

## **Strathclyde Partnership for Transport**

### **Minute of Operations Committee**

**6 November 2020**

held via video conference

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## Minute of the meeting of Strathclyde Partnership for Transport's Operations Committee held via Video Conference on 6 November 2020

**Present** Councillors David Wilson (Chair), Malcolm Balfour, Martin Bartos, Richard Bell, Colin Cameron, Alistair Mackay (Substitute), Marie McNair, Michael McPake, Alan Moir and appointed member Greg Beecroft.

**Attending** Gordon MacLennan, Chief Executive; Valerie Davidson, Assistant 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; Gary Robertson, Network Analysis & Design Manager; Andrea Thompson, Media & Public Affairs Manager and Ewan Tait, Business Development Executive (Abellio Scotrail)

### Chair's Remarks

The Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting including Ewan Tait of Abellio Scotrail, whose update was included in the report at Agenda Item 4.

#### 1. Apologies

Apologies were submitted from Councillors Marie McGurk, Donald Reid, Graham Campbell and appointed member Graham Johnston. Cllr Mackay advised the Committee he would be substituting for Cllr McGurk at all Operations meetings going forward for continuity.

#### 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 21 August 2020, having been considered at the Partnership meeting on 18 September 2020, was submitted and approved as a correct record.

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

[Click here to view the report](#)

There was submitted and discussed a report (issued) of 9 October 2020 by the Assistant Chief Executive:

- (a) 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
- (b) reporting on the provision of public transport services and facilities in the Partnership area more generally.

The Chair welcomed Mr Tait of Abellio Scotrail to the meeting. After significant discussion and having heard further from Mr Tait specifically outlining the proposed December timetable changes and Mr Wylie and Mr Smith in response to members' questions regarding SPT services, the Committee noted the details of the report.

#### 5. Subsidised Bus Service Contract Recommendations: financial Implications

[Click here to view the report](#)

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There was submitted a report (issued) of 20 October 2020 by the Assistant Chief Executive, advising the Committee of the financial implications of the subsidised bus contract recommendations being considered at the meeting.

After hearing from Mr Wylie in response to members' questions, the Committee:

- (i) noted the financial implications of the recommendations in accompanying papers and gave due consideration to this in the course of the decision making; and
- (ii) noted the proposal to be considered by the Strategy & Programmes Committee included that the projected positive variance as reported would be utilised to support SPT's overall financial position.

## **6. Glasgow City Centre Low Emission Zone – Update**

[Click here to view the report](#)

There was submitted a report (issued) of 9 October 2020 by the Assistant Chief Executive providing an update on the development of the Glasgow City Centre Low Emission Zone (LEZ) introduced on 31 December 2018 by Glasgow City Council (GCC).

After significant discussion, particularly concerning the Committee's recognition and agreement that there remained elements of the deregulated market arrangements which did not support effective public transport provision, and hearing from Mr Dickson to members' questions, the Committee noted the contents of the report and SPT's continued stakeholder engagement.

## **7. Update on Active Travel and SPT Cycle to Work Scheme**

[Click here to view the report](#)

There was submitted a report (issued) of 12 October 2020 by the Chief Executive updating the Committee on recent progress in relation to active travel including SPT's Cycle to Work (CTW) scheme for employees.

After discussion specifically concerning:

- (i) the roll out of the Spaces for People projects, and
- (ii) the need to ensure that active travel projects were suitably funded from revenue resources to ensure they remained for use.

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

- (i) Agreed that a future report on the Spaces for People projects would include reference to which projects had subsequently been withdrawn, and
- (ii) noted the contents of the report.

## **8. Amendments to subsidised local bus service contracts**

[Click here to view the report](#)

There was submitted a report (issued) of 9 October 2020 by the Assistant Chief Executive advising of amendments to subsidised local and MyBus bus service contracts since the last Committee on 21 August 2020.

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

## **9. Contracts awarded under delegated powers**

[Click here to view the report](#)

There was submitted a report (issued) of 9 October 2020 by the Assistant Chief Executive notifying the Committee of subsidised local bus service contracts awarded utilising delegated powers.

After hearing from Mr Dickson, the Committee noted the subsidised local bus service contracts awarded, utilising delegated powers, thus ensuring that socially necessary gaps in the public transport network arising from commercial local bus market changes are provided for.

Councillor McNair expressed her thanks to Mr Dickson and his team on behalf of the communities of Silverton and Brucehill for SPT's help in retaining the 206 bus service. This was very much appreciated by all involved in the campaign.

## **10. Requests for subsidised local bus services**

[Click here to view the report](#)

There was submitted a report (issued) of 9 October 2020 by the Assistant Chief Executive advising the Committee of requests received for subsidised local bus services and actions.

After discussion and having heard Mr Dickson in response to members' questions, the Committee agreed the recommendations that no further action was required.

### **Other Business**

The Committee agreed that the Vice Chairs Cllr Wilson and Moir attend 'The new National Transport Strategy (NTS2) - assessing the strategy and addressing the challenges for implementation' conference on 26 November 2020 at which the SPT Chair was a speaker.

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