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There was submitted a report (issued) of 4 October 2012 by the Assistant Chief Executive (Operations)

- (1) reminding members that SPT continued to pioneer and demonstrate significant efficiency opportunities for making better use of under utilised council operated buses which had been advanced as part of the Clyde Valley Shared Service review;

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- (2) explaining
 - (a) that notwithstanding the delays in the very significant aspiration for shared services the opportunity for reducing transport costs had re-invigorated the need to consider integration of fleets; and
 - (b) that the on-going budget challenges which faced the public services made the potential saving in that area especially important;
- (3) detailing a proposal from North Lanarkshire Council, for SPT to provide assistance in the development of the various transport related activities of their Learning and Leisure Department;
- (4) explaining
 - (a) that it was proposed that each vehicle should be fitted with Mobile Data Terminals (MDTs), as used on MyBus services, in order that there was effective two-way communication between SPT's contact centre and the vehicles;
 - (b) that a fully adaptable vehicle would also be procured and leased to the council on a full lease repair and maintenance basis; and
 - (c) that it was also proposed that a member of SPT's DRT staff would assist North Lanarkshire Council to identify the vehicle parameters required and to collate the data associated with the various strands of vehicle requirements; and
- (5) concluding
 - (a) that the Partnership was aware that the introduction of the integrated fleet solution could be challenging; and
 - (b) that although not all parties affected fully embraced the consequences of the step change required for improving vehicle efficiency and cost reduction, this particular project was fully supported by elected members within North Lanarkshire Council.

After discussion on the significant cost benefits which the project could have and having heard Mr Stewart in further explanation and in answer to members' questions, the Partnership agreed

- (i) that SPT should participate in this pilot project with North Lanarkshire Council;
- (ii) that a contract be awarded to Trapeze Group for the purchase of 36 mounting and installation kits at a cost of £21,240; and
- (iii) that a contract be awarded to Bluebird Vehicles Ltd via Scotland Excel for the purchase of a Bluebird Orion bus at an approximate cost for £80,000 to be leased to North Lanarkshire Council under a full repairing lease agreement.

10. Attendance at Scottish Infrastructure and Investment Conference

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There was submitted a report (issued) of 28 September 2012 by the Assistant Chief Executive (Business Support)

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- (1) providing detail on the 4th Scottish Infrastructure and Investment conference which would focus on the future work programmes across a selected strand of economic and social infrastructure investment in Scotland, provide delegates with updates on innovative projects further afield and the potential lessons learned, applications for Scotland and would explore the appropriate financing and funding options which could help facilitate and expedite infrastructure delivery; and
- (2) recommending that the committee approve attendance of a Vice Chair at the conference to be held in Edinburgh on 5 December 2012 at an anticipated cost estimated to be in the region of £300 for all travel and conference attendance.

After discussion, the Partnership agreed

- (a) that Councillor David Fagan should attend the above conference; and
- (b) agreed that a full report on findings be submitted to a future Partnership.

11. Register of Tenders

The Partnership noted that the Register of Tenders listing contracts awarded from 1 July to 30 September 2012 was available for inspection after the meeting.