

Partnership minute



Strathclyde Partnership for Transport

Minute of meeting

18 March 2022

held at 131 St Vincent Street, Glasgow and via Video Conference

Contact:

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Minute of the meeting of the Strathclyde Partnership for Transport held at 131 St Vincent Street, Glasgow and via Video Conference at 11am on 18 March 2022

Present Councillors Dr Martin Bartos (Chair), Colin Cameron, Maureen Devlin, Jim Finn, Jim Fletcher, Willie Goldie, Marie McGurk (until Agenda Item 11), Michael McPake Alan Moir, Donald Reid, Anna Richardson, Jim Roberts (until Agenda Item 11), David Shearer, David Wilson, Alex Allison (Substitute) (until Agenda Item 13) and appointed members Greg Beecroft, Jenna Dickson (from Agenda Item 10), Anne Follin, George Hazel, Graham Johnston, Ed McGrachan and Andrew Walters.

Attending Valerie Davidson, Chief Executive, Neil Wylie, Director of Finance & Corporate Support; 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.

Chair's Remarks

Partnership Standing Order No 14 requires the agreement of the Partnership to record meetings. The Chair sought and the Partnership agreed for the recording of SPT Partnership and Committee video conference meetings to commence.

At the Chair's request, reflecting on recent scenes in the media of families sheltering in metro stations in Kyiv, the Partnership held a minute's silence remembering the lives lost and those still suffering as a consequence of the war in Ukraine.

1. Apologies

Apologies were submitted from Councillors Balfour, Bell, Campbell, Cochrane, Hardie, Nelson and Shearer.

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

Appointed member George Hazel advised that he was engaged in a piece of transport related consultancy work with North Ayrshire Council.

The Chair thanked appointed members for registering their interests and reminded members appointed by local authorities of the need to lodge a register of interests with the Partnership.

3. Minute of previous meeting

[Click here to view the minute](#)

The minute of the meeting of 17 December 2021 was submitted and approved as a correct record.

4. Committee Minutes

The minutes (issued) of the undernoted committees were noted and approved as an accurate record:

(a) Operations Committee of 28 January 2022;

(b) Strategy & Programmes Committee of 28 January 2022 and approved specifically the matter at Item 6 of the minute; and

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(c) Audit & Standards Committee of 18 February 2022.

5. Administrative Arrangements During Election Period

[Click here to view the report](#)

There was submitted a report (issued) of 28 February 2022 by the Chief Executive seeking agreement of the Partnership to the proposed administrative arrangements during the pre-election period between 25 March 2022 and the first meeting of the new Partnership (provisional date of 27 May 2022).

After hearing from Mrs Davidson, the Partnership approved the general delegation as outlined in the report for the pre-election period between 25 March 2022 and the first meeting of the new Partnership following the election on 5 May 2022.

6. Audit & Standards Committee annual report 2021/2022

[Click here to view the report](#)

There was submitted a report (issued) of 28 February 2022 by the Chief Executive providing the Partnership with an annual report detailing the work of the Audit & Standards Committee during 2021/2022.

After hearing from Mrs Davidson and from Cllr McGurk as Chair of the Audit & Standards Committee, the Partnership noted the Audit & Standards Committee annual report 2021/2022.

Cllr McGurk thanked the members of the Audit & Standards Committee for all their work and continued support to SPT's robust governance arrangements. The Chair thereafter extended thanks to Cllr McGurk.

7. Revenue Budget for 2022/23 – Update

[Click here to view the report](#)

There was submitted a report (issued) of 25 February 2022 by the Director of Finance & Corporate Support recommending the Partnership approve a balanced revenue budget for 2022/23, and note the risks and challenges of preparing a balanced budget during the current period of uncertainty. The report also highlighted the assumptions being made in the preparation of the budget, proposals for fees and charges and the proposed local authority requisition. In addition, members were asked to approve the amendment to the reserves policy, as recommended following consideration by the Strategy & Programmes Committee.

