

Strathclyde Partnership for Transport

Minute of meeting

27 June 2025

held at 131 St Vincent Street, Glasgow and via Video Conference

Contact:

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Minute of the meeting of the Strathclyde Partnership for Transport held at 131 St Vincent Street, Glasgow and via Video Conference* at 10am on 27 June 2025

Present Councillors Stephen Dornan (Chair), Ken Andrew, Gordon Blair* Maureen Devlin*, Neal Ingram*, Helen Loughran*, Christy Mearns, Malcolm Mitchell*, Alan Moir, Lawrence O'Neill, Donald Reid*, John Ross*, Roza Salih*, Adam Smith*, Andy Steel* and Sandy Watson and Appointed Members Geoff Duke, Anne Folin*, Nicola Graham, Moray Macdonald, Ed McGrachan, Scott Prentice, Pam Turton* and Andrew Walters*

Attending Valerie Davidson, Chief Executive; Lesley Aird, Director of Finance & Corporate Support; Richard Robinson, Director of Transport Operations; Bruce Kiloh, Head of Policy & Planning; Gordon Dickson, Head of Bus Strategy & Delivery; Mark Toner, Head of Engineering/Project Director; David Fielder, Head of Subway Projects and Amy Bryceland, Solicitor/Clerk

Chair's Remarks

The Chair welcomed new Appointed Members Geoff Duke, Moray Macdonald, Scott Prentice and Pam Turton. The Chair also sought the agreement of the Partnership to receive an update from the Chief Executive relative to the ongoing industrial relations dispute, and for this update to be held in Press and Public Excluded at the end of the meeting.

Partnership Standing Order No 14 requires the agreement of the Partnership to record meetings. The Chair reiterated to the Partnership that the meeting would be recorded and potentially viewed multiple times. The Partnership members noted this.

1. Apologies

Apologies were submitted from Cllrs Owen O'Donnell, Duncan Townson and David Wilson.

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

Cllr Moir declared an interest citing his employment with Scotrail and as a member of ASLEF, the trade union.

3. Minute of previous meeting

[Click here to view the minute](#)

The minute of the meeting of 14 March 2025 was submitted and approved as a correct record, subject to Cllr O'Neill's attendance at the meeting being recorded.

4. Committee Minutes

The minutes (issued) of the undernoted Committees were noted and approved as an accurate record:

- (a) Appointed Member Recruitment Committee of 18 March 2025;
- (b) Chairs Committee of 15 April 2025;
- (c) Operations Committee of 25 April 2025;
- (d) Personnel Committee of 25 April 2025

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- (e) Strategy & Programmes Committee of 13 June 2025; and
- (f) Audit & Standards Committee of 13 June 2025.

5. Membership Update

[Click here to view the report](#)

There was submitted a report (issued) of 6 June 2025 by the Chief Executive/ Partnership Secretary confirming the outcome of the recent Appointed Member Recruitment Committee activity and the Cabinet Secretary for Transport's agreement to the Appointed Member appointments.

After hearing from Mrs Davidson in response to members questions, specifically relating to the gender balance and what more could be done, if anything, to change this, the Partnership:

- (i) noted the successful conclusion of work by the Recruitment Committee;
- (ii) noted the recent approval of the Cabinet Secretary for Transport to the Appointed Member appointments;
- (iii) welcomed all new Appointed Members to the Board of SPT, noting appointments are for a period of 4 years; and
- (iv) agreed to amend the maximum number of members on the Audit & Standards Committee to 12.

6. SPT Annual Report 2024/2025

[Click here to view the report](#)

There was submitted a report (issued) of 6 June 2025 by the Chief Executive recommending the Partnership consider and approve the final draft of the SPT 2024/2025 Annual Report.

After hearing from Mrs Davidson outlining that the Annual Report could only ever be a snapshot of the huge amount of work underway and the efforts by all SPT staff, the Chair acknowledged the effort in compiling the report and praised the contents highlighting the work of SPT. Thereafter, the Partnership approved the final draft of the SPT Annual Report 2023/2024 for publication, noting that this would be widely circulated.

