

## Strathclyde Partnership for Transport

### Minute of Operations Committee meeting

**6 May 2011**

held at: Consort House, Glasgow

**contact officers:**

Valerie A Bowen	phone: 0141 333 3130
Kirsten Clubb	phone: 0141 333 3576

## Minute of the meeting of the Strathclyde Partnership for Transport's Operations Committee held in Consort House, Glasgow, on 6 May 2011

---

**Present** Councillors Denis McKenna (Chair), David Fagan, Jonathan Findlay, Mark Griffin, William Hendrie, Bobby McDill, Alan Moir and David Wilson and appointed members Tom Hart and Bill Ure.

**Attending** Valerie Bowen, Depute Clerk; Gordon MacLennan, Chief Executive; Eric Stewart, Assistant Chief Executive (Operations); Bruce Kiloh, Director of Bus Operations; Neil Wylie, Director of Finance & HR; Alex Scott, Bus Contract Manager and Linda Gold, DRT Customer Support Officer.

### 1. Chair's Remarks

Before the commencement of the meeting, the Chair informed members that he had been advised that Councillor Ian Gray one of South Lanarkshire Council's representatives on the Partnership had taken ill. He advised members that he would pass on the committee's regards and warmest wishes to him for a speedy recovery.

### 2. Apologies

Apologies were submitted from Councillors Bill Grant, Marie McGurk, Tommy Morrison and John Reid.

### 3. Declaration of interest

The committee noted that there were no declarations of interest.

### 4. Minute of previous meeting

The minute of the meeting of 11 March 2011 (issued) was submitted and approved as a correct record.

### 5. Public transport services monitoring report

[Click here to view report](#)

There was submitted a report (issued) of 26 April 2011 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

6 May 2011

- (2) providing information on the current status of SPT's five point bus action plan for the continuing improvement of bus service delivery within the region, together with regulating and fleet profile statistics.

After discussion, the committee

- (a) noted the contents of the report; and
- (b) agreed that officers should contact ScotRail with regard to representation at future meetings of the committee.

## **6. Subsidised local bus service contract recommendations – financial implications**

[Click here to view report](#)

There was submitted a report (issued) of 27 April 2011 by the Assistant Chief Executive (Business Support)

- (1) advising the committee of the financial implications of members' possible decisions relating to further items on the agenda;
- (2) reminding members that the budget for 2011/2012 included forecast inflation of 4%;
- (3) explaining
  - (a) that subsidised bus contracts included an annual inflation factor based on a combination of Consumer Price Index (85%) and Fuel Price Indicator (15%);
  - (b) that although both indices were subject to fluctuation, by the end of March they were over the budgeted level of 4%; and
  - (c) that although inflation would not be updated until August, the current underspend was at risk.

After discussion, the committee noted the report in relation to the financial implications of awarding any contracts and agreed to give due consideration to these implications when making decisions on these contracts.

## **7. Homologation of award of subsidised local bus contracts 4199T Bellshill – Harthill and LS088T Hamilton – Coatshill/East Kilbride Local**

[Click here to view report](#)

With reference to the minute of 21 January 2010 (page 4, paragraph 7) when the committee had agreed to award contract 4199A Bellshill – Harthill (service 35,36) to First Glasgow (No 2) Ltd at a cost of £289,722 for the contract period 18 July 2010 to 13 July 2013, there was submitted and noted a report (issued) of 15 April 2011 by the Assistant Chief Executive (Operations)

- (1) informing members

6 May 2011

- (a) that following operational difficulties with contract 4199A Bellshill – Harthill, First Glasgow entered into discussion with SPT in November 2010;
  - (b) that it was agreed that the contract be cancelled with effect from 12 March 2011 and a fresh tendering exercise carried out; and
  - (c) that temporary contract 4199T Bellshill – Harthill had been awarded to Stuart's Coaches Ltd at a cost of £2,256 per week from 13 March 2011 to 4 June 2011, in order that tenders could be invited for a longer term contract which was being considered at item 9 of the minute; and
- (2) advising members
- (a) that temporary contract LS088T Hamilton – Coatshill/East Kilbride Local (service 230/M1) had been awarded to First Glasgow (No 2) at a cost of £380 per week from 4 April 2011 until 16 July 2011, following the withdrawal by First Glasgow of commercial service 230 Hamilton Coatshill and service 31 between Lindsayfield and East Kilbride via Mossneuk on 15 January 2011; and
  - (b) that in the intervening period, SPT would investigate whether suitable arrangements could be made with bus operators for the operation of commercially viable bus routes in those areas.

**8. Amendment to contract 4800A Newarthill – Motherwell (service 355)**

[Click here to view report](#)

There was submitted and noted a report (issued) of 26 April 2011 by the Assistant Chief Executive (Operations) detailing a proposed change to the timetable of contract 4800A Newarthill – Motherwell (service 355) at no additional cost to SPT, in order to maintain socially necessary services as a result of changes to the network by First Glasgow.

**9. Proposed renewal of subsidised local bus service contracts**

[Click here to view report](#)

There was submitted a report (issued) of 27 April 2011 by the Assistant Chief Executive (Operations),

- (1) providing information on tenders received for the renewal of a number of subsidised local bus services due to expire in 2011; and
- (2) recommending the award of appropriate contracts.