After extensive discussion and hearing from Mr Wylie in response to members' questions, particularly relating to the impact of the Under 22's travel scheme and the loss of income from the Covid support grant, the Partnership:

- (i) considered and approved the draft revenue budget for 2022/23 of £36.281m, with detail in Appendix 2 of the report;
- (ii) noted the cash reduction from local authority requisitions of 0.42%, with detail in Appendix 1;
- (iii) approved an increase to Subway fares effective from January 2023 as outlined in section 4 of the report;
- (iv) approved the update to the Reserves Policy in Appendix 3a of the report; and
- (v) noted the current and projected reserve balances as detailed in Appendix 3b of the report.

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8. Proposed Capital Plan 2022/23 to 2024/25 including the Capital Budget 2022/23

[Click here to view the report](#)

There was submitted a report (issued) of 1 March 2022 by the Director of Finance & Corporate Support asking the Partnership to consider and approve:

- (i) the proposed Capital Plan for financial years 2022/23 to 2024/25;
- (ii) the Capital Budget for financial year 2022/23; and
- (iii) to Grant Fund to the Local Authorities or other bodies as per Appendix 4 and authorise that grant award letters be concluded in line with approved governance arrangements.

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

- (i) approved the proposed Capital Plan for financial years 2022/23 to 2024/25;
- (ii) approved the Capital Budget for financial year 2022/23; and
- (iii) approved Grant Funds to the Local Authorities or other bodies as per Appendix 4 of the report and authorised that grant award letters be concluded in line with approved governance arrangements.

9. Treasury Management Strategy Statement, Annual Investment Strategy and Capital Strategy 2022/23

[Click here to view the report](#)

There was submitted a report (issued) of 1 March 2022 by the Director of Finance & Corporate Support:

- (i) updating members on treasury management processes;
- (ii) seeking approval for the proposed treasury management strategy and annual investment strategy for financial year 2022/23; and
- (iii) seeking approval for the proposed capital strategy which forms part of SPT's integrated revenue, capital and treasury management planning.

After hearing from Mr Wylie in response to members' questions, particularly relating to SPT's borrowing requirement levels, the Partnership approved:

- (i) the Treasury Management Strategy Statement and Annual Investment Strategy for financial year 2022/23;
- (ii) SPT's prudential indicators as detailed in the report;
- (iii) the Permitted Investment Types detailed in Appendix 1 of the report;
- (iv) the Counterparty List detailed in Appendix 3 of the report; and
- (v) the Capital Strategy.

10. Regional Transport Strategy – progress update

[Click here to view the report](#)

There was submitted a report (issued) of 21 February 2022 by the Chief Executive updating members on the development progress of the new Regional Transport Strategy (RTS).

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After extensive discussion around the need to ensure the RTS was explicit in highlighting an objective of reducing unnecessary car trips (where alternatives exist) and ensuring public transport reliability was a focus, and after hearing from Mr Kiloh and Mr Dickson in response to members' questions, the Partnership noted the report and that the consultation would commence in Summer 2022.

11. SPT Responses to Consultations by the Scottish Government and Transport Scotland

[Click here to view the report](#)

There was submitted a report (issued) of 22 February 2022 by the Chief Executive recommending the Partnership approve the proposed SPT responses to the following consultations:

- (i) Transport Scotland consultation on the Strategic Transport Projects Review 2 (STPR2) Phase 2 Recommendations (attached at Appendix A, closing date for responses is 15 April 2022);
- (ii) Scottish Government consultation on National Planning Framework 4 (NPF4) (Appendix B, closing date is 31 March 2022); and
- (iii) Transport Scotland's consultation (in partnership with the Convention of Scottish Local Authorities (COSLA)) on "A route map to achieve a 20 per cent reduction in car kilometres by 2030" (Appendix C, closing date is 6 April 2022).

After hearing from Mr Kiloh in response to members' questions, the Partnership noted the report and approved the draft responses as discussed at the meeting.

