

Strathclyde Partnership for Transport

Minute of Strategy & Programmes Committee

27 August 2021

held by Video Conference

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Minute of the meeting of Strathclyde Partnership for Transport's Strategy & Programmes Committee held by Video Conference on 27 August 2021

- **Present** Councillors Alan Moir (Chair), Martin Bartos, Ian Cochrane, Maureen Devlin, Jim Fletcher, William Goldie, Jim McGuigan (Substitute), Jim McMahon (Substitute), Anna Richardson, David Wilson and appointed members Anne Follin, George Hazel, Ed McGrachan and Andrew Walters.
- Attending Valerie Davidson, Acting Chief Executive/Partnership Secretary; Neil Wylie, Director of Finance; Antony Smith, Director of Subway; Bruce Kiloh, Head of Policy & Planning; Gordon Dickson, Head of Bus Strategy & Delivery and Andrea Thompson, Media & Public Affairs Manager.

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, and that such recordings would be made available together with the minute of meetings.

1. Apologies

Apologies were submitted from Councillors Jim Roberts and David Shearer and appointed member Jim McNally.

2. Declarations 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

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The minute of the meeting of 21 May 2021, having been considered at the Partnership meeting of 18 June 2021, was submitted and approved as a correct record.

4. Revenue Monitoring report as at Period 4, ending 17 July 2021 and updated Financial Forecast for Financial Year 2021/22

Click here to view the report

There was submitted a report (issued) of 17 August 2021 by the Director of Finance advising members of the net revenue position as at the end of period 4, 17 July 2021 and providing an updated financial forecast for the current financial year, stating the assumptions made regarding income and expenditure levels.

After extensive discussion, particularly on the importance of student patronage and the potential impact of the Under 22s travel scheme and having heard from Mrs Davidson, Mr Wylie and Mr Smith in answer to members' questions, the Committee considered the report and noted:

- (i) the forecast outturn at this stage;
- (ii) that significant uncertainties remain in relation to the recovery of public transport;
- (iii) that discussion continues with Transport Scotland over continued financial support for the current financial year; and
- (iv) that an update on the financial forecast for 2021/22 will be presented to the next Committee.

P 5. 2020/21 Capital Outturn and Capital Programme Monitoring and Proposed Amendments Report as at 17 July 2021, Period 4

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There was submitted a report (issued) of 17 August 2021 by the Director of Finance:

- (i) reporting on the 2020/21 capital outturn position of £23.059m;
- (ii) providing a progress update on the 2021/22 capital programme delivery;
- (iii) seeking approval for proposed amendments to the 2021/22 capital programme; and
- (iv) seeking approval to Grant Fund as detailed in sections 6(c) and 6(d) of the report.

After hearing from Mr Wylie, the Committee considered the report and:

- (i) noted the 2020/21 capital outturn position;
- (ii) approved the proposed amendments to the 2021/22 capital programme as per Appendix 2 of the report and agreed to Grant Fund or vary existing Grant Fund letters to the Local Authorities or other bodies for those awards up to the value of £200,000 and authorise the Acting Chief Executive to complete the award letters;
- (iii) agreed to recommend to the Partnership meeting of 17 September 2021 approval to Grant Fund or to vary existing Grant Fund letters to the Local Authorities or other bodies for those awards over a cumulative value of £200,000;
- (iv) noted the financial performance of the 2021/22 capital programme as at Period 4; and
- (v) noted that further work to quantify and manage risk, advance savings and re-phase existing projects is being undertaken to balance spend against budget.

6. Annual Treasury Management Report 2020/21

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There was submitted a report (issued) of 17 August 2021 by the Director of Finance advising members that SPT is required by regulations issued under the Local Government Scotland Act 2003 to produce an annual report reviewing treasury management activities and detailing actual prudential and treasury management indicators for 2020/21, and that the report satisfied the requirements of both the CIPFA Code of Practice on Treasury Management (the "Code of Practice") and the CIPFA Prudential Code for Capital Finance in Local Authorities (the "Prudential Code").

After hearing from Mr Wylie, the Committee noted the content of the report and the prudential and treasury management indicators for 2020/21 as detailed in Appendix 1 of the report.

7. SPT Responses to Consultations

Click here to view the report

There was submitted a report (issued) of 17 August 2021 by the Acting Chief Executive:

- (i) recommending approval of the key points of SPT responses recently submitted on various consultations; and
- (ii) noting the details of consultations which SPT is in the process of preparing responses to.

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After hearing from Mr Kiloh and Mr Dickson in response to members' questions, specifically related to:

- a) the potential implications of the Under 22s free travel scheme;
- b)the importance of the River Clyde in the future development of the RTS and other economic strategies; and
- c) the importance of stakeholders working collaboratively to ensure maximum benefit is derived from existing assets,

the Committee:

- (i) noted the contents of the report;
- (ii) approved the key points of draft SPT responses recently submitted outlined in section 3; and
- (iii) noted the details of consultations which SPT is in the process of preparing responses to.

8. Strategic Issues Update for the SPT area 2020/21

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There was submitted a report (issued) of 17 August 2021 by the Acting Chief Executive providing members with an update on strategic level issues affecting transport in the west of Scotland.

After extensive discussion on the importance of examining how to get more people back onto public transport now pandemic restrictions have eased; the importance of all stakeholders reinforcing public safety messages on transport; ensuring that SPT continues to build the key elements of recent TfS discussion into the Regional Transport Strategy and the Case for Change; and after hearing from Mr Kiloh, Mr Wylie, Mr Smith and Ms Thompson in answer to members' questions, the Committee noted the contents of the report.