Glasgow City Region Bus Partnership – Update noted.

8 There was heard a joint presentation by Chris Patterson, Neighbourhoods, Regeneration and Sustainability and Jason Campbell and Jenny Muir, Jacobs Steer in relation the Glasgow City Region Bus Partnership (GBP) advising that

(1) Glasgow City Council had plans to transform the way people got around the city region by improving public transport and that the first round of strategic improvements was being led by the Glasgow Bus Partnership (GBP) which brought together the 8 Glasgow City Region local authorities, Strathclyde Partnership for Transport, bus operators and passenger representative groups;

(2) the vision of GBP was of a region where bus services form part of a network of connectivity by providing safe, affordable and enjoyable connections;

(3) the GBP sought to improve bus priority mechanisms and reduce congestion to improve bus journey times and reliability, and improve the accuracy of real time passenger information;

(4) the GBP would work to ensure that buses would be given higher priority in any future city planning;

(5) the GBP would explore options to introduce an integrated ticketing system;

(6) Stage 1 of the project had concluded in August 2022 with feedback being sought from key stakeholders on bus travel including the 5 proposed bus corridors;

(7) Stage 2 would continue until March 2023 to develop an outline business case and concept corridor designs;

(8) Stage 3 and Stage 4 were subject to approvals and funding, with drawings and information being finalised in Stage 3 and project delivery planned in Stage 4; and

(9) a number of potential measures had been identified for use in the project, as detailed in the presentation.

After consideration, the Partnership

(a) noted

(i) the report; and

(ii) that Glasgow City Council had allocated £100,000 for a pilot of a free at point of use bus service; and

(b) raised concern in relation to car usage and parking and the adverse effect this had on bus journey times; and

(c) raised a number of questions in relation to the potential measures highlighted in the presentation which were answered by Mr Patterson and Mr Campbell.