12. Climate Change and Carbon Management – SPT progress update

[Click here to view the report](#)

There was submitted a report (issued) of 1 March 2022 by the Chief Executive updating the Partnership on recent progress by SPT in relation to climate change and carbon management.

After extensive discussion and hearing from Mr Kiloh in response to members' questions, the Partnership noted the contents of the report.

13. Motherwell Rail Station Redevelopment and Town Centre Transport Interchange - Project Update

[Click here to view the report](#)

There was submitted a report (issued) of 23 February 2022 by the Chief Executive:

- (i) updating members on progress of the redevelopment of Motherwell Rail Station in conjunction with the Town Centre Transport Interchange project;
- (ii) highlighting the collaborative working approach that is helping oversee the delivery of the redeveloped station, transport interchange and related complementary measures; and
- (iii) providing an update on project funding.

After hearing from Mr Kiloh and Mrs Davidson in response to members' questions, including a specific issue on quality of materials raised by Cllr Cameron, the Partnership noted:

- (i) the significant works being undertaken at this regional hub; and
- (ii) the contribution of SPT to the funding and facilitation of the key stakeholders.

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14. Applications for grant funding: Community Transport

[Click here to view the report](#)

There was submitted a report (issued) of 24 February 2022 by the Chief Executive recommending the Partnership approve grant funding in support of projects provided by Community Transport operators across Strathclyde.

After hearing from Mr Dickson in response to members' questions, including a request that a future report be brought forward highlighting the work of community transport operators and the challenges they face, the Partnership approved the following items for the financial year of 2022/23:

- (i) grant funding of up to £82,291 to Coalfield Community Transport;
- (ii) grant funding of up to £425,261 to Community Transport Glasgow;
- (iii) grant funding of up to £133,944 to North Area Transport Association;
- (iv) grant funding of up to £203,942 to South Ayrshire Community Transport;
- (v) grant funding of up to £78,560 to South West Community Transport; and

In addition, the Partnership noted the following awards made under delegated powers:

- (i) grant funding of up to £25,000 to Ardgowan Hospice;
- (ii) grant funding of up to £25,000 to Blantyre Volunteer Group;
- (iii) grant funding of up to £32,500 to Community Central Halls;
- (iv) grant funding of up to £20,000 to Community Transport East Renfrewshire;
- (v) grant funding of up to £15,000 to East Kilbride Community Transport;
- (vi) grant funding of up to £36,000 to Getting Better Together;
- (vii) grant funding of up to £25,000 to Glenboig Development Trust;
- (viii) grant funding of up to £48,000 to Larkhall District Volunteer Group;
- (ix) grant funding of up to £10,000 to New Tannahill Centre;
- (x) grant funding of up to £10,000 to Port Glasgow Voluntary Trans-Port Group;
- (xi) grant funding of up to £6,000 to Renfrewshire Council SOOPIR Bus;
- (xii) grant funding of up to £36,000 to Rural Development Trust; and
- (xiii) grant funding of up to £25,000 to West Dunbartonshire Council;

noting all grants were subject to appropriate governance checks being carried out.

15. Real Time Passenger Information — Provision of Electronic Displays – Framework Contract Award

[Click here to view the report](#)

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There was submitted a report (issued) of 2 March 2022 by the Chief Executive recommending the Partnership approve the award a contract for the supply of new Real Time Passenger Information displays.

After hearing from Mr Dickson and Mr Wylie in response to members' questions, the Partnership approved the award of a framework agreement to Ferrograph Ltd for the supply and installation of RTPI passenger display signs, with an estimated contract value of up to £1,858,240 over 4 years, with the option to extend for a further two years if considered appropriate.

Chair's Closing Remarks

The Chair concluded the Partnership by acknowledging the excellent work discussed at the meeting which highlighted a snapshot of all the work going on behind the scenes and extended thanks to all SPT staff, members, the Vice Chairs, the Chief Executive, SPT's stakeholders, the local authorities, Transport Scotland, the Scottish Government and the community transport organisations. Thereafter, the Chair wished everyone well for and beyond the local government elections on 5 May 2022.