

Strathclyde Partnership for Transport

Minute of meeting

18 September 2020

held via Video Conference

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Minute of the meeting of the Strathclyde Partnership for Transport held via Video Conference on 18 September 2020

- Present** Councillors Dr Martin Bartos (Chair), Malcolm Balfour, Richard Bell, Colin Cameron, Ian Cochrane, William Goldie, Graham Hardie, Marie McGurk, Marie McNair, Michael McPake, Alan Moir, Richard Nelson, Donald Reid, Anna Richardson, Jim Roberts, David Shearer, and David Wilson and appointed members Greg Beecroft, Brian Davidson, Ann Faulds, Anne Follin, Graham Johnston, Alex Macaulay and Jim McNally.
- Attending** Gordon Maclennan, Chief Executive; Neil Wylie, Director of Finance; Antony Smith, Director of Subway; Bruce Kiloh, Head of Policy & Planning; Gordon Dickson, Head of Bus Strategy & Delivery; Jim Griffin, Solicitor and Gary Devlin and Karen Jones of Azets (formerly Scott Moncreiff).

Chairs Opening Remarks

The Chair welcomed Cllr Goldie to his first SPT Partnership meeting.

1. Apologies

Apologies were submitted from Councillors Maureen Devlin and Alan Lafferty.

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

Appointed member Gregory Beecroft declared an interest in Item 5 on behalf of all appointed members.

3. Minute of previous meeting

[Click here to view the minute](#)

The minute of the meeting of 26 June 2020 was submitted and approved as a correct record with no matters arising.

4. Committee Minutes

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

- (a) Operations Committee of 21 August 2020;
- (b) Personnel Committee of 21 August 2020;
- (c) Audit & Standards Committee of 28 August 2020; and
- (d) Strategy & Programmes Committee of 28 August 2020 - following extensive discussion on the financial information paper (Agenda Item 4) appended to the minute for Partnership members' information, the Partnership unanimously agreed the Chair would write to the Cabinet Secretary for Transport, Infrastructure & Connectivity on behalf of the Partnership requesting additional financial support of SPT and reflecting the principal points made by members.

5. Partnership Membership Changes

[Click here to view the report](#)

There was submitted a report (issued) of 31 August 2020 by the Assistant Chief Executive advising the Partnership that:

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- (a) Cllr Kerr of North Lanarkshire had been replaced by Cllr William Goldie;
- (b) appointed member Jo Maclennan had intimated her decision to stand down from the Partnership due to work commitments, and
- (c) it was proposed that the appointed member recruitment process be resumed within a safe environment, and seeking to bring forward recommendations to the December Partnership.

After discussion, specifically seeking clarity as to the maximum number of appointed member terms, the Partnership:

- (i) noted the intimated changes to the Partnership membership as detailed and agreed that the Chair would write on behalf of the Partnership to express thanks to Jo Maclennan; and
- (ii) agreed the proposal to recommence the appointed member recruitment process within the timescales outlined.

6. 2019/20 Annual Audit Report

[Click here to view the report](#)

There was submitted a report (issued) of 31 August 2020 by the Assistant Chief Executive, appending the report by SPTs External Auditor Scott Moncrieff (now known as Azets) to those charged with governance advising of the outcome of Scott Moncrieff's external audit of SPT and Strathclyde Concessionary Travel Scheme Joint Committee in 2019/20.

Having heard from Mr Devlin, who thanked the SPT Finance team for their work, which was seconded by Cllr McGurk as Chair of the Audit & Standards Committee where the initial report was initially tabled, the Partnership noted the details of the 2019/20 Annual Audit Report.

7. Audited Annual Accounts 2019/20

[Click here to view the report](#)

There was submitted a report (issued) of 31 August 2020 by the Assistant Chief Executive recommending the Partnership consider and approve the audited annual accounts to ensure compliance with the Local Authority Accounts (Scotland) Regulations 2014.

After discussion and after hearing from Mr Wylie in response to members' questions, the Partnership approved the signing of the Partnership financial statements for the year ending 31 March 2020.

8. Covid-19 Crisis – Transport Progress Update (copy herewith) and Presentation

[Click here to view the report](#)

There was submitted a report (issued) of 26 August 2020 by the Assistant Chief Executive advising the Partnership of the content of a presentation delivered at the meeting by Mr Kiloh in relation to the Covid-19 crisis and transport in the west of Scotland, specifically highlighting:

- (a) the impact of the Covid crisis on transport trends; on attitudes and behaviours;
- (b) work underway arising from national and regional transport transition plans;
- (c) financial support for operators and funding for temporary infrastructure;
- (d) communications and messaging specific to public transport use;

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- (e) wider strategic issues including an update on the development of the Regional Transport Strategy; and
- (f) opportunities and challenges for transport arising from the crisis in the short, medium and long term.

After extensive discussion and hearing from Mr Kiloh and Mr Smith in response to members' questions, particularly concerning the need for members of rural authorities to be briefed on the respective working Group discussions, the Partnership:

- (i) noted the contents of the report and presentation;
- (ii) agreed the importance of the pivotal role SPT played in ensuring key worker transport continued to be provided during the pandemic and agreed this detail should be included in the Chair's letter to the Cabinet Secretary; and
- (iii) expressed thanks and encouragement to all SPT staff for their excellent work in maintaining transport for West of Scotland citizens.