After discussion, the committee agreed

- (a) to the award of the following contracts, with the costs apportioned to each contract as detailed in the report:-
  - (i) package 15115 to First Glasgow at a total cost of £222,508 which contained the undernoted contracts:-

6 May 2011

- contract LS079: Cessnock – Sillverburn – Shawlands (services 45A, 153) for the contract period 17 July 2011 to 13 July 2013;
  - contract LS081 City Centre – Stobhill (service 3) for the contract period 17 July 2011 to 12 July 2014;
  - contract LS082 City Centre – Carmunnock (service 31) for the contract period 17 July 2011 to 12 July 2014; and
  - contract LS083 Cambuslang – Cairns - Rutherglen (service 165) for the contract period 17 July 2011 to 12 July 2014;
- (ii) contract 4199B Bellshill – Harthill (service 235/236) to Stuart’s Coaches Ltd at a cost of £245,928 for the contract period 5 June 2011 to 13 July 2013;
- (iii) contract 6266R Ayr – New Cumnock (service 343) to Western Buses Ltd at a cost of £504,277 for the contract period 17 July 2011 to 12 July 2015;
- (iv) contract 6544P Irvine – Kilbirnie/Beith (service 125) to Western Buses Ltd at a cost of £407,817 for the contract period 17 July 2011 to 12 July 2014;
- (v) contract LS066A Lanark Interchange – Hamilton Bus Station (service 317) to First Glasgow at a cost of £54,467 for the contract period 18 July 2011 to 13 July 2013, based on the purchase of two buses by SPT at an indicative cost of £160,000;
- (vi) contract LS086 Cumnock – Sorn - Cumnock (service X50) to Western Buses Ltd at a cost of £9,100 for the contract period 18 July 2011 to 12 July 2012;
- (vii) contract LS087 Ayr – Cumnock – Ayr (service 48) to Western Buses Ltd at a cost of £14,560 for the contract period 18 July 2011 to 12 July 2012;
- (viii) contract 6941M Rankinston - Ayr (service 347) to Western Buses Ltd at a cost of £105,928 for the contract period 17 July 2011 to 13 July 2012;
- (ix) contract LS080 Parkhead – Carmyle – Cambuslang (services 64,164,364) to First Glasgow at a cost of £238,680 for the contract period 17 July 2011 to 12 July 2014; and
- (x) contract LS084 Baljaffray – Kelvinbridge (service 118) to First Glasgow at a cost of £66,248 for the contract period 17 July 2011 to 13 July 2013;
- (b) that based on the optional tender being awarded at item (iv) above, which provided an alternative enhanced timetable incorporating a Sunday service between Montgomerie Park and Irvine Cross, no award be made for contract LS5085 Montgomerie Park – Irvine;
- (c) that a review of bus services within the Irvine area should take place to examine any possible enhancement opportunities;
- (d) to the cancellation of contract LS035 Halfway – Newton Village – Burnside – Rutherglen circular (service 7) and contract 4489E Cambuslang – Parkhead Forge (service 308) with effect from 17 July 2011; and

6 May 2011

- (e) to the award of a contract to Bluebird Vehicles for the purchase of two buses at an approximate cost of £160,000, via Scotland Excel for use on contract LS066A.

## 10. Requests for subsidised local bus services

[Click here to view report](#)

There was submitted a report (issued) of 26 April 2011 by the Assistant Chief Executive (Operations) advising members of various requests for the provision of subsidised local bus services.

After consideration, the committee

- (1) agreed not to take any further action in respect of the local subsidised bus service requests at paragraphs (a), (d), (e) and (g); and
- (2) supported the position in respect of the undernoted requests: -

### Request

### Decision

Provision of a bus service to replace the recent withdrawal of a section of Glasgow Citybus commercial service 84 between Old Kilpatrick and Clydebank.

that due to recent notification received by SPT of changes within the immediate area, consideration of this request be continued and reported to a future committee.

(Report item b)

Provision of a bus service within the Mossneuk area of East Kilbride, following revisions to First Glasgow commercial service 31 from 16 January 2011.

that an interim replacement service had already been introduced (refer to item 7 of the minute) and consultation would continue with local bus operators to identify options for a longer term replacement service.

(Report item c)

Replacement of withdrawn local bus service 70 in the Lochfield and Todholm areas, south Paisley.

that SPT would work with local bus operators to seek suitable route alterations and consider opportunities for non conventional bus service provision if required.

(Report item f)

## 11. MyBus service: revised procedures for eligibility assessment

[Click here to view report](#)

With reference to the minute of 11 March 2011 (page 1, paragraph 4) when the committee had

- (1) noted that SPT was in the process of developing a form to assess passenger eligibility for MyBus following the withdrawal of these assessments by the NHS; and

6 May 2011

(2) agreed that a draft form would be submitted to this committee for members' approval,

there was submitted a report of 21 April 2011 by the Assistant Chief Executive (Operations)

- (a) informing members
- (i) that SPT had now designed a form which enabled applicants to provide supplementary information in support of an application for MyBus membership; and
  - (ii) that the form featured a range of simple questions geared to determining what mobility issues might exist for an individual which impaired his or her ability to use mainstream public transport and requested access to the applicant's GP, if necessary, for the purposes of obtaining any required information;
- (b) enclosing the following appendices to the report:-
- a MyBus information / application booklet;
  - a standard letter which would be issued in cases where the individual failed to meet the automatic criteria, but invited supplementary information in support of the application;
  - form MB1 for completion by applicants who did not meet the automatic criteria; and
  - a letter of acceptance which would be issued to applicants following assessment of form MB1;
- (c) recommending that the committee approve the revised procedures for processing MyBus applications; and
- (d) explaining that, subject to the committee's approval, details of the revised arrangements would be passed to all Chief Executives of SPT's constituent authorities for information purposes.

After discussion and having heard Mr Scott and Mrs Gold in answer to members' questions, the committee approved the recommendation at (c) above.

## **12. Councillor Mark Griffin**

The Chair, on behalf of the committee, congratulated Councillor Mark Griffin on recently being elected as an MSP for Central Scotland.