

Strathclyde Partnership for Transport

Minute of Operations Committee

31 August 2012

held in Consort House, Glasgow

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Minute of the meeting of Strathclyde Partnership for Transport Operations Committee held in Consort House, Glasgow on 31 August 2012

Present Councillors Denis McKenna (Chair), Malcolm Balfour, Tony Buchanan, David Fagan, Bill Grant, Chris Kelly, Alan Moir, Robert G MacIntyre, Bobby McDill, Patrick McGlinchey, George Redmond and David Wilson and Appointed Members Niall McGrogan and Bill Ure.

Attending Valerie Davidson, Secretary/Assistant Chief Executive; Gordon MacLennan, Chief Executive; Eric Stewart, Assistant Chief Executive (Operations); Neil Wylie, Director of Finance & HR and Alex Scott, Bus Contracts Manager.

1. Apologies

Apologies were submitted from Councillor Kaye Harmon.

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 29 June 2012 was submitted and approved as a correct record.

Arising from the minute with regard to page 7, paragraph 8, Mr Stewart advised members that temporary contracts had been put in place following the cessation of the operation of Irvine Coaches as outlined in item 6 on the agenda

4. Public transport services monitoring report

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There was submitted a report (issued) of 22 August 2012 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, together with regulating and fleet profile statistics.

After discussion and having heard Mr Stewart in answer to members' questions and update members on

- (a) the recent 40 minute closure of the Subway due to a faulty carriage compressor at St Enoch Station; and
- (b) the continuing growth of My Bus services,

the committee noted the contents of the report.

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5. Subsidised local bus service contract recommendations – financial implications

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There was submitted a report (issued) of 21 August 2012 by the Assistant Chief Executive (Business Support) advising the committee of the financial implications of members' possible decisions relating to further items on the agenda. After discussion, the committee noted the report in relation to the financial implications of awarding any contracts and agreed to give due consideration to the implications when making decisions on these contracts.

6. Temporary contracts awarded

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After consideration of a report (issued) of 14 August 2012 by the Assistant Chief Executive (Operations), the committee noted the temporary contracts which had been awarded as detailed in the appendix to the report, following the cessation of the operation of Irvine's Coaches on 4 August 2012, in order that tender prices could be invited for new long term contracts.

7. Proposed award of local subsidised bus service contracts

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There was submitted a report (issued) of 24 August 2012 by the Assistant Chief Executive (Operations)

- (1) reminding members of the temporary arrangements which had been put in place following recent changes to the commercial bus network, in order that SPT could assess the market and prepare longer term contracts;
- (2) providing information on the tenders received for new local subsidised bus contracts; and
- (3) recommending the award of appropriate contracts.

After discussion and having heard Councillor Grant raise a concern regarding the poor appearance of a bus in his area which was not owned by SPT but displayed SPT livery, the committee

(a) agreed

- (i) that officers should ensure that vehicles in SPT livery were consistent with the SPT brand;
- (ii) that following cession of a contract any SPT livery should also be removed;
- (iii) to award the following contracts:-
 - contract 4100B Lanark - Lesmahagow/Lanark - Douglas - Glespin (service 258/259) to Whitelaw's Coaches at a cost of £200,000 for the contract period 23 September 2012 to 11 July 2015;
 - contract 6941S1 Rankinston - Ayr (service 347) to Stagecoach Western Buses at a cost of £181,412, based on the use of an SPT vehicle, for the contract period 30 September 2012 to 11 July 2015;

