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Glasgow Bus Partnership Steering Group Meeting

Minutes of Meeting

29th March 2021 – 2:30pm to 4:00pm

MS Teams Call

Attendees:

Independent Chair: Joan Aitken (JA)
GCC: George Vincent (GV)
Christine Francis (CF)
Steve Gray (SG)
Marshall Poulton (MP)
Stephen Macleod (SML)
Lindsay Richardson (LR)
SLC: Colin Park (CP)
EDC: Thomas McMenamin (TM)
Inverclyde / WDC: Gail MacFarlane (GM)
ERC: Jane Corrie (JC)
Renfrewshire: Gerard Hannah (GH)
SPT: Bruce Kiloh (BK)
Donald Booth (DB)
Gordon Dickson (GDK)
FirstGroup: Andrew Jarvis (AJ)
Duncan Cameron (DC)
John Dowie (JD)
McGills: Ralph Roberts (RR)
Colin Napier (CN)
West Coast Motors: Sharon Morrison (SMO)
Colin Craig (CC)
Murray Rodgers (MR)
BUS: Greig Mackay (GM)
Community Transport: Graham Dunn (GDN)
Stagecoach: Fiona Docherty (FD)
Fraser Smith (FS)
TS: Peter Grant (PG)
Sustrans: Michael Melton (MM)
AECOM: Richie Fraser (RF)
Andy Pike (AP)

Apologies:

Nicole Paterson, NLC
Jim McGuire, NLC
Lucia Webster, Transport Scotland

Item	Discussion/Decision	Actions
1.	Welcome and apologies.	
2.	Minutes of last meeting 15 March, and any matters arising not otherwise on the agenda <ul style="list-style-type: none">MP presented summary report which went to City Region Chief Executives Group (CEG) last Thursday (25 March). CEG very supportive of the document; overwhelming support. It was requested by the Group that the branding be changed to 'Glasgow City Region Connect'. The summary report will be presented next Tuesday to the City Region Cabinet.	MP
3.	Transport Scotland update <ul style="list-style-type: none">PG had no particular update from Transport Scotland to report.MP had a quick query: conscious of getting letters of political support soon. Asked PG if he needs schedule of electronic signatures to support bid document. PG to double check before taking it further and will come back to MP.LR has drafted letter on behalf of the Leader Cllr Susan Aitken to support the bid.	PG

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<p>4.</p>	<p>Bus Priority Rapid Deployment Fund</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SG reported that formal acceptance of the money has taken time and this has been challenging to Councils. All neighbouring authorities have been experiencing similar issues. • DC asked SG if there were 16 schemes in total. SG said he will get the exact list. • DC commented that the lack of progress was disappointing and it was important lessons were learned through this group. • JA mentioned that time is tight and there is a need to get all parts of the Council focussed on the deadline. • AJ mentioned that spaces for people was rapidly deployed. However, getting people on buses has been challenging. • GV agreed that we all need to have a lessons learned exercise from spaces for people approach. • SG said that the TS draft terms and conditions have been forwarded onto the Council's legal team. • JA requested that colleagues in other local authorities should be aware of highlighting any potential issues to their legal team. • MP highlighted that the next Transport Transition Group meeting is scheduled for Friday 16 April 2021. 	<p align="center">SG</p>
<p>5.</p>	<p>Bus Partnership Update</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • GV confirmed that the bid document has been issued for feedback. Responses should be returned by this Thursday (1 April 2021). • AP highlighted the areas he is looking for input on: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) operators investing in vehicles 2) Ask all authorities what can they achieve in first year? (i.e. easy wins) 3) Comments on detail and formatting: who this bid is coming from? It currently says GCC on behalf of the GBP – need to put one (lead) authority forward; clarity required on bid and if there are things that should be prioritised; lack of clarity on corridors that would extend into other local authorities and how far they go. • AP asked attendees if the 'prioritising people' strapline should be adopted. JA said we should stick with it and emphasised its importance. • CP stressed that the context of the 'bus umbrella' is clear as 'prioritising people' could mean anything. 	
<p>6</p>	<p>Glas-Go Glasgow City Region Bus Operator Alliance</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • JA invited AJ to present the Glas-Go document to attendees. • Summary of Glas-Go document presented by AJ: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Operators recognised the need for an 'alliance' ○ Document sets out what bus users want, what operators will do, its commitments and improving ticketing method. ○ Sets out what partners/local authorities need to do as well ○ Operator vision post-covid and what it would look like – need to be careful easing out of lockdown to avoid a 'shock' ○ Key shared deliverables set out: network coverage is critical – maximising this is key ○ Emphasised cross-boundary progress to deliver seamless improvements ○ Seeks London-style "Red Routes" through main city corridors ○ Discussed integrated ticketing system and need of support from other partners (Scotrail, Subway, Transport Scotland etc) on 'oyster' approach • AP highlighted that he tried to draw out the ticketing aspects with Cllr Richardson who was very impressed • There was a discussion around end-to-end journey time savings. RR highlighted the foundation stone of the GBP is the need to improve journey times in the city centre and that ambitious targets should be set. • JD advised that journey time savings would be achieved by not only on-street measures but by on-board measures too. • JA supported JD/RR and challenged the Group to be ambitious. • CF mentioned the possibility of setting targets potentially becoming grant conditions which may lead to problems further down the line. • GDK said it would be useful to include 'up to' before targets as reliability is important. • RR stressed the need that this document should include ambitious targets and that 50% target has been mentioned in the past. 	

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	The discussion was drawn to a conclusion with the Partnership agreeing with a 50% target for journey time savings in the peak hour, recognising that it was a target which we would aim to achieve. How the target will be achieved will be better understood when the business case is developed.	
7	Promoting the Partnership <ul style="list-style-type: none">• LR said Transport Scotland are quite keen to support any release with political support post-election. Action: LR is investigating to prepare something around April that is non-political.• RF requested the logos of operators for the bid document.• Agreed that bus operators as part of the Glas-go bus alliance should also be offered to attend future meetings.	LR SG
8	AOCB <ul style="list-style-type: none">• None	
9	Date of Next Meeting: Monday 12 April 2021 2:30pm – 4:00pm	

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