

Partnership minute



Strathclyde Partnership for Transport

Minute of meeting

12 February 2016

held in the Lewis Room, 131 St Vincent Street, Glasgow

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Minute of the meeting of the Strathclyde Partnership for Transport held in the Lewis Room, 131 St Vincent Street, Glasgow, on 12 February 2016

Present Councillors Jonathan Findlay (Chair), Malcolm Balfour, John Bruce, Gilbert Davidson, Eddie Devine, Charlie Gilbert (Substitute), Kaye Harmon, Chris Kelly, Bobby McDill, Robert G MacIntyre, Pauline McKeever, Denis McKenna, Frank McNally, Lawrence O'Neill, Hamish Stewart, Paul Welsh and David Wilson and appointed members Ann Faulds, Tom Hart, Graham Johnston, Alan Malcolm, Jim McNally and Gavin Scott.

Attending Valerie Davidson, Assistant Chief Executive (Business Support); Valerie A Bowen, Senior Committee Officer; Gordon MacLennan, Chief Executive; Eric Stewart, Assistant Chief Executive (Operations); Charlie Hoskins, Senior Director; Ronnie Park, Director of Bus Operations and Bruce Kiloh, Head of Policy and Planning.

1. Apologies

Apologies were submitted from Councillors Tony Buchanan, Duncan Cumming (substitute), Allan Falconer, Bill Grant, Alan Moir and appointed member Anne Follin.

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

The Partnership noted Ann Fauld's declaration of interest in respect of her firm's role in acting for Glasgow City Council in relation to proposals for resident parking at the Queen Elizabeth University Hospital.

3. Minute of previous meeting

The minute of the meeting of 11 December 2015 was submitted and approved as a correct record.

4. Committee minutes

The minutes (issued) of the undernoted committees were noted:-

- (1) Operations Committee of 22 January 2016; and
- (2) Strategy & Programmes Committee of 29 January 2016.

5. Recruitment process for the selection of Appointed Members

There was submitted a report (issued) of 26 January 2016 by the Assistant Chief Executive (Business Support)

- (1) reminding members that SPT was required by the Transport (Scotland) Act 2005 and supporting orders, to have between 7 and 9 appointed members on the Partnership;
- (2) advising members that, although SPT currently had 7 appointed members, Mr Tom Hart had intimated that he would not be seeking re-appointment when his current period of office ceased on 31 March 2016;

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- (3) explaining that an advert had been prepared and would be placed on the Office of Public Appointments website with a view to filling up to three appointed members posts; and
- (4) recommending that the Partnership agree to the formation of a Recruitment Committee for the purpose of interview and selection.

After consideration and having heard Mrs Davidson explain that Mr Hart had agreed to continue in his post until 31 May 2016, the Partnership agreed

- (a) to the recommendation at (4) above; and
- (b) membership of the Recruitment Committee as undernoted:-

Chair and Vice-Chairs
Malcolm Balfour
Lawrence O'Neill
Ann Faulds

6 Membership of RTPs

There was submitted a report (issued) of 26 January 2016 by the Assistant Chief Executive (Business Support)

- (1) reminding members that The Scottish Government had issued RTP Guidance on membership which had stated that, although nomination by local authorities of Councillor members was entirely a matter for the respective councils, there was likely to be benefit in appointing councillors with responsibility for transport or a closely linked subject such as planning, economic development or the environment;
- (2) informing members
 - (a) that clarification from the Standards Commission had been sought by one RTP as to when an RTP member should declare to have an interest when considering a planning application in which there were strategic transport implications; and
 - (b) that the advice received was that when any planning matter had significant transport implications, the appropriate route to pass comment by RTP members would be via the RTP. When the planning matter was being considered by the Planning Committee, the RTP member should declare an interest as a member of the RTP and withdraw; and
- (3) intimating that, whilst this latest guidance created matters that required to be addressed both by the RTP and the respective local authorities in terms of governance and practicality, Scottish Government representatives had intimated that they would continue to seek a resolution to those issues.

After consideration, the Partnership

- (i) agreed that any communication with the Chief Executives of SPT's constituent authorities be delayed until the Scottish Government had issued further clarification on the matter; and

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- (ii) otherwise noted the terms of the report.

