

Covid-19 response - SPT update

Operations Committee

30 April 2021



- Moved to Level 3 on 26 April
- Current, up to date picture of SPT's response / Key issues
- Emerging trends / external factors
- Current focus / future...

- All SPT operations remain open for business
- Non-operational / corporate - Working from Home
- Updated Government guidance
- Reconvened Transport Transition group
- Comms – social media
- Support for staff, including regular all staff emails
- Funding



The image shows a screenshot of a tweet from SPTCorporate (@SPTCorporate) dated April 18. The tweet text reads: "6 people from 6 different households, plus children under 12, can now meet outdoors in Scotland. We're moving in the right direction but remember meeting indoors isn't allowed yet. We've come too far. We're not giving in. Check the protection levels at gov.scot". Below the text is a promotional image featuring a young man with a mohawk hairstyle. The image contains the text: "I'm meeting no more than 5 people outdoors." and "I'm not giving in." Logos for "Healthier Scotland Scottish Government" and "NHS SCOTLAND" are visible in the bottom left and right corners of the image, respectively. Below the tweet are icons for replies, retweets (1), and likes (1). At the bottom of the screenshot is a browser window showing the URL "http://spt.intranet.uk/about/staff-benefits/counselling-advice/" and the page title "Counselling & Advice | SPT Intra...".

Staff Benefits

Counselling & Advice

Talk in confidence with professional counsellors or specialists – 24 hours, 365 days – with the Employee Assistance Programme (EAP).

Calls from the UK are on the 0800 tariff which is free from most landlines. The 0330 tariff is free from most mobile phones with free minutes included in the contract (please check with your supplier for confirmation).

Confidentiality

The service is confidential and operates to a strict code of ethics. Your employer will receive general statistical information from us which in no way identifies you as an individual, but provides evidence of the value of the service.

Confidentiality is only broken if you or someone else is in danger of being harmed by your, or someone else's, actions or you are a danger to the

- No closures, at all, due to Covid-19
- Passenger numbers pre-Covid typically 35,000 to 40,000 per day
- Since March 2020, numbers have been as low as c.1,200 and as high as c.16,000 (currently c.15,000). Unfortunately anti-social behaviour, proportionally to patronage, is high
- Service has been trimmed at points to avoid unnecessary exposure, costs, wear and tear
- Full and regular risk assessments undertaken to allow staff and operations to continue. Enhanced cleaning in all staff and passenger areas, including trains. In addition, successful engagements with HSE, the Office of Road & Rail (ORR), and GCC's Environmental department on behalf of Public Health Scotland
- Subway Modernisation has continued, albeit slower, but it has continued



- Continued operation
- Supported bus services – patronage levels around 45-50% of pre-Covid levels – circa 50,000 per week.
- This week – commercial bus services 55-65% of pre-Covid levels.
- MyBus – usage going up
- Schools fully back w/b 19 April
- Buchanan Bus Station – services busy (but with physical distancing)
- Vaccination centres / hospitals
- Anti-social behaviour – on bus, at stations.
- Regular TS / operator liaison



- COVID19 Transport, Travel and Social Adaptation Study – University of Leeds. co-funders include Transport Scotland and SPT.
- Survey of over 6,000 people across UK.
- “At a crossroads – Travel adaptations during Covid-19 restrictions and where next?” report published March 2021.
- Calls for “a major realignment of investment and policy to ensure that we do not return to the overcrowded, congested, polluting and unhealthy transport system that people had come to accept as inevitable.”
- More results over coming year – further surveys, interviews, business / employees.



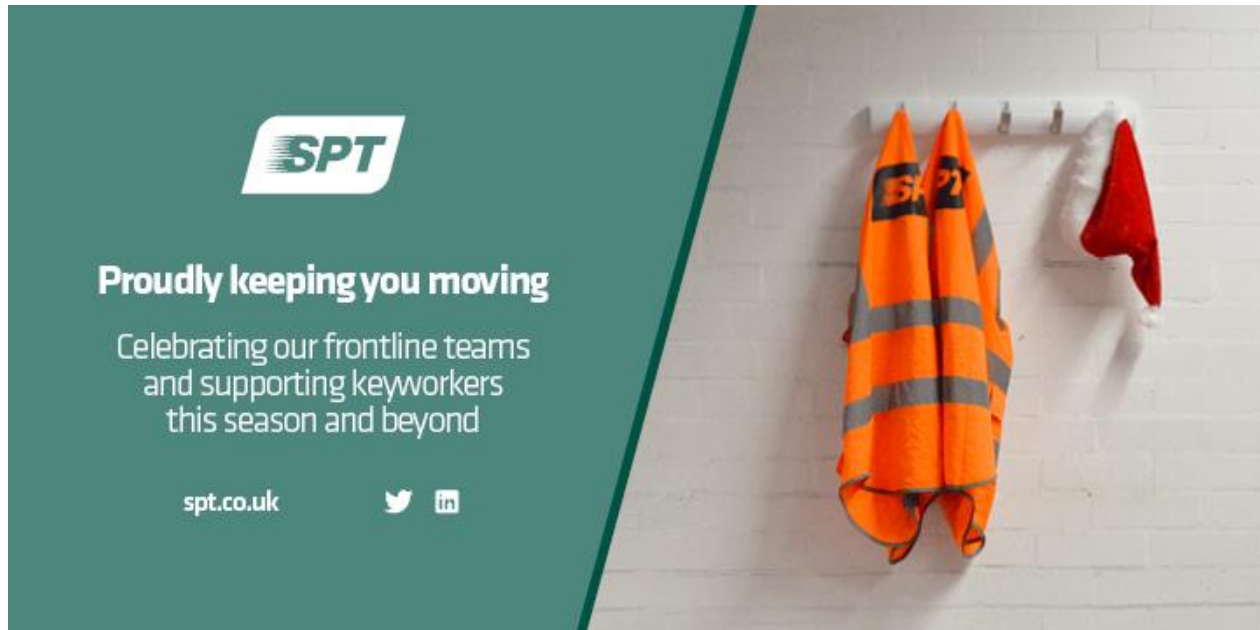
Credit: Marsden, G., Anable, J., Docherty, I. and Brown, L. 2021
At a crossroads: Travel adaptations during Covid-19 restrictions and where next? Centre for Research into Energy Demand Solutions. Oxford, UK. ISBN: 978-1-913299-07-1

- **20% more people walking regularly** now than pre-pandemic
- **Bus is a critical service** - 60% of people using bus for essential trips during pandemic had no other means of transport available.
- **Car use 70% of pre-pandemic levels**
- Pre-pandemic **car commuters (driver/passenger)** least likely to WFH.
- **Future levels of WFH dependent on structure of local and regional economy**, variations across UK.
- Opportunity to **re-think the balance** of retail, office, residential and recreational space **in our town and city centres**.
- Direction of **post-pandemic recovery** has yet to settle – **how ‘green’ will it be?** Building back better, **building back differently**.



The Scotsman, Thursday 29 April 2021

Caveat to all the above – future is still very uncertain.



- Operational and project delivery
- Move to Level 2 / updated guidance / return to offices...
- Funding / Covid support grant
- Transport Transition group
- Euro2020 / COP26
- Bus Partnership Fund – June
- STPR2
- Regional Transport Strategy – Case for Change consultation underway