

Strathclyde Partnership for Transport

Minute of Strategy & Programmes Committee meeting

25 March 2011

held in Consort House, Glasgow

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Minute of the meeting of the Strathclyde Partnership for Transport's Strategy & Programmes Committee held in Glasgow on 25 March 2011

Present Councillors David Fagan (Chair), Jonathan Findlay, Charlie Gilbert (deputy), Ian Gray, Archie Graham, Kaye Harmon, Duncan MacIntyre, Denis McKenna and George Roberts and appointed members Alan Malcolm and Gavin Scott.

Attending Valerie Davidson, Assistant Chief Executive (Business Support)/Secretary; Gordon MacLennan, Chief Executive; Eric Stewart, Assistant Chief Executive (Operations); Neil Wylie, Director of Finance & HR and Charlie Hoskins, Director of Projects.

1. Apologies

Apologies were submitted from Councillors Bill Grant, Jim McNally and Eddie Phillips and appointed member John Boyle.

2. Declarations of interest

The committee noted that there were no declarations of interest.

3. Minute of previous meeting

The minute of the meeting of 28 January 2011 (issued) was submitted and approved as a correct record.

4. Revenue monitoring report as at 26 February 2011 (period 12)

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There was submitted a report (issued) of 17 March 2011 by the Assistant Chief Executive (Business Support)

- (1) reminding members that the Partnership had approved a revenue budget for 2010/2011 of £39.556m;
- (2) appending the revenue monitoring report for the period to 26 February 2011 (period 12);
- (3) informing members that, based on the information to date, an underspend of £694,000 was forecast;
- (4) outlining the main reasons for the projected underspend; and
- (5) highlighting the fact that the contribution to Subway modernisation of £2,000,000 represented the first internal saving contribution (as detailed in the Subway

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modernisation outline business case) which had been generated by targeted management action rather than by savings accrued from capital investment.

After discussion and having heard Mr Wylie in answer to members' questions, the committee noted the projected outturn position on the information available at the end of period 12.

5. **Capital programme monitoring and proposed amendments as at 26 February 2011 (period 12)**

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There was submitted a report (issued) of 16 March 2011 by the Assistant Chief Executive (Business Support)

- (1) reminding members that the 2010/2011 capital programme had been approved by the Partnership on 12 February 2010 against known capital funding of £20m from the Scottish Government;
- (2) informing members
 - (a) that SPT's revised available funding from all sources, including a revised surplus carry forward of £3m from 2009/2010, was £26.621m;
 - (b) that although funding of £1.564M relating to HITRANS was still being held by SPT, if a request to return the funding was received, available funding for 2010/11 would be reduced to £25.057m; and
 - (c) that actual expenditure to date totalled £14.404m compared to a planned spend position of £21.175m;
- (3) intimating
 - (a) that, since the last report to members, a number of identified risks had now materialised into formal outturn reductions and these were detailed in appendix 2 to the report; and
 - (b) that whilst the forecasted projected overspend was £2.0m, the current spend risk within the 2010/2011 capital programme was estimated now to be in the region of -£1.7m to -£2.0m;
- (4) providing a detailed financial analysis of individual projects contained within the programme, split by department;
- (5) appending proposed amendments to the capital programme, together with reasons for the adjustments listed against each project, which gave a revised outturn figure of £28.634m; and
- (6) recommending that the committee
 - (a) note
 - (i) the financial performance of the 2010/2011 capital programme as at 26 February 2011 (period 12);

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- (ii) the results of the risk assessment exercise; and
 - (iii) that further work to manage risks, advance savings and re-phase existing projects was being undertaken to balance spend against budget; and
- (b) approve the formal amendments to the 2010/2011 capital programme as detailed in the report.

After consideration, the committee approved the recommendations at (6) above.

6. Treasury Management Policy & Strategy 2011/12

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P There was submitted a report (issued) of 7 March 2011 by the Assistant Chief Executive (Business Support)

- (1) reminding members that SPT managed the cash balances at its disposal, with outstanding debt being managed by Glasgow City Council;
- (2) outlining the primary requirements of the revised CIPFA Treasury Management Code of Practice which had been adopted by the Partnership on 16 April 2010;
- (3) appending
 - (a) SPT's current counterparty list;
 - (b) SPT's prudential indicators which were relevant for the purpose of setting an integrated treasury management strategy; and
 - (c) SPT's current Treasury Management Policy Statement; and
- (4) detailing the proposed treasury management strategy for SPT for the financial year 2011/12 under the following headings:-
 - treasury limits in force which would limit the treasury risk and activities of the Partnership;
 - Prudential Indicators;
 - the current treasury position;
 - the borrowing requirement;
 - prospects for interest rates;
 - major economic factors;
 - borrowing strategy;
 - investment strategy; and
 - loan debt rescheduling.

After discussion and having heard Mrs Davidson and Mr Wylie in answer to members' questions, the committee

- (i) approved

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- (A) the Treasury Management Strategy and Policy for 2011/12;
 - (B) the counterparty list as detailed in Appendix 1; and
 - (C) SPT's Treasury Management Policy Statement; and
- (ii) otherwise noted the terms of the report.

