

Bus Partnership – Update noted.

3 With reference to the minutes of 4th February 2020 (Print 6, page 474) noting the Transport (Scotland) Act 2019, which contained fundamental changes in the way that bus services could be delivered, there was submitted and noted a report on the Bus Partnership in light of the publication of the Act, advising

- (1) that in November 2019, the Scottish Government published the new Transport (Scotland) Act 2019 and included terms which, under certain circumstances, local authorities could operate their own bus service and also provided for the introduction of bus franchises;
- (2) that the Act had removed the ability to introduce Statutory Quality Partnerships (SQP), of which 7 had been put in place in the Glasgow region, or in the event of market failure, Quality Contracts (QC), and in their place was the ability to form a Bus Service Improvement Partnership (BSIP);
- (3) of the creation, development and collaborative working of the Glasgow Bus Partnership (GBP) between the Council and bus industry leaders;
- (4) of the opportunity to create a more formal partnership using the BSIP process which would start the process of developing an investment programme required to deliver suitable bus priority measures, which would seek to improve bus services in and around Glasgow and would be complementary to other city initiatives; and
- (5) of the establishment of a Bus Partnership Fund of up to £500m and that detailed guidance anticipated in May 2020 would give the new BSIP clarity on the scope of funding timescales and priorities.