7. Strathclyde Regional Bus Strategy – Update on Public Consultation

[Click here to view the report](#)

There was submitted a report (issued) of 5 June 2025 by the Head of Policy & Planning updating the Partnership on the scale of response to the public consultation on the draft Strathclyde Regional Bus Strategy (SRBS) .

After hearing from Mr Kiloh in response to members' questions, specifically relating to the planned timeline of when the consultation results will be reported, and any work plans that resulted thereafter, the Partnership noted the contents of the report.

8. Subway Modernisation – Progress Update

[Click here to view the report and presentation](#)

There was submitted a report (issued) of 10 June 2025 by the Director of Transport Operations providing the Partnership with the latest progress update on the Subway Modernisation programme.

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After considerable discussion and having heard from Mr Robinson in response to members' questions, specifically relating to subway operating hours, platform screen doors, future possible Sunday closures to support readiness, tactile paving and accessibility in the context of the continued work in subway modernisation, the Partnership noted:

- (i) the continued progress made on all Subway Modernisation and improvement preparation works since the last update to the Partnership in December 2024;
- (ii) ongoing progress on the MSA contract including introduction to passenger service of all 17 trains and continued passenger service of the first fourteen trains running on the existing signalling system;
- (iii) ongoing installation and testing work in readiness for the new signalling and communication system;
- (iv) challenges of introducing a new fleet to passenger service and delivering reliability growth;
- (v) the continued challenge towards performance improvement on the TSSSA contract;
- (vi) progress made on operational readiness and delay mitigation actions including existing infrastructure and fleet maintenance improvements;
- (vii) the modernisation programme remains within overall budget and funding pending the outcome of the assessment of contractor claims;
- (viii) the commitment and performance of the SPT, ANSTA and other contractors delivering the work; and
- (ix) that a further report on progress will be presented to the Partnership meeting in December 2025.

9. Clyde Metro: Case for Investment – progress update

[Click here to view the report](#)

There was submitted a report (issued) of 10 June 2025 by the Head of Policy & Planning updating the Partnership on the progress of the Clyde Metro Case for Investment activity following the update given in March 2025

After hearing from Mr Kiloh in response to members' questions, specifically relating to integrated ticketing and potential linkage of Clyde Metro and the SRBS, the Partnership noted the contents of the report.

10. Audit & Standards committee annual report 2024/2025

[Click here to view the report](#)

There was submitted a report (issued) of 2 June 2025 by the Chief Executive recommending the Partnership note the Audit & Standards Committee annual report 2024/2025, as recommended by the Audit & Standard Committee.

After hearing from Mrs Davidson and Councillor Reid, who in his capacity as Chair of the Audit & Standards Committee thanked the members for their participation and reiterating the importance of member attendance at the Committee to ensure effective scrutiny and governance. Thereafter the Audit & Standards Chair thanked SPT officers for their assistance given to external auditors and the Partnership noted the contents of the report.

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11. Proposed Land acquisition adjacent to Kelvinhall Subway Station

It was proposed that the press and public be excluded for Item 11 above, it being considered that otherwise there would be disclosure to them of exempt information in terms of paragraph 9 of Schedule 7a to the Local Government (Scotland) Act 1973.

There was submitted a report (issued) of 27 May 2025 by the Director of Transport Operations recommending the Partnership approve that the Director of Finance & Corporate Support in consultation with the Senior Solicitor conclude negotiations for the acquisition of vacant land adjacent to Dalcross Pass.

After hearing from Mr Robinson in response to members' questions, the Partnership approved that SPT conclude negotiations for the acquisition of vacant land adjacent to Dalcross Pass, as detailed in the report.

12. Industrial Relations Dispute

It was proposed that the press and public be excluded for this additional item, it being considered that otherwise there would be disclosure to them of exempt information in terms of paragraph 11 of Schedule 7a to the Local Government (Scotland) Act 1973.

The Partnership received a briefing from the Chief Executive and members questions were asked and responded to, noting that this did not extend to the detail of ongoing negotiations, to ensure the process remained confidential during the negotiations.

The Chair thanked the SPT team for their continued efforts to find an affordable and fair resolution.