

Strathclyde Partnership for Transport

Minute of Operations Committee

28 August 2015

held in Consort House, Glasgow

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Minute of the meeting of Strathclyde Partnership for Transport's Operations Committee held in Consort House, Glasgow on 28 August 2015

- Present** Councillors Denis McKenna (Chair), Malcolm Balfour, Tony Buchanan, Jim Coleman, Bill Grant, Alan Moir, Robert G MacIntyre, Bobby McDill, Hamish Stewart and David Wilson and appointed member Graham Johnston.
- Attending** Valerie Davidson, Secretary/Assistant Chief Executive (Business Support); Valerie A Bowen, Senior Committee Officer; Gordon MacLennan, Chief Executive; Ronnie Park, Director of Bus Operations, Neil Wylie, Director of Finance and HR and Alex Scott, Bus Contracts Manager.
- Also attending** John Yellowlees, Scotrail.

1. Apologies

Apologies were submitted from Councillors Kaye Harmon, Chris Kelly and Lawrence O'Neill.

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

The committee noted that there were no declarations of interest.

3. Minute of previous meeting

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The minute of the meeting of 26 June 2015 was submitted and approved as a correct record.

4. Monitoring report on public transport services in the SPT area

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There was submitted a report (issued) of 20 August 2015 by the Assistant Chief Executive (Operations)

- (1) informing the committee of the latest trends in the number of passengers carried and the reliability of services directly operated and supported by the Partnership and on ScotRail services in the SPT area; and
- (2) providing information on the current status of SPT's bus action plan for the continuing improvement of bus service delivery within the region, regulating and fleet profile statistics and details of subsidised local bus service vehicle inspections.

After discussion and having heard Mr Park in further explanation and in answer to members' questions, the committee noted the terms of the report.

Thereon, Mr Yellowlees provided an update on a number of rail related topics, including proposed engineering works and their impact on services, proposed timetable alterations and the delivery of trains in the autumn.

5. Subsidised local bus service contract recommendations – financial implications

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There was submitted a report (issued) of 19 August 2015 by the Assistant Chief Executive (Business Support) advising the committee of the financial implications of members' possible

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decisions relating to further items on the agenda.

After discussion, the committee

- (1) noted the report in relation to the financial implications of awarding any contracts; and
- (2) agreed to give due consideration to the implications when making decisions on those contracts.

6. Temporary contracts awarded

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There was submitted and noted a report (issued) of 13 August 2015 by the Assistant Chief Executive (Operations) advising members of temporary contracts awarded under delegated authority since the beginning of July 2015 to ensure that gaps in the network arising from commercial market changes were filled and that the tendering process would continue to ensure that the contracts were replaced on a more long term basis.

7. Proposed award of subsidised local bus service contracts

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There was submitted a report (issued) of 13 August 2015 by the Assistant Chief Executive (Operations)

- (1) informing members of the tenders received for the renewal of certain local subsidised bus service contracts;
- (2) providing information on the various options contained in the tender documents; and
- (3) recommending the award of appropriate contracts.

After discussion, and having heard Mr Park in further explanation, the committee

- (a) agreed to the award of the following contracts:-
 - (i) contract 3164K Glasgow – Roystonhill – Stobhill Hospital (service 329) to JJ Travel at a cost of £16,275 for the contract period from 4 October 2015 to 15 July 2017;
 - (ii) contract W024D Townhead – Coatbridge – Cliftonville - Carnbroe (service 117) to JJ Travel at a cost of £90,400 for the contract period from 4 October 2015 to 14 July 2018;
 - (iii) package 16567, containing contracts W094 Crosshouse Hospital – Dundonald – Irvine Magnum Centre (Service 21) and W095 Cumnock local (service 49A) to Western Buses at a cost of £294,228 for the contract period from 15 November 2015 to 14 July 2018; and
 - (iv) contract W100T Cumnock – Kilmarnock (service X76B) to Western Buses at a cost of £51 per week for the contract period from 4 October 2015 to 2 April 2016 on a trial basis; and

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- (b) noted that the award of the contracts was subject to satisfaction of the requirements of the mandatory standstill period for EU advertised public sector contracts.

8. Amendments to subsidised local bus service contracts

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After consideration of a report (issued) of 13 August 2015 by the Assistant Chief Executive (Operations) detailing changes to subsidised local bus services arising from changed circumstances, the committee noted the amendments as detailed below:-

Contract	Amendment
Contract LS097M Antonine Park – Clydebank - Whitecrook (service 184/184A)	Alteration to route and timetable with effect from 22 June 2015 to provide residents with access to an hourly, Monday to Saturday daytime bus service and a link to Clydebank town centre, following withdrawal of commercial service 84 (additional cost of £2,447 per annum)
Contract W017D1 Kirkintilloch – Twechar - Banton (service 84/84A/84B)	Alteration to route and timetable with effect from 18 October 2015 to accommodate the operation of an hourly Monday to Saturday daytime service via Gartshore Crescent (no additional cost)
Contracts 9603D and W021C Croy – Twechar - Kilsyth (service 344/344A)	Alteration to the timetable and route of service 344/344A within contract 9603D and the timetable and route of service 344 within contract W021C with effect from 3 August 2015 as a result of the closure of Drumgrew Bridge (no additional cost)
Contract W064A Milngavie – Kirkintilloch (service 47/47A)	Reinstatement of contract with effect from 28 July 2015 following the withdrawal of all local bus services operated by Skyline Coaches (additional cost of £71,491 per annum)

Following discussion on additional costs incurred as a result of the Edinburgh Glasgow Improvement Programme (EGIP) and its impact on local bus services, the committee agreed that the Chair of the Committee should write to the Chief Executive of Transport Scotland

- (1) expressing the Committee's concern about the impact of works associated with EGIP on local bus services;
- (2) suggesting that it would be appropriate for Transport Scotland to shoulder more of the associated costs as the disruption was the direct result of a project of which they were the sponsor; and
- (3) requesting that Transport Scotland confirm whether or not any further closures or disruptions were likely and, if so, that they agree to meet the costs involved in maintaining

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any affected bus services, rather than that cost having to be borne by SPT and/or local authorities.

9. Enhanced DRT funding application: Hospital Evening Visitor Service

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After consideration of a report (issued) of 13 August 2015 by the Assistant Chief Executive (Operations) providing background information in relation to a funding application by Community Transport Glasgow on behalf of the Hospital Evening Visitor Service, the committee

- (1) agreed to the award of grant funding of £90,000 which equated to £30,000 in 2015/16, £30,000 in 2016/17 and £30,000 in 2017/18; and
- (2) noted that funding for 2016/17 and 2017/18 was not guaranteed and would be subject to future commitment by constituent authorities and annual operational reviews.

10. Refurbishment of Buchanan Bus Station office space

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After consideration of a report (issued) of 6 August 2015 by the Assistant Chief Executive (Operations) providing background information in relation to the refurbishment of the office space at Buchanan Street Bus Station, the committee agreed

- (1) to the award of a contract to AKP for a sum up to £906,076.70 for the refurbishment works; and
- (2) to recommend to the Strategy & Programmes Committee approval of an amendment to the capital programme to accommodate the project.

11. Request for subsidised local bus service

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There was submitted and approved a report (issued) of 3 August 2015 by the Assistant Chief Executive (Operations) advising members of a request for the provision of a subsidised local bus service to provide direct links at peak times between Biggar, Lanark and Carstairs Junction.

After consideration, the committee agreed that direct links and interchange opportunities within the existing public transport network be investigated.