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- contract 6942L1 New Cumnock - Burnton - Bellsbank (service 356) to Stagecoach Western Buses at a cost of £272,994, based on the use of an SPT vehicle, for the contract period 30 September 2012 to 11 July 2015;
 - contract 6951G Ayr - Bellsbank (service 352) to Stagecoach Western Buses at a cost of £54,054 for the contract period 30 September 2012 to 11 July 2015;
 - contract LS005E Mosspark - Glasgow City Centre (service 59) to McGill's Buses at a cost of £89,466 for the contract period 30 September 2012 to 12 July 2014;
 - contract LS080C Parkhead - Carmyle - Cambuslang - Glasgow City Centre (service 64/164/364) to Henderson Travel at a cost of £222,315 based on the use of an SPT vehicle, for the contract period 30 September 2012 to 12 July 2014;
 - contract LS086C Cumnock - Sorn (service X50) to Stagecoach Western Buses at a cost of £25,740 for the contract period 30 September 2012 to 11 July 2015;
 - contract LS087D Cumnock - Ayr (service 48) to Stagecoach Western Buses at a cost of £41,184 for the contract period 30 September 2012 to 11 July 2015;
 - contract W024A Cliftonville - Carnbroe (service 77)/Townhead - Carnbroe (service 117) to JJ Travel at a cost of £275,040, based on the use of an SPT vehicle, for the contract period 30 September 2012 to 11 July 2015;
 - contract W033 Hardgate - Gartnavel Hospital (service 118)/Milngavie - Anniesland (service 118A) to Glasgow Citybus at a cost of £134,000 for the contract period 30 September 2012 to 15 July 2014; and
- (iv) to award a contract to Bluebird Vehicles Ltd via Scotland Excel for the purchase of 3 vehicles at an approximate cost of £80,000 per vehicle; and
- (b) noted that formal awards of the above contracts were subject to satisfaction of the requirements of the mandatory standstill period for EU advertised public sector contracts.

8. Award of temporary subsidised bus service contracts: Isle of Arran

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There was submitted a report (issued) of 16 August 2012 by the Assistant Chief Executive (Operations)

- (1) detailing the background to the provision of subsidised bus services on the island of Arran which included the provision of local links, integral connections with the ferry services in Brodick and Lochranza and home to school transport on behalf of North Ayrshire Council;
- (2) explaining that following the expiry of the contracts from 13 October 2012, in order to permit assessment of the eventual results of the ferry service review and its implication for timetables and vehicle size, it was proposed that short terms contracts be put in place for an initial period of six months until 23 March 2013, with a possible extension on six monthly intervals until 19 October 2014; and
- (3) recommending that the committee agree to award the following contracts to the current contractor Stagecoach Western Buses for the contract period 14 October

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2012 to 23 March 2013, with a possible extension on a six monthly basis until 19 October 2014:-

- Contract 6517E Brodick - Blackwaterfoot at a cost of £136,857 per annum;
- Contract 6518E Brodick - Whiting Bay at a cost of £118,691 per annum;
- Contract 6519E Brodick - Blackwaterfoot at a cost of £129,182 per annum;
- Contract 6520E Brodick - Blackwaterfoot at a cost of £125,241 per annum;
- Contract 6521E Brodick - Blackwaterfoot at a cost of £71,731 per annum;
- Contract 6522E Brodick - Whiting Bay/Blackwaterfoot at a cost of £50,121 per annum;
- Contract 6523E Brodick - Blackwaterfoot - Whiting Bay - Kildonan at a cost of £40,004 per annum;
- Contract 6524E Brodick - Blackwaterfoot at a cost of £56,205 per annum;
- Contract 6628H Brodick Primary School - Corriegills at a cost of £72,626 per annum; and
- Contract 6746F Brodick - Machrie/Brodick – Whiting Bay at a cost of £37,736 per annum.

After discussion and having heard Mr Stewart in further explanation and in answer to members' questions, the committee

- (a) approved the recommendation at (3) above; and
- (b) noted
 - (i) that award of the contracts was subject to funding of £203,955 for the initial contract period from North Ayrshire Council; and
 - (ii) noted that formal awards of the above contracts were subject to satisfaction of the requirements of the mandatory standstill period for EU advertised public sector contracts.

9. Renewal of subsidised local bus service contracts

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There was submitted a report (issued) of 21 August 2012 by the Assistant Chief Executive (Operations)

- (1) providing information on the tenders received for the renewal of subsidised local bus services; and
- (2) recommending the award of appropriate contracts.