7. Refresh of National Transport Strategy

There was submitted a report (issued) of 29 January 2016 by the Assistant Chief Executive (Operations)

- (1) reminding members that, at the request of the Transport Minister in April 2015, Transport Scotland had undertaken a refresh of the National Transport Strategy (NTS) during the latter part of 2015;
- (2) advising members
 - (a) that the Transport Minister had launched the refreshed NTS at an event at COSLA headquarters in Edinburgh on 21 January 2016; and
 - (b) that, although the number of rail passengers had increased by 29%, a drop in the number of bus passenger journeys had meant that overall numbers on public transport were down, despite the Government's transport policy aimed at getting passengers onto public transport;
- (3) intimating
 - (a) that, whilst there was much to be welcomed in the NTS, the trends identified would require substantial effort and resources if they were to be addressed; and
 - (b) that SPT would continue to work with Transport Scotland and other partners to deliver the significant improvements required to deliver the transport system the people and communities of Scotland needed;
- (4) informing members
 - (a) that, in relation to smartcard, whilst there was mention of the Subway smartcard, the onus and future responsibility for development of smartcard would appear to be being taken forward by the Confederation of Passenger Transport in partnership with bus operators and ScotRail and guided by the Scottish Government; and
 - (b) that as SPT did not recognise this scenario as reflecting accurately the current reality of smartcard progress and delivery, clarification would be sought from Transport Scotland; and
- (5) explaining that a more detailed review of the NTS would take place during the next Parliament and RTPs would play an important role in that review, together with other stakeholders.

After considerable discussion and having heard Messrs Stewart and Kiloh in answer to members' questions, the Partnership noted the terms of the report.

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8. Proposed award of contract – Subway: Long Welded Rail Delivery System Design and Manufacture

There was submitted a report (issued) of 26 January 2016 by the Assistant Chief Executive (Operations) on tenders received for a long welded rail delivery system design and manufacture for the Subway, the primary objective of which was to facilitate improvement in the track infrastructure prior to the introduction of new rolling stock.

After consideration, and having noted that the final contract amount would be subject to design development and an additional amount of contingency had been allowed within the overall project budget to allow for finalisation of the detailed design and the risks relating to such a bespoke piece of equipment, the Partnership agreed to the award of a contract to Brodie Engineering Ltd at a cost of £981,856 plus an allowance of £202,800 for an extended 5 year warranty and extended equipment length to handle up to 180ft rail lengths.

9. Exclusion of press and public

The Partnership resolved that the press and public be excluded for the next item of business on the agenda, it being considered that otherwise there would be disclosure to them of exempt information in terms of paragraphs 8 and 9 of Part 1 of Schedule 7a to the Local Government (Scotland) Act 1973.

10. Subway modernisation: New rolling stock, signalling and control systems, control room and associated equipment

There was submitted a report (issued to members only) of 5 February 2016 by the Assistant Chief Executive (Operations)

- (1) providing members with a detailed update on the procurement process for the Subway rolling stock, signalling and associated systems contract, which included specific information on the timeline, tenderers and evaluation process;
- (2) advising members
 - (a) that at each stage SPT had carried out extensive analysis, both commercial and technical;
 - (b) that the final contract would be awarded to one single contracting entity, made up of a consortium, who would be responsible for the coordination, management, resourcing manufacture and supply of all elements of the contract; and
 - (c) that the turnkey package also included technical support and supply of spares for the whole system;
- (3) intimating that indicative milestones at this time were for the new operational control centre to be completed within the first 2 years, the first train to be manufactured and used for testing purposes in year 3 and to be entered into service in year 4, with platform screen door installation and full unmanned train operation to be achieved at the end of the programme;

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- (4) informing members that the solution offered by the consortium detailed in the report had been assessed within SPT's funding envelope, technical requirements and quality and cost scores as set out in the award criteria and was therefore recommended as the preferred bidder; and
- (5) explaining that the contract price would be finalised as the final negotiations concluded and full details would be provided when the contract approval was sought.

After consideration and having heard Messrs Maclennan and Hoskins in answer to members' questions, the Partnership

- (1) approved the consortium detailed in the report as the preferred bidder; and
- (2) noted that a special meeting of the Partnership would take place in the near future to consider proposals for the award of the contract.