



Strathclyde Partnership for Transport

Minute of the Audit & Standards Committee

5 September 2025

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

Contact:

Amy Bryceland

amy.bryceland@spt.co.uk

Minute of the meeting of Strathclyde Partnership for Transport's Audit & Standards Committee held at 131 St Vincent Street and via Video Conference* on 5 September 2025

- Present** Councillors Lawrence O'Neill (Chair), Neal Ingram*, Christy Mearns, Malcolm Mitchell, Sandy Watson and appointed members Moray Macdonald*, Ed McGrachan* and Andrew Walters* (from Agenda Item 7)
- Attending** Valerie Davidson, Chief Executive; Iain McNicol, Audit & Assurance Manager, Stuart Paul, Head of Finance, Amy Bryceland, Clerk/Solicitor and Fiona Mitchell-Knight of Audit Scotland.

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.

In the absence of Cllr Reid, the Committee agreed that Cllr O'Neill would take the Chair.

1. Apologies

Apologies were submitted from Councillors Alex Allison, Donald Reid and Duncan Townson.

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

The Committee noted there were no declarations of interest.

3. Minute of previous meeting

[Click here to view the minute](#)

The minute of the meeting of 13 June 2025, having been considered and agreed at the Partnership meeting of 27 June 2025 as a correct record, was duly noted.

4. SPT Annual Audit Report 2024/2025

[Click here to view the report](#)

There was submitted a report (issued) of 15 August 2025 by the Director of Finance & Corporate Support to provide the Committee, as those charged with governance, with the final audit report from Audit Scotland, Strathclyde Partnership for Transport (SPT's) external auditor following the final year audit of SPT's accounts and financial arrangements 2024/2025.

After hearing from Ms Mitchell-Knight and commending the SPT Finance team on the quality of work and the outcome of the Annual Audit Report, the Committee noted the contents of the report.

5. Strathclyde Partnership for Transport Audited Annual Account 2024/2025

[Click here to view the report](#)

There was submitted a report (issued) of 15 August 2025 by the Director of Finance & Corporate Support to provide the Committee with the audited annual accounts for financial year ending 31 March 2025 for Strathclyde Partnership for Transport (SPT) for final scrutiny prior to their submission to the Partnership for approval on 19 September 2025.

After hearing from Mr Paul, the Committee agreed that the annual accounts for SPT financial year 2024/2025 should be submitted to Partnership for approval on 19 September 2025.

6. SCTSJC annual audit report 2024/2025

5 September 2025

[Click here to view the report](#)

There was a report (issued) of 5 September 2025 by the Director of Finance & Corporate Support to provide the Committee, as those charged with governance, with the final audit report from Audit Scotland, Strathclyde Concessionary Travel Scheme Joint Committee (SCTSJC's) external auditor following the financial year audit of SCTSJC's accounts and financial arrangements for 2024/2025.

After hearing from Ms Mitchell-Knight and Mrs Davidson in response to members questions, specifically relating to the change in concessionary fares as a consequence of the removal of peak fares' by Scotrail, the Committee noted the details of the covering letter and the 2024/2025 Annual Audit Report for SCTSJC.

7. Strathclyde Concessionary Travel Scheme Joint Committee Audited Annual Account 2024/2025

[Click here to view the report](#)

There was submitted a report of 5 September 2025 by the Director of Finance & Corporate Support to provide the Committee with the audited annual accounts for financial year ending 31 March 2025 for Strathclyde Concessionary Travel Scheme Joint Committee (SCTSJC) for final scrutiny prior to their submission to the SCTSJC for approval on 19 September 2025.

After hearing from Mr Paul, the Committee agreed for the annual accounts for the SCTSJC for the financial year 2024/2025 should be submitted to the Joint Committee for approval on 19 September 2025.

8. Corporate Risk Register update

[Click here to view the report](#)

There was submitted a report (issued) of 5 September 2025 by the Chief Executive to update the Committee on the Corporate Risk Register and mitigations to minimise risk and also to invite the members of the Audit & Standards Committee to scrutinise.

After hearing from Mr McNicol, the Committee noted the contents of the report.

9. Contract Audit of emergency services network

[Click here to view the report](#)

There was a report (issued) of 5 September 2025 by the Chief Executive to advise the Committee on the findings of a contract audit of the emergency services network.

After hearing from Mr McNicol, the Committee noted the contents of the report and agreed that the Audit and Assurance Manager submit a follow up report on the implementation of the recommendations to a meeting in approximately six months.

10. Contract audit of Temporary Labour for Glasgow Subway

[Click here to view the report](#)

There was submitted a report (issued) of 5 September 2025 by the Chief Executive to advise the Committee on the findings of a contract audit of temporary labour supply for Glasgow Subway.

After hearing from Mr McNicol, the Committee noted the contents of the report and agreed that the Audit and Assurance Manager submit a follow up report on the implementations of the recommendations to a meeting in approximately six months.

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11. Audit Scotland report: Delivering for the future

[Click here to view the report](#)

There was submitted a report (issued) of 25 August 2025 by the Chief Executive to advise the committee on the issue of an Audit Scotland report titled '*Delivering for the future*' and outline the key messages and implications for SPT contained therein.

After hearing from Mrs Davidson in response to members questions, specifically relating to sickness absence percentages, the processes and measures SPT have in place for supporting staff welfare, succession planning and measures to avoid gaps in knowledge and experience, the Committee noted the contents of the report.

12. Members and Directors expenses 2025/2026

[Click here to view the report](#)

There was submitted a report (issued) of 18 August 2025 advising the Committee of members and directors' expenses to 26 July 2025.

After hearing from Mr Paul, the Committee noted the contents of the report.

13. Contracts Awarded over £50,000

[Click here to view the report](#)

There was submitted a report (issued) of 1 August 2025 by the Chief Executive advising the committee of all contracts awarded over £50,000 in value, which commenced during period 1 April 2025 to 30 June 2025.

After hearing from Mr Paul, the Committee noted the contents of the report.