7. Croy Rail Station Park and Ride – completion update

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There was submitted a report (issued) of 3 March 2011 by the Assistant Chief Executive (Business Support)

- (1) informing members of the successful completion of the Croy Rail Station Park and Ride project which had been officially opened by Councillor Mark Griffin and the Transport Minister Keith Brown on 23 February 2011;
- (2) reminding members that the project had involved SPT managing the design and construction of the car park with operation and maintenance of the facility passing to North Lanarkshire Council following completion;
- (3) summarising the project's main areas of achievement which had included a fully lit 700 space car park with covered walkway leading to new access stairs into the station, a new signal controlled access junction, a facility built in for future use for charge points for electric cars and minor improvements to the existing station car park to integrate better the facilities; and
- (4) highlighting the fact that the new facility alleviated parking problems in Croy Village, the surrounding area and also had the potential to reduce overcrowding in station car parks within the area (eg. Lenzie).

After discussion and having heard the Chair commend Mr Hoskins and his team for their hard work and professionalism in bringing the project to completion, the committee noted

- (a) the successful completion of the project by SPT;
- (b) the successful collaboration between SPT and North Lanarkshire Council; and
- (c) the involvement of other agencies including Strathclyde Police and First ScotRail who had contributed to the successful outcome.

8. Updated transport outcomes report for 2011/2012

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There was submitted a report (issued) of 7 March 2011 by the Assistant Chief Executive (Business Support)

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- (1) informing members of the progress in the preparation of updated and revised Transport Outcome Reports (TORs) for each Community Planning Partnership (CPP) which included
 - improvements to the scope of the TORs to include further statistics and financial detail about SPT's role within each CPP area;
 - the contribution they made to the Single Outcome Agreement (SOA) process; and
 - the process for finalising the TORs with member councils and CPPs; and
- (2) appending a draft extract from the proposed TORs for Inverclyde, Renfrewshire and South Lanarkshire Councils which had shown additional detail to reflect better the full scope of SPT's activities, demonstrating SPT's value as a regional delivery body for the travelling public of the west of Scotland.

After discussion, the committee

- (a) noted the contribution TORs had made to effective partnership working among SPT, councils and community planning partners in identifying transport priorities which met shared transport ambitions for the West of Scotland; and
- (b) agreed that finalised draft TORs would be submitted to the meeting of the Partnership scheduled to take place in June.

9. Christie Commission on future delivery of public services – SPT response

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There was submitted a report (issued) of 4 March 2011 by the Assistant Chief Executive (Business Support)

- (1) outlining the background to the formation of the Christie Commission which had been established by the Scottish Government in November 2010 to develop recommendations for the future delivery of public services by June 2011;
- (2) advising members
 - (a) that the Commission wanted to ensure that its recommendations were founded on evidence and on the experiences and understanding of users and providers of public services in Scotland; and
 - (b) that to allow the Commission to explore the evidence submitted and focus its work on key themes, responses had been invited by 31 January 2011 with more detailed responses accepted until 31 March 2011;
- (3) informing members that, earlier in the year, SPT had provided an initial response to the Commission which answered the principal areas set out by the Commission and provided supplementary information on SPT core activities and recent achievements;
- (4) appending SPT's proposed detailed response; and
- (5) intimating that the response

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- (a) emphasised the benefits of a regional approach to transport planning and delivery and the achievements made by SPT for the travelling public of the west of Scotland; and
- (b) highlighted the benefits of a shared service approach which could lead to significant savings and better quality, without the need for radical restructuring of public services.

After discussion and having heard Mrs Davidson in further explanation, the committee approved the proposed response.

10. SPT response to the consultation on the Commonwealth Games Transport Strategic Plan Version 1

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With reference to the Partnership meeting of 10 August 2010 (page 4 paragraph 6) when the Partnership had approved SPT's response to the consultative draft Transport Strategic Plan, there was submitted a report (issued) of 2 March 2011 by the Assistant Chief Executive (Operations)

- (1) informing members that the Glasgow 2014 Organising Committee had invited SPT to respond to a second iteration of the consultative draft Transport Strategic Plan, following the earlier stakeholder consultation undertaken in the summer;
- (2) explaining that only very minor modifications had been made to the earlier plan considered at the August 2010 Partnership;
- (3) appending SPT's proposed response which was due to be submitted to the Glasgow 2014 Organising Committee later that day;
- (4) explaining that the response
 - (a) offered SPT's full assistance to the Organising Committee as a Transport Partner and sought a greater role and more responsibilities in the provision of transport for the Games, based on SPT's experience of providing transport for major events and its core responsibilities in planning and operating transport; and
 - (b) detailed views on each of the topics covered in the consultation and raised particular issues about the need to ensure a free flow of public transport throughout the wider city whilst the Games were taking place, in order that residents and businesses could continue to travel efficiently; and
- (5) advising members that the Games Organising Committee would consider responses to the consultation and publish two further updated versions of the Strategic Transport Plan which would include changes arising from the consultation and emerging best practice following the Delhi 2010 Commonwealth Games, and the London Olympics and Paralympics in 2012, and other major events.

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After considerable discussion and having heard Mr Stewart in further explanation and in answer to members' questions the committee

- (a) approved the proposed response to the consultative draft; and
- (b) noted that officers would continue to provide support to the forward planning for the Games through working with the Organising Committee as a Transport Partner on project development and delivery and facilitating operational arrangements.

11. SPT Travel Plan Seminar 2011

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There was submitted and approved a report (issued) of 17 March 2011 by the Assistant Chief Executive (Business Support)

- (1) providing members with an update on SPT's Travel Plan Seminar which had been held on 17 February 2011 and attended by representatives from local authorities, health boards, universities, colleges and other public and private sectors organisations;
- (2) advising members that the seminar was a valuable platform which enabled SPT to promote and encourage best practices in travel planning to a wide and varied professional audience across Scotland; and
- (3) recommending that the Partnership agree to support future travel planning events.