

Proposed study visit to Helsinki

Date of meeting 14 August 2009

Date of report 13 August 2009

Report by Chief Executive

1. Object of report

To advise the Partnership of a proposed study visit to Kamppi Bus Station in Helsinki.

2. Background

Kamppi Bus Station in Helsinki, with 52 operational stances, is very similar in size to Buchanan Bus Station with 57 operational stances. Despite the similarity in number of operational stances, Kamppi has the luxury of a further 61 layover bays whereas Buchanan Bus Station has only 15 which is already causing huge congestion issues within the bus station at peak times.

Members will recall that, at the last Partnership meeting, the Assistant Chief Executive (Operations) gave a presentation on the proposed extension of Buchanan Galleries and informed members of the approach by the Buchanan Gallery Partnership who saw the space above the Bus Station as a development opportunity.

The design engineers acting on behalf of the Buchanan Galleries Development have sited Kamppi as an exemplar site in four unique areas of bus station development:-

1. fully automated stances and vehicle manoeuvres, effectively meaning that the operational side of the bus station is unmanned;
2. bus bay width reduced to 2.8 metres with bus guidance systems - bays are generally between 3.5 and 4.3 metres wide;
3. full integration of bus station, multi-storey car park, retail and metro; and
4. segregation between passenger alighting and boarding buses, with buses dropping all passengers at a central point and picking up from fixed stances.

Each of these features is of significant value to SPT not only in association with any Buchanan Galleries development proposal but across all of its bus station interests.

3. Proposed visit

The local public transport authority has agreed to host a study visit to determine the suitability of these developments within the SPT area.

The Assistant Chief Executive (Operations), together with a small team of officers, plan to visit Helsinki from 31 August to 2 September 2009 and it is recommended that the Chair join the delegation.

4. Partnership action

The Partnership is asked to approve the attendance of the Chair on the proposed study visit to Kamppi Bus Station in Helsinki.

A report on the visit will be presented to a future meeting of the Partnership.

5. Consequences

Policy consequences:	None
Legal consequences:	None
Financial consequences:	Cost of travel and accommodation
Personnel consequences:	None
Social Inclusion consequences:	None

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For further information, please call Ron Culley, Chief Executive on 0141 333 3100