

Strathclyde Partnership for Transport

Minute of Strategy & Programmes Committee meeting

13 November 2009

held in Consort House, Glasgow

contact officers:

Valerie A Bowen	phone: 0141 333 3130
Kirsten Clubb	phone: 0141 333 3576
Sharon MacKinnon	phone: 0141 333 3172

Minute of the meeting of the Strathclyde Partnership for Transport's Strategy & Programmes Committee held in Glasgow on 13 November 2009

- Present** Councillors David Fagan (Chair), Robert Burrows, Ian Gray, Bill Grant, Davie McLachlan, Charlie Gilbert (deputy), George Roberts and Alistair Watson and appointed members John Boyle, Liz Connolly, Alan Malcolm and Gavin Scott.
- Apologies** Councillors Archie Graham, Duncan MacIntyre, James McNally, Eddie Phillips and John Reid and appointed member Elizabeth Cameron.
- Attending** Valerie Davidson, Assistant Chief Executive (Business Support)/Secretary; Neil Wylie, Director of Finance and Bruce Kiloh, Policy and Research Manager.

1. Minute of previous meeting

The minute of the meeting of 18 September 2009 (issued) was submitted and approved as a correct record, subject to the inclusion at paragraph 5 of Councillor Robert's specific comment on the provision of rural transport schemes in other areas.

2. Declaration of interest

The committee noted that there were no declarations of interest.

3. Revenue budget monitoring as at 10 October 2009

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There was submitted a report (issued) of 29 October 2009 by the Assistant Chief Executive (Business Support)

- (1) reminding members that the Partnership had approved a revenue budget for 2009/2010 of £47.642m;
- (2) appending the revenue monitoring report for the period to 10 October 2009 (period 7);
- (3) informing members that, based on the information to date, an overspend of £160,000 was forecast at this stage and all expenditure heads would be monitored closely to ensure the projected overspend was minimised and controlled; and
- (4) outlining the main reasons for the overspend.

After consideration and having heard Mr Wylie in further explanation of the report and in answer to members' questions, the committee noted the projected outturn position on the information available at the end of period 7.

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4. Capital programme monitoring and proposed amendments and additions as at 10 October 2009

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There was submitted a report (issued) of 29 October 2009 by the Assistant Chief Executive (Business Support)

- (1) providing a financial analysis of the capital programme budget and actual spend as at 10 October 2009 (period 7) in summary by service and in detail by project, which highlighted an actual spend to date of £4.736m compared to a planned spend position by the end of period 7 of £11.641m;
- (2) advising members
 - (a) that the value of the approved category 1 programme exceeded available funding by £6.513m; and
 - (b) that, although it was customary when setting the capital investment plan to have a shortfall in the funding position to ensure that all funds available to SPT were utilised to their full potential, given the current position of the financial year, the funding shortfall was material and, as a consequence, the programme had been reviewed to identify any opportunities for expenditure reduction or delivery re-phasing from 2009/2010 to 2010/2011;
- (3) appending a list of various proposed amendments to the capital programme which, if approved, would result in a projected 2009/2010 year end spend of £29.132m. This would represent a revised projected overspend of £1.375m;
- (4) highlighting that, in addition to the proposed amendments, other measures would be deployed in order to ensure that the 2009/2010 programme was delivered to within available funding constraints;
- (5) recommending that the committee
 - (a) note
 - (i) the delivery and financial performance of the 2009/2010 SPT capital programme as at period 7; and
 - (ii) the intention to present a paper to the Partnership meeting on 11 December 2009 on the re-phased capital programme;
 - (b) approve the amendments to the 2009/2010 capital programme as detailed in the report to reflect project delivery projections and the requirement to manage the programme to within available funding constraints.

After discussion and having heard Mr Wylie in further explanation of the report and advise members that North Ayrshire Council had intimated that the Beith to Glengarnock Cycleway development project was now committed for this financial year, the committee approved the recommendations at (5) above,

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subject to the removal of the amendment on the Beith to Glengarnock Cycleway development project.

5. Regional Transport Strategy action plans – Access to Education

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With reference to the minute of 18 September 2009 (page 4, paragraph 5) when the committee had agreed that the Access to Education and Access to Rural Areas action plans would be reconsidered and re-submitted to a future meeting of the committee to take account of matters raised by members, there was submitted a report (issued) of 26 October 2009 by the Assistant Chief Executive (Business Support),

- (1) appending an amended Access to Education plan;
- (2) highlighting the changes made to the plan, including
 - changing the text of the action plan to clarify that councils would not be bound by the recommendations of the Plan and noting that the enforcement of parking zones was a matter for individual councils;
 - recognising the pivotal role of Community Planning in taking forward future measures to encourage modal shift, reduce congestion and improve pupils' safety; and
 - amending reference in the draft action plan to reflect current funding arrangement for School Travel Plan officers whereby this was a matter for individual local authorities and no longer funded by the Scottish Government separately.

After consideration, the committee

- (a) approved the revised Access to Education Plan; and
- (b) noted that the implementation of the actions would be dependent on future funding streams and further discussions on outputs and deliverables with relevant agencies.

6. Visit to Metro Torino, Turin

The Policy and Research Manager gave a presentation to the committee

- (1) reminding members of the work of the Design Advisory Group (DAG) which had been established to guide the aesthetics, public art and design principles to be applied during the Subway Modernisation Station Improvements Project,
- (2) detailing the outcome and the valuable insights gained during his recent visit to Turin with Councillor Fagan, SPT Vice Chair to view the Metro system operated by Gruppo Trasporti Torines (GTT); and

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- (3) providing members with information on the design, maintenance and day to day operation of the metro, plans for the creation of 6 new stations, and future partnership opportunities with GTT.

After discussion and having heard Mr Kiloh in answer to members' questions, the Chair

- (a) thanked him for his interesting and informative presentation; and
- (b) agreed that a copy of the presentation be sent to all members of the Partnership.