After discussion and having heard Mr Stewart in further explanation and in answer to members' questions, the committee

- (a) agreed
 - (i) to award contract 4953F Lanark – Leadhills – Wanlockhead (service 30/31) to Stuart's Coaches at a cost of £291,720, based on the use of an SPT vehicle for the contract period 30 September 2012 to 11 July 2015; and
 - (ii) to award contract 6801J Millport Pier – Cumbrae Slip (service 320) to Cumbrae Coaches at a cost of £120,000 for the contract period 21 October 2012 to 11 October 2017; and

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- (b) noted that formal awards of the above contracts were subject to satisfaction of the requirements of the mandatory standstill period for EU advertised public sector contracts.

10. Amendments to subsidised local bus service contracts

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After consideration of a report (issued) of 16 August 2012 by the Assistant Chief Executive (Operations) detailing changes to subsidised local bus services, the committee noted the amendments as detailed below:-

Contract	Amendment	Cost	Effective date
Contract 7918D Gourock McInroy's Point – Inverclyde Royal Hospital (service 545)	Revision to the Sunday timetable to improve service reliability and connection with ferry services.	None	9 September 2012
Contract 6517D Brodick – Blackwaterfoot (service 323/324)	Temporary revision to the timetable to provide connecting bus services to the ferry terminal at Brodick.	Additional cost of £188 per week.	14 July to 1 September 2012
W022A1 Harthill – Wishaw Hospital – Ravenscraig Sports Centre (service 367)	Amendment to the route and timetable to address a gap in service, following revisions to the commercial network by First Glasgow	Additional cost of £12,480 per annum.	23 September 2012
Contract W023 East Kilbride – Hairmyres/ Hamilton Coatshill/ Strathclyde Business Park – Bellshill Station (service 230)	Amendment to the route and timetable to address a gap in service, following revisions to the commercial network by First Glasgow.	None	17 September 2012

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11. Community bus service: electronic ticket machines

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There was submitted a report (issued) of 16 August 2012 by the Assistant Chief Executive (Operations) detailing a proposal for SPT to fund the purchase of 5 electronic ticket machines to be provided on a lease basis to community transport operators which would allow the development and operation of registered timetable community bus services.

After discussion, the committee agreed

- (1) to award a contract to Ticketer for the purchase of 5 electronic ticket machines at a cost of £23,800; and
- (2) to provide similar equipment for any future bus services of that type.

12. Enhanced DRT funding application: Community Transport Glasgow

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There was submitted a report (issued) of 13 August 2012 by the Assistant Chief Executive (Operations)

- (1) reminding members that SPT managed the grant funding of community transport projects on behalf of its constituent authorities;
- (2) informing members of the work of Community Transport Glasgow (CTG) which was a partnership body of four community transport groups working in Glasgow to provide, promote and support the delivery of high quality, reliable and accessible transport to the communities of Glasgow;
- (3) informing members
 - (a) that initially a funding application of £300,000 had been submitted by CTG which equated to £100,000 per annum over a three year period; and
 - (b) that CTG was now seeking the year 3 funding of £100,000 for 2012/2013 which would allow it to continue to support its member operators to assist in the delivery of transport services in their areas; and
- (4) recommending that funding of £100,000 be provided to CTG for 2012/2013.

After discussion, the committee

- (i) approved the recommendation at (4) above; and
- (ii) authorised the Assistant Chief Executive (Business Support) to sign a grant funding letter to CTG.

13. Requests for subsidised local bus services

[Click here to view report](#)

There was submitted a report (issued) of 21 August 2012 by the Assistant Chief Executive (Operations) advising members of various requests for the provision of subsidised local bus services.

After consideration and having heard Mr Stewart in answer to members' questions, the committee agreed

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- (1) not to take any further action in respect of the local subsidised bus service requests at paragraphs (a) – (b) and (d) – (h); and
- (2) that consideration of a replacement for service 144 in the Parkhall and Radnor Park areas of Clydebank (item c) be continued until the next committee, pending further discussions with the local member.