
SOUTH WEST OF SCOTLAND TRANSPORT PARTNERSHIP

Meeting of Friday 15 July 2016
at 10.30am at Miners Memorial Hall, Needle Street, Kirkconnel, DG4 6ND

Present

Members

Tom McAughtrie (Chairman)	-	Dumfries and Galloway Council
David Bryson (Vice-Chairman)	-	External Member
Richard Brodie	-	Dumfries and Galloway Council
Denis Male	-	Dumfries and Galloway Council
John Syme	-	Dumfries and Galloway Council

Officials and Advisers

Josef Coombey	-	Policy & Projects Officer
Steven Herriott	-	Lead Officer
Douglas Kirkpatrick	-	Service Manager (Sustainable Travel)
Claire Rogerson	-	Secretary to the Board
Janet Sutton	-	Finance Officer

Apologies

Marion McCutcheon	-	Dumfries and Galloway Council
Alistair McKinnon	-	External Member

Observers

Frazer Durie	-	Network Rail
June Hay	-	Outdoor Access Forum
Hugh McCreadie	-	Lochside & Woodlands Community Council

In Attendance

Martin Brown	-	Beattock Station Group
Joanne Gray	-	Transport Scotland
Dougie McDonald	-	Partner, Peter Brett Associates LLP
Ron McLean	-	Beattock Station Group
Emily Seaman	-	Principal Transport Planner, Peter Brett Associates

1. SEDERUNT AND APOLOGIES

5 Members present, 2 apologies.

2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

NONE declared.

3. MINUTES OF MEETING ON 13 MAY 2016

Decision

APPROVED.

4. SCOTTISH STATIONS FUND STAG PRE-APPRAISALS

A presentation (**Appendix**) was provided to the Board by Peter Brett Associates LLP on the STAG Pre-Appraisal Outcomes for Thornhill, Eastriggs, Dunragit / Glenluce and Beattock / Moffat Sustainable Transport Options.

Decision

The Board:-

4.1 **NOTED** the four STAG Pre-appraisals undertaken by Peter Brett Associates; and

4.2 **AGREED** to progress the Thornhill, Eastriggs and Beattock / Moffat areas proportionately through the next stage of the STAG process in relation to the development of a potential bid to the Scottish Stations Fund.

5. LEAD OFFICER ARRANGEMENTS

Decision

The Board:-

5.1 **APPOINTED** Douglas Kirkpatrick as Lead Officer for SWestrans, effective from 15 July 2016 following this meeting; and

5.2 **AGREED** that the terms of the current Protocol for Provision of Lead Officer remains in place, with the substitution of Transportation Manager for Head of Integrated Transport and Commissioning.

6. REVENUE BUDGET OUTTURN REPORT 2015/16

Decision

The Board **NOTED** the draft financial outturn for 2015/16 and that a break even position was achieved.

7. UNAUDITED ACCOUNTS 2015/16

Decision

The Board **HOMOLOGATED** the decision of the Lead Officer, in consultation with the Chairman and Vice-Chairman and **NOTED** the unaudited Annual accounts for the financial year ended 31 March 2016 which will be submitted to the Board's external auditors for review.

8. SWESTRANS CAPITAL PROGRAMME 2015/16

Decision

The Board **NOTED** the outturn position on the 2015/16 SWestrans Capital Programme.

9. SWESTRANS CAPITAL EXPENDITURE PROGRAMME 2016/17

Decision

The Board **AGREED** :-

9.1 the Capital Programme for 2016/17 as outlined in the Appendix to the report;

9.2 the increase in contribution from £40K to £50K for the Sanquhar PUDO (Pick Up Drop Off); and

9.3 a contribution of £3K to Ruthwell and Clarencefield Community Council for the provision of a bus shelter at Ruthwell.

10. RAIL UPDATE

Decision

The Board:-

NOTED

10.1 the introduction of new CCTV systems at both Kirkconnel station and Sanquhar station;

10.2 the recent publications on the development of High Speed Rail in Scotland;

10.3 the support and debate for re-opening the Dumfries to Lockerbie Railway line and further noted the Chair's intention to respond to the negative response from the group highlighted in recent press articles;

10.4 **AGREED** that officers positively engage with the group seeking to re-open the rail line from Dumfries to Lockerbie and to receive a further report on this matter; and

10.5 **NOTED** the response from Scotrail regarding the first South West of Scotland Regional Rail Forum.

11. INTERCITY WEST COAST FRANCHISE CONSULTATION

The Board were advised that correspondence had been received from Observer to the Board Graham Whiteley on this matter.

Mr Whiteley suggested that SWestrans should oppose any attempt to reduce journey times by removing lesser used stops and that although InterCity West Coast only uses Lockerbie at the end of the day, these stops should be protected. Other issues highlighted would be to include comment on better on-train visibility for reservations, and the need to replace existing electric stock of larger capacity vehicles.

Decision

The Board:-

11.1 **NOTED** the Department for Transport Consultation on rail services in the next InterCity West Coast Franchise; and

11.2 **AGREED** that the response attached as the Appendix to the report, as amended to reflect the feedback provided from Observer Graham Whiteley, be submitted to the "Consultation: InterCity West Coast Rail Franchise: Moving Britain Ahead".

12. REGIONAL TRANSPORT STRATEGY REFRESH

Decision

The Board **AGREED** to undertake a refresh of the Regional Transport Strategy following the process set out in section 4 of the report, subject to an amendment to the timeline being that the final refreshed strategy be presented to this current board and that if required an additional meeting be arranged for April 2017.

13. REHAPING LOCAL BUS SERVICES – SEMINAR / PROCUREMENT

Decision

The Board **NOTED**:-

13.1 the postponement and rescheduled date of the seminar to Saturday 20 August 2016; and

13.2 the amended procurement timetable to enable contracts to be in place for April 2017.

14. LOCAL BUS SERVICES – UPDATE

Decision

The Board:-

NOTED

14.1 the amended timetable on route 95/ X95 Galashiels to Carlisle with effect from 15 August 2016;

14.2 that any changes to such commercial coach journeys are out with the control SWestrans and/or Dumfries and Galloway Council, and agreed that their significant concern on any loss of connectivity from Dumfries and Galloway is conveyed in the strongest terms to the Managing Director of National Express through a letter from the Chairman; and

14.3 **AGREED** the contribution of £36,699 per year to SPT for local bus service 358 Girvan to Stranraer.

15. EXTERNAL BOARD MEMBER – NHS DUMFRIES AND GALLOWAY**Decision**

The Board **NOTED** that the Minister had now approved the continuation of David Bryson's membership of the SWestrans Board on behalf of NHS Dumfries and Galloway.

16. CALENDAR OF MEETINGS**Decision**

The Board approved the change of location from Cairnryan to Newton Stewart for 23 September 2016 Board meeting.

17. OBSERVERS UPDATE – STAGECOACH SCOTLAND AND DUMFRIES AND GALLOWAY THIRD SECTOR INTERFACE**Decision**

The Board **APPROVED**:-

17.1 the appointment of Fraser Smith as an Observer to the Board; and

17.2 the appointment of Sharon Ogilvie as an Observer to the Board.

18. ANY OTHER BUSINESS WHICH THE CHAIRMAN MAY DECIDE IS URGENT DUE TO THE NEED FOR A DECISION**Decision**

The Board **NOTED** that there was other business deemed urgent by the Chairman due to the need for a decision.