

Partnership minute



Strathclyde Partnership for Transport

Minute of meeting

29 September 2023

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

Contact:
Jim Griffin

jim.griffin@spt.co.uk

Minute of the meeting of the Strathclyde Partnership for Transport held at 131 St Vincent Street, Glasgow and via Video Conference* at 10am on 29 September 2023

- Present** Councillors Stephen Dornan (Chair), Ken Andrew, Andy Steel (Substitute), Maureen Devlin, *Mark Horsham, *William Lennox, Michael McPake, Holly Bruce (Substitute), *Malcolm Mitchell, Alan Moir, Donald Reid, *William Sinclair, *Adam Smith, *Duncan Townson (connection issues), David Wilson and appointed members Greg Beecroft, *Jenna Dickson, *George Hazel, Ed McGrachan and Andrew Walters.
- Attending** Neil Wylie, Director of Finance & Corporate Support; Bruce Kiloh, Head of Policy & Planning; Gordon Dickson, Head of Bus Strategy & Delivery; Jim Griffin, Senior Solicitor; Amy Sullivan, Solicitor 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 re-iterated to the Partnership that the meeting would be recorded and potentially viewed multiple times. The Partnership members noted this.

1. Apologies

Apologies were submitted from Councillors Owen O'Donnell, Christy Mearns, Roza Salih, Jim Paterson and appointed members Kirsty Orr and Anne Follin.

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

Cllr Moir declared an interest citing his employment with Scotrail and as a member of ASLEF, the trade union.

Jenna Dickson declared an interest citing her employment with Scotrail Holdings Ltd.

3. Minute of previous meeting

[Click here to view the minute](#)

The minute of the meeting of 23 June 2023 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 25 August 2023;
- (b) Strategy & Programmes Committee of 8 September; and
- (c) Audit & Standards Committee of 8 September.

5. Update on Membership

[Click here to view the report](#)

There was submitted a report (issued) of 8 September 2023 by the Chief Executive / Partnership Secretary providing the Partnership with an update on membership changes as notified by constituent Councils since the last Partnership meeting of 23 June 2023.

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After hearing from Mr Wylie, the Partnership noted the change of membership notified to SPT from West Dunbartonshire Council and the updated Committee Representation document at Appendix 1 of the report.

6. Annual Accounts 2022/2023

[Click here to view the report](#)

There was submitted a report (issued) of 11 September 2023 by the Director of Finance & Corporate Support asking the Partnership, to ensure compliance with the Local Authority Accounts (Scotland) Regulations 2014, to consider the audited annual accounts and approve them for signature. The annual accounts are required to be signed no later than 30 September immediately following the financial year end.

After hearing from Mr Wylie in response to members' questions, the Partnership approved the signing of SPT's financial statements for the year ending 31 March 2023.

7. Regional Transport Strategy – Approval by Scottish Ministers

[Click here to view the report](#)

There was submitted a report (issued) of 7 September 2023 by the Chief Executive updating the Partnership on the approval of the Regional Transport Strategy (RTS) by Scottish Ministers.

After discussion and hearing from Mr Kiloh in response to members' questions, the Partnership noted the formal approval of the RTS by Scottish Ministers, thanking the team for all their hard work and continued efforts in producing a robust Strategy document.

8. Strathclyde Regional Bus Strategy and Delivery Plan: Case for Change

[Click here to view the report](#)

There was submitted a report (issued) of 11 September 2023 by the Chief Executive updating the Partnership on the Case for Change for the Strathclyde Regional Bus Strategy and Delivery Plan (SRBS) and the next steps in the process to develop the RTS.

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

- (i) this was an evidence-based report confirming the current state of the bus market in the West of Scotland;
- (ii) that such evidence was critical in supporting any future decisions on change;
- (iii) that the importance of bus and bus integration with other modes was now recognised as critical to the success of national bus transport policy; and
- (iv) the need to stress that continued engagement with all local authorities and stakeholders was essential, the Partnership noted:
 - (i) the contents of this report;
 - (ii) the initial findings of the SRBS Case for Change in section 3 of the report; and
 - (iii) the next steps in the SRBS programme as detailed in section 3 of the report.

9. Lease of Units 5 & 6 Buchanan Bus Station

It was proposed that the press and public be excluded for Item 9 above, it being considered that otherwise there would be disclosure to them of exempt information in terms of paragraph 9 of Schedule 7a to the Local Government (Scotland) Act 1973.

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There was submitted a report (issued) and approved of 13 September 2023 by the Director of Finance & Corporate Support recommending Partnership approve that the Director of Finance & Corporate Support in consultation with the SPT Legal & Property department conclude negotiations and enter into for a lease period of 15 years, in respect of Units 5&6 Buchanan Bus Station as detailed in the report presented.