

Public and Active Transport Committee MINUTES

Minutes of an ordinary meeting of the Public Transport Committee held in the Council Chamber, Level 2 Philip Laing House, 144 Rattray Street, Dunedin on Wednesday, 22 February 2023, commencing at 9:30 AM.

PRESENT

Cr Alexa Forbes *(Co-Chairperson)*
Cr Andrew Noone *(Co-Chairperson)*
Cr Gary Kelliher (online)
Cr Kevin Malcolm
Cr Lloyd McCall
Cr Tim Mephram
Cr Gretchen Robertson
Cr Alan Somerville
Cr Elliot Weir
Cr Kate Wilson

1. WELCOME

Co-Chairperson Forbes welcomed Councillors, members of the public and staff to the meeting at 9:40 am and led the meeting in a karakia. Staff present included Pim Borren, (interim Chief Executive), Nick Donnelly (GM Corporate Services), Richard Saunders (GM Regulatory and Communications), Amanda Vercoe (GM Governance, Culture and Customer), Liz Spector (Governance Support), Lorraine Cheyne (Manager Transport), Julian Phillips (Implementation Lead - Transport), Doug Rodgers (interim Manager Transport, contractor).

2. APOLOGIES

Resolution: Cr Noone Moved, Cr Wilson Seconded:

That the apologies for Cr Laws, Cr Scott be accepted.

MOTION CARRIED

3. CONFIRMATION OF AGENDA

The agenda was confirmed as presented.

4. PUBLIC FORUM

No requests to speak under Public Forum were received.

5. CONFLICT OF INTEREST

No conflicts of interest were advised.

6. MATTERS FOR CONSIDERATION

6.1. Public Transport Patronage report

This report updated the Committee on the year-to-date performance of its public transport (bus and ferry) and total mobility services, for the first 6 months of the 2022/23 Financial Year, 1 July 2022 to 31 December 2022. Doug Rodgers (interim Manager Transport, contractor), Lorraine Cheyne (Manager Transport) and Julian Philips (Implementation Lead Transport) were present to respond to questions about the report.

Following questions and a discussion of the report, Cr Noone moved:

Resolution PAT23-101: Cr Noone Moved, Cr Wilson Seconded

That the Committee:

- 1) **Notes** this report.
- 2) **Requests** the CEO and Chairs of the Public and Active Transport Committee meet and develop strategic KPIs for Public Transport reporting to be presented to Council for adoption with the Annual Plan.

MOTION CARRIED

Cr Noone left the meeting at 10:29 am.

6.2. Palmerston route patronage report

This report was provided to update the Committee on the success of route 1 changes implemented in May 2022 (Dunedin to Palmerston) to date. Doug Rodgers (interim Manager Transport, contractor), Lorraine Cheyne (Manager Transport) and Julian Philips (Implementation Lead Transport) were present to respond to questions about the report.

Following Councillor questions about how costs and revenue for trips were calculated, and if there was a way to make concessions for Gold Card Users to use the route during weekend trips, Cr Wilson noted it would be useful to have measures for carbon footprint reduction. Staff agreed to follow up on the questions.

Cr Wilson then moved:

Resolution PAT23-102: Cr Wilson Moved, Cr Somerville Seconded

That the Committee:

- 1) **Notes** this report.
- 2) **Notes** that a further staff report will be provided showing the performance of the service in 12 months.

MOTION CARRIED

6.3. Unit 5 Public Transport Contract Extension

This report sought the Committee's recommendation to Council for approval of a variation to the existing passenger transport service contract "Unit 5 Southern Routes", extending the expiry date from Sunday 30 June 2023 to 30 June 2024 as well as introducing certain service level changes. Doug Rodgers, Lorraine Cheyne and Julian Philips were present to respond to questions.

Cr Wilson enquired if approving the variation request would have a budget impact to the current Annual Plan work and Mr Phillips said there was no impact as the cost was the same as being paid currently, merely extended for a slightly longer period.

