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*Glasgow Commonwealth Games Bill Team
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Dear Sirs

Consultation on Draft Glasgow Commonwealth Games Bill

Strathclyde Partnership for Transport (SPT) thanks the Scottish Government for the opportunity to comment on the Draft Commonwealth Games Bill. SPT are supportive of the aims of the Bill. We do, however, have a number of specific comments – these are contained in Appendix A and seek to ensure the development and delivery of a fully effective Games Transport Plan.

SPT is the statutory transport authority for the area in which the Games would take place. SPT has planning, operational and co-ordination responsibilities for the regional transport network, including integrated ticketing, providing travel information in timetables and on bus infrastructure, operating bus stations, providing integrated transport, supporting bus services, operating contracted services for school transport on behalf of its member councils and operating the Subway. SPT has a specific role in monitoring the operation of bus networks and ensuring that services operate in accordance with the requirements of the Traffic Commissioner as detailed in Road Traffic Order Conditions. We believe that SPT's operational experience is a significant resource which can contribute to the successful delivery of the Games Transport Plan (GTP).

SPT fully supports the Glasgow bid for the Commonwealth Games 2014. This would bring significant leisure, social and economic benefits to not only the city and surrounding area, but Scotland as a whole. An effective and efficient transport system for the 'Games family' and visitors will be essential if the Games are to be a success. SPT hopes to play a major part in the preparation and operation of the Games Transport Plan (GTP), working in partnership with our member councils and others. We welcome the commitments in the Candidate City File and in particular the commitment to work in partnership with Strathclyde Partnership for Transport and look forward to the successful passage of the Games Bill.

Theme 13 within "People Place Passion", the Candidate City File produced by Glasgow 2014 Ltd acknowledges that trip generation and wider transport impacts arising from the Games are likely to extend throughout the city's public transport network and beyond Glasgow's boundaries. SPT is therefore ideally placed to play a pivotal role in coordinating and implementing the GTP.

SPT also has significant recent experience in planning and providing transport for major events. SPT secured, co-ordinated, and managed the transport arrangements for the police at the G8 Gleneagles Summit in July 2005. SPT also organised transport for fans attending the UEFA Cup final between Sevilla FC and RCD Espanyol at Hampden Park in May. In addition, SPT regularly coordinates integrated ticketing for delegates attending major conferences in Glasgow.

The Glasgow Commonwealth Games bid is supported by SPT's Final Draft of the Regional Transport Strategy for the West of Scotland 2007 – 21. This statutory document was submitted to Scottish Ministers in March 2007 and encompasses the period of the Games. In recognition of the central role of the Organising Committee, we believe that Section 31 of the Draft Bill should be amended to ensure that, as the regional transport partnership, SPT is formally consulted on the GTP (suggested wording proposed in Appendix A).

Given our comments above and in Appendix A, we would also welcome representation at the Bill's hearing.

If you have any queries regarding our comments, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours sincerely

Ron Culley
Chief Executive

Enc Appendix A

APPENDIX A

SPT Comments on Consultation Draft of Glasgow Commonwealth Games Bill

Section of Bill	SPT Comment
31 (1)	<p>We would welcome the inclusion of provision for SPT, as the statutory Regional Transport Partnership for the area in which the Games will take place, to have powers conferred upon it which will ensure the effective and efficient co-ordination and implementation of the Games Transport Plan, in line with the provisions of Section 10 of the Transport (Scotland) Act 2005.</p> <p>SPT would recommend that provision is made within the Bill to ensure that, in preparing the Games Transport Plan, the responsible authority has due regard to the statutory Regional Transport Strategy and Development Plan for the area in which the Games takes place. SPT will reflect the needs of the Games Transport Plan in any future revisions to the Regional Transport Strategy. Similarly, we would recommend that the Games Transport Plan has due regard to the Regional Transport Strategy, including any future revisions.</p> <p>SPT would recommend that provision is made within the Bill for the authority responsible for producing the Games Transport Plan to keep it under review, and to ensure that arrangements are in place to amend the Plan as appropriate.</p>
31 (2)	<p>As the publicly accountable authority responsible for regional transport planning, the operator of the Subway, and provider of socially necessary bus services, SPT would strongly advise inclusion of a commitment to consult the relevant Regional Transport Partnership within this section. Further to this, we would recommend that provision is made within the Bill for SPT to have approval of the Plan prior to adoption.</p> <p>We welcome the commitment to consult with each Council in whose area a Games event takes place. We would, however, recommend that the scope of this is widened as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) the Regional Transport Partnership for the west of Scotland; and (b) council areas in which transport services or infrastructure may be affected. <p>We would also recommend that provision is made within this section to consult such other persons the Ministers, the Organising Committee (or authority responsible for producing the Games Transport Plan) deems appropriate.</p>
32, 33	<p>SPT would recommend that provision is made within this section for the traffic authority to provide notice to those transport service or infrastructure operators who may be affected beyond the statutory minimum required by the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984, given the status and importance of the Games.</p> <p>SPT would recommend that provision is made within this section for the relevant traffic authority to make an order only for the purposes of implementing the Games Transport Plan, and in making the order, the traffic authority shall make reference to the relevant section of the Games Transport Plan to which the order applies.</p> <p>We would also recommend that provision is made for the authority designated by the Organising Committee to have the power to prepare and implement the Games Transport Plan, having the power to promote, determine and introduce Games Traffic Regulation Orders and Traffic Regulation Conditions as appropriate, in line with the Plan.</p>

36	Some of the public transport initiatives necessary for the Games may require the acquisition of land and Section 36 of the Bill is therefore welcome. We would suggest that it is necessary to provide these powers to the full ranges of agencies involved in the promotion and delivery of public transport initiatives. The agencies include Network Rail, SPT, etc. in addition to the Organising Committee.
SPT Supplementary Comments	
	SPT would recommend that guideline timescales for preparation and delivery of the Games Transport Plan are provided within the Bill, given the significant planning and potential impacts involved.
	SPT would recommend that provision is made within the Bill for the Games Transport Plan to be published, except for reasons stated for not doing so e.g. security
	SPT would recommend that provision is made within the Bill to ensure consultation with and co-operation by designated authorities affected by the Games Transport Plan.