

Committee minute



Strathclyde Partnership for Transport

Minute of Operations Committee

25 August 2017

held in 131 St Vincent Street, Glasgow

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Minute of the meeting of Strathclyde Partnership for Transport's Operations Committee held in 131 St Vincent Street, Glasgow, on 25 August 2017

Present Councillors David Wilson (Chair), Malcolm Balfour, Martin Bartos, Colin Cameron, Allan Casey, Marie McGurk, Michael McPake, Alan Moir, Richard Nelson and Donald Reid and appointed member Gregory Beecroft.

Attending Valerie Davidson, Assistant Chief Executive (Business Support)/Secretary; Valerie A Bowen, Senior Committee Officer; Gordon MacIennan, Chief Executive; Eric Stewart, Assistant Chief Executive (Operations); Charlie Hoskins, Senior Director and Neil Wylie, Director of Finance and HR.

1. Apologies

Apologies were submitted from Councillors Jim Finn, Graham Hardie and Jacqueline McLaren and appointed member Graham Johnston.

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

The minute of the meeting of 10 March 2017 was submitted and approved as a correct record.

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

There was submitted a report (issued) of 17 August 2017 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 Messrs MacIennan, Stewart and Hoskins in further explanation and in answer to members' questions, the committee

- (1) agreed that ScotRail be invited to provide the relevant information in relation to their section of the report and to be represented at each meeting of the committee; and
- (2) otherwise noted the terms of the report.

5. Subsidised local bus service contract recommendations – financial implications

There was submitted a report (issued) of 9 August 2017 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 consideration, the committee

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

6. Partick Interchange Bus Station improvements – Proposed award of contract

After consideration of a report (issued) of 3 August 2017 by the Senior Director on tenders received for improvements to Partick Interchange Bus Station, the committee

- (1) agreed to the award of a contract to the most economically advantageous tender, taking account of both quality and cost, submitted by Luddon Construction Ltd at a cost of up to £1,932,255; and
- (2) noted that the award of the contract was subject to third party agreements.

7. Temporary subsidised local bus contracts awarded

There was submitted a report (issued) of 16 August 2017 by the Assistant Chief Executive (Operations) advising members of temporary contracts awarded under delegated authority since April 2017, to ensure that gaps in the network arising from commercial market changes were filled.

The Committee noted that the tendering process would continue to ensure that the contracts were replaced on a more long-term basis.

8. Amendments to subsidised local bus service contracts

After consideration of a report (issued) of 16 August 2017 by the Assistant Chief Executive (Operations) detailing changes to subsidised local bus services arising from changed circumstances, the committee agreed to the amendments as detailed in the report, which resulted in an additional cost of £275 to SPT in the financial year 2017/2018.

9. Community Transport projects: Grant funding

There was submitted and noted a report (issued) of 16 August 2017 by the Assistant Chief Executive (Operations), providing a brief summary of the following Community Transport projects which had been awarded grant funding during the period 1 October 2016 to 31 March 2017:-

- Coalfield Community Trust;
- Community Transport East Renfrewshire;
- Community Transport Glasgow;
- Getting Better Together;
- NATA (North Area Transport Association); and
- The Rural Development Trust Ltd.

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10. Request for subsidised local bus services

There was submitted a report (issued) of 16 August 2017 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) and (b) and (d) – (g); and
- (2) agreed to investigate opportunities within existing subsidised and commercial public transport network, in parallel with discussions with the planning authority in relation to sustainable transport links for the future development, in respect of paragraph (c).

11. Confederation of Passenger Transport Scotland Conference

After consideration of a report (issued) of 9 August 2017 by the Assistant Chief Executive (Business Support) on proposed attendance at the Confederation of Passenger Transport Conference scheduled to take place in the Turnberry Hotel, Ayrshire on 6 and 7 November 2017, the Partnership

- (1) authorised the attendance of Councillor David Wilson, Vice-Chair and Eric Stewart, Assistant Chief Executive (Operations), at an estimated cost of £467 per person inclusive of the 2 day conference; and
- (2) noted that the conference would bring together key stakeholders within the bus and coach sector who, over the next two years, faced a consultation on the sustainability of the National Entitlement Concession Scheme, changes to the Bus Service Operators Grant, a review of the National Transport Strategy, the introduction of Scotland's first Low Emission Zone and a new Transport (Scotland) Bill.

12. Additional item

In terms of Standing Order No 3.2, the Partnership agreed to consider the following additional item at this stage of the meeting.

13. Going Places: Sustainable Transport in Scotland - Briefing

Mrs Davidson reported on proposed attendance at a briefing on the latest policy and practice surrounding sustainable transport entitled "Going Places: Sustainable Transport in Scotland" to take place in Edinburgh on 13 September 2017. She advised members that the briefing would examine what more could be done to deliver socially, economically and environmentally sound transport across Scotland and share case studies of good practice that SPT could learn from.

Thereon, the Committee authorised the attendance of Councillor Dr Martin Bartos at an estimated cost of £245 + VAT.