

Strathclyde Partnership for Transport

Minute of Operations Committee

25 April 2025

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

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Minute of the meeting of Strathclyde Partnership for Transport's Operations Committee held at 131 St Vincent Street and via Video Conference* on 25 April 2025

Present Councillors David Wilson (Chair), Alex Allison, Ken Andrew, Stephen Dornan, Helen Loughran*, Alan Moir, Donald Reid*, Roza Salih*, Adam Smith* and Andy Steel*

Attending Lesley Aird, Director of Finance & Corporate Support; Richard Robinson, Director of Transport Operations; Bruce Kiloh, Head of Policy & Planning, Gordon Dickson, Head of Bus Strategy & Delivery; Gary Robertson, Network Analysis & Design Manager; Andrea Thompson, Head of Corporate Communications; Iain McNicol, Clerk and Ewan Tait of ScotRail (for Agenda Item 4)

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.

1. Apologies

Apologies were submitted from Councillor Maureen Devlin and appointed member Jenna Dickson.

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

Cllr Moir declared an interest in Agenda Item 4, citing his employment with Scotrail and as a member of ASLEF, the trade union.

3. Minute of previous meeting

[Click here to view the minute](#)

The minute of the meeting of 31 January 2025, having been considered and agreed at the Partnership meeting of 14 March 2025 as a correct record, was duly noted.

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

[Click here to view the report](#)

There was submitted a report (issued) of 2 April 2025 by the Director of Transport Operations reporting on the operational performance of public transport services and public transport facilities which are delivered directly by the Partnership or by others on behalf of the Partnership; and to report on provision of public transport services and facilities in the Partnership area more generally.

After hearing from Mr Robinson, Mr Dickson and Mr Robertson in response to members' questions, specifically:

- (i) road closures having an impact on bus delivery and the need for improved communications wherever possible between councils regarding alternative bus stops; and
 - (ii) the impact of road closures highlighting the matter was recently discussed during a meeting with the Minister for Agriculture and Connectivity, and the need to ensure adequate signage when bus stops were removed as a result of road works,
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25 April 2025

and after having heard from Mr Tait in relation to ScotRail services, specifically relating to:

- (i) an increase in Inverclyde patronage since new timetables implemented;
- (ii) performance improvement and less cancellations especially since warmer weather;
- (iii) a pay settlement to the ASLEF Union members covering a 2 year period;
- (iv) the East Kilbride rail line closure has resulted in 20% of customers choosing not to travel with ScotRail, 10% choosing an alternative Scotrail route and 70% of passengers have been using the rail replacement service; and
- (v) No significant complaints arising from ticket office hours being amended.

Thereafter the Committee noted the contents of the report and the Chair thanked Mr Tait for attending.

5. Subsidised bus service contract recommendations: financial implications

[Click here to view the report](#)

There was submitted a report (issued) of 8 April 2025 by the Director of Finance & Corporate Support to advise the Committee of the financial implications of the subsidised bus contract recommendations being considered at the meeting.

After hearing from Mrs Aird, the Committee noted:

- (i) the financial implications of the recommendations relating to the subsidised bus services budget in the papers and noted the impact of individual decisions is reported in each paper for consideration;
- (ii) the projected positive variance reported which provides limited scope to support the regional and local network in the remainder of the financial year, notwithstanding the potential impact of increased costs for the remaining contract renewals; and
- (iii) the impact of the current financial pressures on the subsidised bus budget in the short to medium term, including in the current and future financial years and that as a result of this, an assessment of the current supported bus service provision will continue in 2025/2026 with a view to reducing overall costs with a view to making the supported service budget more sustainable in 2025/2026 and future financial years.

6. MyBus Review – Update on Stage 1 Actions

[Click here to view the report](#)

There was submitted a report (issued) of 2 April 2025 by the Head of Bus Strategy & Delivery to update the Committee on actions to be taken forward following the completion of Stage 1 of the MyBus review.

After hearing from Mr Dickson reiterating the previously agreed actions and providing an update on them all, highlighting that the individual cost per trip remained high, the Committee noted the progress on the actions outlined in the report.

