



Strathclyde Partnership for Transport

Minute of Strategy & Programmes Committee

8 September 2023

held in person at 131 St Vincent Street and via Video Conference



Minute of the meeting of Strathclyde Partnership for Transport's Strategy & Programmes Committee held at 131 St Vincent Street and via Video Conference* on 8 September 2023

Present Councillors Alan Moir (Chair), Mark Horsham*, William Lennox*, William Sinclair, David Wilson and appointed members Anne Follin, George Hazel*, Ed McGrachan and Andrew Walters*.

Attending Valerie Davidson, Chief Executive; Neil Wylie, Director of Finance & Corporate Support; Antony Smith, Director of Subway; Bruce Kiloh, Head of Policy & Planning; Gordon Dickson, Head of Bus Strategy & Delivery; Andrea Thompson*, Media & Public Affairs Manager and Amy Sullivan, Solicitor.

The Partnership agreed at its meeting of 12 March 2021, following consideration of Standing Order No 14, for the recording of Committee and Partnership meetings, and that such recordings would be made available together with the minute of meetings.

1. Apologies

Apologies were submitted from Cllrs Stephen Dornan, Christy Mearns and Owen O'Donnell.

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

Cllr Moir reaffirmed his declaration of 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 9 June 2023, having been considered and approved at the Partnership meeting on 23 June 2023 as a correct record, was duly noted.

4. 2023/2024 Revenue Outturn, Revenue Monitoring Report as at Period 4, ending 22 July 2023 and updated Financial Forecast for Financial Year 2023/2024

[Click here to view the report](#)

There was submitted and discussed a report (issued) of 18 August 2023 by the Director of Finance & Corporate Support advising members of the final outturn for the financial year 2022/2023 and the net revenue position as at the end of 22 July 2023, including an updated financial forecast for the current financial year, stating the assumptions made regarding income and expenditure levels.

After hearing from Mr Wylie in response to members' questions, the Committee noted:

- (i) the final outturn position for 2022/2023;
- (ii) the projected outturn position for 2023/2024 based on the information available at the end of P4; and
- (iii) the financial pressures which continue to impact in the current financial year including increased inflation, rising utilities costs and increased supported service contract costs and therefore uncertainties remain in relation to the year end projection.

5. 2022/2023 Capital Outturn and Capital Programme Monitoring and Proposed Amendments Report as at 22 July 2023, Period 4

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There was submitted and discussed a report (issued) of 23 August 2023 by the Director of Finance & Corporate Support reporting to the Committee the 2022/2023 capital outturn position, providing an update on the 2023/2024 capital programme, seeking approval for proposed amendments to the 2023/2024 capital programme, seeking approval to Grant Fund as detailed in sections 8(iii) and 8(iv) of the report and providing an update on 2023/2024 treasury management activities.

After extensive discussion and hearing from Mr Wylie, noting the additional funding in support of active travel and specifically noting the challenges of delivery due to the continued lateness of capital budgets and single year budget settlements, the Committee:

- (i) noted the 2022/2023 capital outturn position;
- (ii) approved the proposed amendments to the 2023/2024 capital programme as per Appendix 2 of the report;
- (iii) agreed to Grant Fund or to vary existing Grant Fund letters to the Local Authorities or other bodies for those awards up to the value of £200,000 and authorise that grant award letters be concluded in line with approved governance arrangements;
- (iv) agreed to recommend to the Partnership meeting of 29 September 2023 approval to Grant Fund or to vary existing Grant Fund letters to the Local Authorities or other bodies for those awards over a cumulative value of £200,000;
- (v) noted the financial performance of the 2023/2024 capital programme as at Period 4;
- (vi) noted that further work to quantify and manage risk, advance savings and re-phase existing projects is being undertaken to balance spend against budget; and
- (vii) noted the 2023/2024 treasury management update as at Period 4.

6. Annual Treasury Management Report 2022/2023

[Click here to view the report](#)

There was submitted a report (issued) of 21 August 2023 by the Director of Finance & Corporate Support updating the Committee on the treasury management activities and the actual Prudential and Treasury Indicators for 2022/2023.

After discussion and hearing from Mr Wylie in response to members' questions, the Committee noted:

- (i) the contents of the report, highlighting the full compliance on all relevant matters; and
- (ii) the Prudential and Treasury Indicators for 2022/2023 as detailed in Appendix 1 of the report.

Thereafter, the Chair extended thanks on behalf of the Committee to the Finance team for their work.

7. Clyde Metro – progress update

[Click here to view the report](#)

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There was submitted a report (issued) of 29 August 2023 by the Chief Executive updating the Committee on progress of the Clyde Metro project and SPT preparatory workstreams in support of it.

After extensive discussion, particularly relating to the scale, ambition and deliverability of the Clyde Metro project and hearing from Mr Kiloh and Mrs Davidson on the need to commence individual projects, the Committee noted the contents of the report.

8. Scottish Zero Emission Bus Challenge Fund (ScotZEB2) – update on SPT bid

[Click here to view the report](#)

There was submitted a report (issued) of 30 August 2023 by the Chief Executive updating the Committee on a recent application by SPT to phase two of the Scottish Zero Emission Bus Challenge Fund (ScotZEB2).

After extensive discussion, specifically members seeking further information relating to the complexity and relevance of the fund, and on hearing from Mr Dickson and Mrs Davidson, noted that if successful, SPT would be required to more than match fund a significant contribution which would require a budget request and that related procurement exercises would be required. Thereafter, the Committee noted the contents of the report, including the scope and scale of the ScotZEB2 bid submitted, indicative levels of funding support that may be required and significant scope to reduce carbon emissions associated with socially necessary bus services across Strathclyde.

9. Update on the Community Bus Fund

[Click here to view the report](#)

There was submitted a report (issued) of 29 August 2023 by the Chief Executive providing the Committee with an update on Transport Scotland's Community Bus Fund (CBF).

After hearing from Mr Dickson, the Committee noted the contents of the report and the important role SPT was playing to bring the local authorities together to secure additional funding in support of a regional bus strategy.

10. Strategic Issues Update for the SPT area

[Click here to view the report](#)

There was submitted a report (issued) of 29 August 2023 by the Chief Executive providing an update on strategic level issues affecting transport in the west of Scotland.

After discussion where the Committee sought further clarification on matters including the impact of the Scottish Government/COSLA agreement and how this would support – or not - securing funding to the regional transport authorities and hearing from Mr Kiloh, the Committee noted the contents of the report and the valuable work that was done to promote and influence public transport policy across the region.

11. Broomloan Depot Yard Track and Civil Works - award of contract

[Click here to view the report](#)

There was submitted a report (issued) of 23 August 2023 by the Director of Subway recommending approval of the award of a contract for track and civil works within the yard at Broomloan Depot to Story Contracting Limited.

After hearing from Mr Smith and Mr Wylie, the Committee approved the award of up to £720,000 (excluding VAT) for the full scope of works detailed in section 3.1 of the report,

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including the initial award value of £435,443 to Story Contracting Limited for scope items (i) and (ii).

Closing Remarks

The Strategy & Programmes Chair on behalf of the Committee extended thanks to Mr Smith for his contribution to SPT and wished him well in his new role.

