

*joining up
journeys*

SPT

partnership minute

Strathclyde Partnership for Transport

Minute of special meeting

28 March 2008

held in Consort House, Glasgow

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Minute of the special meeting of the Strathclyde Partnership for Transport held in Consort House, Glasgow, on 28 March 2008.

Present:	Argyll & Bute	Councillor Duncan MacIntyre
	East Renfrewshire	Councillor Charlie Gilbert
	Glasgow	Councillor George Roberts
	Glasgow	Councillor Ruth Simpson
	Glasgow	Councillor Alistair Watson (Chair)
	North Lanarkshire	Councillor David Fagan
	North Lanarkshire	Councillor Robert Burrows
	South Lanarkshire	Councillor Davie McLachlan
	South Lanarkshire	Councillor Eileen Logan
	Appointed Member	Liz Connolly
	Appointed Member	Thomas Hart
	Appointed Member	Alan Malcolm
	Appointed Member	Gavin Scott

Apologies:	East Ayrshire	Councillor Bobby McDill
	East Renfrewshire	Councillor Eddie Phillips
	Glasgow	Councillor Tommy Morrison
	North Lanarkshire	Councillor Kaye Harmon
	Renfrewshire	Councillor Marie McGurk
	South Ayrshire	Councillor Bill McIntosh
	South Lanarkshire	Councillor Chris Thompson
	West Dunbartonshire	Councillor William Hendrie
	Appointed Member	Bill Ure

Attending: Valerie Davidson, Secretary/Assistant Chief Executive (Business Support); Valerie A Bowen, Senior Clerk; Ron Culley, Chief Executive and Gordon Maclennan, Assistant Chief Executive (Customer Support).

1. 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 1 and 11 of Part 1 of Schedule 7a to the Local Government (Scotland) Act 1973.

2. Glasgow Airport Rail Link: Transfer of statutory undertaking and project delivery

There was submitted a report (issued) of 25 March 2008 by the Chief Executive

(1) informing members

- (a) of the intention of the Minister for Transport, Infrastructure and Climate Change to transfer responsibility for implementing the Glasgow Airport Rail Link project, as permitted by the terms of the Glasgow Airport Rail Link Act 2007, from SPT to Transport Scotland;

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- (b) that the resultant transfer of undertaking would have significant implications for SPT in relation to staffing, including the potential transfer of staff, land ownership and management, contracts and funding;
 - (c) that, although discussions were ongoing with Transport Scotland to clarify how most effectively SPT could support the implementation phase, it was clear that with the conclusion of the developmental stage by SPT, a considerable amount of work would be transferred to Transport Scotland; and
 - (d) that initial discussions with Transport Scotland had identified a transfer of the powers by the end of April 2008 and a close down by SPT of the implementation phase no later than 30 June 2008;
- (2) explaining
- (a) that as a result of the diminution of GARL related activity, a redistribution of workload was possible;
 - (b) that it was proposed that the post of Assistant Chief Executive (Transport & Strategy) be withdrawn from the authorised establishment on the grounds of an efficiency of the service retirement; and
 - (c) that the Major Projects and Policy and Strategy directorates be incorporated within the Customer Services (to be renamed Operations) and Business Support directorates, respectively;
- (3) providing members with a breakdown of the financial implications in respect of the efficiency of service retirement;
- (4) advising members that there were no policy, personnel or financial implications arising from the re-structure or the transfer of responsibility for implementation to Transport Scotland, other than those directly relating to the removal of the post of Assistant Chief Executive (Transport & Strategy), the potential transfer of staff, the transfer of European funding and the recovery of costs associated with the project transition; and
- (5) appending a letter from the Chief Executive of Transport Scotland which summarised accurately SPT's accomplishments in relation to the GARL project.

After consideration and having heard the Chair and Mr Culley in answer to members' questions, the Partnership

- (i) noted the intention of the Minister to transfer to Transport Scotland as statutory undertaker delivery of the GARL project to Transport Scotland and agreed to the transfer;
 - (ii) noted the complimentary comments made by the Chief Executive of Transport Scotland in regard to the work undertaken by SPT in respect of the development phase of the project and in recognition of the advanced state for delivery;
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- (iii) agreed that SPT seek to assist Transport Scotland in its task of building the rail link where resources permitted;
- (iv) agreed to the re-structuring proposals by the Chief Executive, including the efficiency of service retirement; and
- (v) noted that compensation would be sought to ensure that SPT was recompensed for all purchases, borrowings and activities which required to be financed as a consequence of the transfer.