There were no further questions and Councillor Malcolm moved:

Resolution PAT23-103: Cr Malcolm Moved, Cr Wilson Seconded

That the Public and Active Transport Committee:

- 1) **Notes** this report.
- 2) **Notes** that Council previously approved a service level variation to route 77 weekday peak frequencies and coverage and the addition of a weekday peak express service.
- 3) **Recommends Council approval** of a variation to the Unit 5 Southern Routes passenger transport services contract expiry date, from 30 June 2023 to 30 June 2024, which will incorporate the previously approved service level variation.
- 4) **Recommends Council to authorise** the Chief Executive to sign the variation on behalf of Council.

MOTION CARRIED

6.4. Queenstown Public Transport Business Case Progress

This report informed Councillors of the progress and status of the Queenstown Public Transport Business Case (QPTBC), including the scope of works, the partner and stakeholder engagement approach, project timeframes, and proposed requirements of Councillors and the Public and Active Transport Committee. Doug Rodgers, Lorraine Cheyne, and Julian Philips were present to respond to questions.

Councillors asked questions about how to integrate active transport into the QPTBC, allowing users to bicycle to a point, and securely store the bikes at a location prior to boarding a bus or ferry. Mr Rodgers indicated all transport choices will be embedded into the plan. Interim Chief Executive Pim Borren also said the Business Case will cover every aspect of transport and how they interact. Mr Rodgers noted that active travel was not included as part of the original plan and Cr Forbes asked that staff ensure it is included and that the public be able to engage on this option.

Following a further discussion, Cr Wilson moved:

Resolution PAT23-104: Cr Wilson Moved, Cr Weir Seconded

That the Committee:

- 1) **Notes** this report.
- 2) **Notes** Otago Regional Council has endorsed the QPTBC scope.
- 3) **Notes** the project is to address what the Queenstown public transport system will look like over the next 30 years taking into consideration future growth, and relevant policies and plans, including the Government's Emission Reduction Plan. It will set out funding required for the 2024 - 2034 Long-Term Plan funding period and beyond.
- 4) **Notes** the approach to engagement with partners, stakeholders, and the wider community.
- 5) **Notes** the project timeframes with the project to be complete by Q4 2023.

MOTION CARRIED

Cr Noone returned to the meeting at 11:03 am.

6.5. Queenstown Public Transport Business Case - Engagement Plan

This report was provided to seek the Committee's recommendation for Council approval for the Stage 2 Engagement Plan for the Queenstown Public Transport Business Case currently underway. Doug Rodgers, Lorraine Cheyne, and Julian Philips were present to respond to questions about the report.

Cr Wilson asked for assurance that a park and ride facility that provided for passenger vehicles as well as bicycles was included. Mr Rodgers said they would be. Cr Noone noted that the financial considerations noted in the report indicated the ORC was tracking within the expected budget. He asked if the LTP provided for assumption and funding requirements for this project. Nick Donnelly (General Manager Corporate Services) said as the results of the business case were not known at the time of the LTP adoption, there were only placeholders for the project in the LTP.

Cr Weir asked how the engagement would be undertaken to allow all the community to participate. Interim CE Pim Borren noted that General Manager Governance, Culture & Customer Amanda Vercoe was currently leading a project on how best to engage. He said this work would help the ORC understand best practices for engagement and to put them into effect.

Cr Wilson then noted that expansion of Public Transport into the regions provides an opportunity for Council. She noted the growth experienced by the Queenstown area was also felt in Cromwell and other communities and there should be the potential to include the region with a wider scope. Mr Rodgers said expanding this Business Case into a more regional effort

wasn't possible at this time, however he noted if the engagement received raises this issue, the ORC should be obligated to follow up.

There were no further questions, and Cr Malcolm moved:

Resolution PAT23-105: Cr Malcolm Moved, Cr Wilson Seconded


That the Public and Active Transport Committee:

- 1) **Notes** this report.
- 2) **Recommends Council Approval** of the Engagement Plan.

MOTION CARRIED

7. CLOSURE

There was no further business and Co-Chair Forbes declared the meeting closed at 11:23 am.



Chairperson

10 May 2023

Date