7. Medical Cover Arrangements in Buchanan Bus Station

Strathclyde Partnership for Transport
Operations Committee

25 April 2025

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There was submitted a report (issued) of 2 April 2025 by the Director of Transport Operations to update the Committee on the impact of a trial of medical cover in Buchanan Bus Station (BBS) on Friday and Saturday evenings between 1800hrs and 2300hrs.

After hearing from Mr Robinson in response to members' questions, seeking further clarification on:

- (i) the potential to collaborate with local community planning boards to advise what SPT is doing and whether this could facilitate an opportunity to assist anyone in potential difficulty;
- (ii) what was involved in Medical Cover assistance, vis a vis first aid; and
- (iii) how such a service allowed SPT staff to concentrate more fully on Bus Station operational responsibilities.

Thereafter, the Committee noted the contents of the report and the significant positive impact of professional medical support at Buchanan Bus Station for staff and customers.

8. Transport Data Project Phase 2 - Update

[Click here to view the report](#)

There was submitted a report (issued) of 3 April 2025 by the Head of Bus Strategy & Delivery to update the Committee in relation to progress with the Transport Data Project Phase 2.

After hearing from Mr Dickson in response to members' questions, including consideration to be given to the progress report format, the Committee noted the progress in scoping and developing Phase 2 of the Transport Data project and that further updates will be provided to the Committee in due course.

9. Applications for grant funding – Community Transport

[Click here to view the report](#)

There was submitted a report (issued) of 3 April 2025 by the Head of Bus Strategy & Delivery to recommend the Committee approve grant funding in support of projects provided by Community Transport operators across Strathclyde.

After hearing from Mr Dickson and Mr Kiloh in response to members' questions, the Committee:

- (i) approved the grants outlined in Section 4 of the report;
- (ii) noted the grants awarded under delegated authority; and
- (iii) noted a recent Chairs Committee decision to approve the grant funding to Community Transport Glasgow which exceeded the Committee thresholds.

10. Proposed award of subsidised local bus services contracts

[Click here to view the report](#)

There was submitted a report (issued) of 7 April 2025 by the Head of Bus Strategy & Delivery to recommend the Committee approve the award of a number of subsidised local bus service and MyBus contracts.

25 April 2025

After hearing from Mr Dickson, Mrs Aird and Ms Thompson in response to members' questions highlighting the value of the contracts being awarded in totality and the need to ensure the financial impact for future years was highlighted and communicated with key stakeholders, the Committee agreed the award of contracts detailed in Appendix 1 of the report.

11. MyBus Scheduling Software – Award of Contract

[Click here to view the report](#)

There was submitted a report (issued) of 14 April 2025 by the Head of Bus Strategy & Delivery to recommend the Committee approve the award of a contract for MyBus Scheduling software to Voyagerr (part of the Modaxo Group) for a total of £931,899 over a period of 6 years.

After hearing from Mr Dickson in response to members' questions, the Committee approved the award of the contract as detailed in the report.

12. Maintenance of Heating and Air Conditioning Systems, Building Management Systems and Fire Dampers – award of Contract

[Click here to view the report](#)

There was submitted a report (issued) of 9 April 2025 by the Director of Transport Operations to recommend the approval of a contract for the Maintenance of Heating and Air Conditioning Systems, Building Management Systems (BMS) and Fire Dampers to B-Dacs Limited for a contract value of £720,557 over a 5 year period.

After hearing from Mr Robinson, the Committee approved the award of the contract as detailed in the report.

13. Amendments to subsidised local bus service contracts

[Click here to view the report](#)

There was submitted a report (issued) of 7 April 2025 by the Head of Bus Strategy & Delivery to advise the Committee of amendments to subsidised local bus service contracts since the last Operations Committee meeting on 31 January 2025.

After hearing from Mr Dickson in response to members' questions, the Committee noted the amendments to subsidised local bus service contracts, in accordance with established corporate governance, financial regulation and contact standing orders.

14. Contracts awarded utilising delegated powers

[Click here to view the report](#)

There was submitted a report (issued) of 7 April 2025 by the Head of Bus Strategy & Delivery to notify the Committee of subsidised local bus service and MyBus contracts awarded utilising delegated powers.

After hearing from Mr Dickson, the Committee noted the amendments to subsidised local bus service contracts, in accordance with established corporate governance, financial regulation and contact standing orders.
