

North East Combined Authority

Transport North East (Tyne and Wear) Sub-Committee

13 November 2014

Meeting held: Sunderland Civic Centre, Sunderland.

Present:

Councillor: Lott (Chair)

Councillors: McCarty, McElroy and West

26 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

An apology for absence was received from Councillor Watson.

27 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest.

28 MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING

The minutes of the previous meeting held on 9 October 2014 subject to the amendment of the second bullet point in Minute 18 to read “the importance of structured scrutiny of Nexus’ performance and the need for clarity around this process;” and the amendment of the third bullet point in Minute 18 to read “the provision of retrospective information to the Sub-Committee on the delegated decision made by Nexus in respect of land disposals; and” were approved as a correct record and signed by the Chair.

29 REVISION TO METRO AND FERRY FARES 2015

Submitted: A joint report of the Chief Finance Officer of the Combined Authority and the Director General of Nexus (previously circulated and copy attached to Official Minutes).

Members considered the report which sought their approval for changes to the Metro and Ferry fares for 2015.

The ensuing discussion included matters such as:

- the importance of communicating the changes to users;

- the preparation of a communication campaign that would follow should members agree the proposals;
- the performance of the usage of the Ferry;
- the performance of the Gold Card;
- the need to promote “Pop Pay as you Go” more;
- the commendation of the pricing policy in relation to children and young people under the age of 18;
- the reduction in the cable theft from the Metro system and the reasons for this reduction;
- the reasons for the proposed increases in fares; and
- the need to explore opportunities for fairer pricing policies that might be enabled in future by smart technology.

RESOLVED – That:

- I. the proposed Metro and Ferry fares as set out in Appendices A, B, C and D to the report, to be effective from 2 January 2015, be agreed; and
- II. a freeze in the price of the Gold Card be agreed.

30 **GO SMARTER COMMUNICATIONS UPDATE**

Submitted: A report of the Transport Lead Executive Officer (previously circulated and copy attached to Official Minutes).

Members considered the report which provided an update on the Go Smarter Programme, focusing specifically on the Communications work stream of the programme.

The ensuing discussion included matters such as:

- the commendation of the Go Smarter work;
- the commendation of the work on parking at schools and the importance of continuing this work;
- the engagement with schools and school governors;
- the work to ensure a sustainable brand that could be continued by partners should the funding for the programme from the Department for Transport’s Local Sustainable Transport Fund (LSTF) be discontinued;
- the popularity of the salary sacrifice scheme for renting or purchasing alternative modes of travel;
- Public Relations (PR);
- the need for a long-term sustainable funding for the programme; and
- the work with partners to achieve sustainable continuance of the programme and the exploration of and linking to other initiatives.

RESOLVED – That the report be noted.

31 TYNE TUNNEL UPDATE

Submitted: A report of the Transport Lead Executive Officer (previously circulated and copy attached to Official Minutes).

Members considered the report which provided an update on proposed tolling levels for 2015 and current vehicle numbers using the Tunnel. It was noted that an update on the Tyne Pedestrian and Cyclist Tunnels would be provided for a future meeting.

RESOLVED – That the intention to freeze tolls for 2015 be noted.

32 DATE AND TIME OF NEXT MEETING

Thursday, 29 January 2015 at 2pm at Gateshead Civic Centre.

33 EXCLUSION OF PRESS AND PUBLIC

RESOLVED – That by virtue of section 100A and of paragraph 3 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972 press and public be excluded from the remainder of the meeting during the consideration of agenda item 9 – Confidential Minutes of the Previous Meeting, because exempt information was likely to be disclosed and the public interest test was satisfied.

34 CONFIDENTIAL MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING

The confidential minutes of the previous meeting held on 9 October 2014 were approved as a correct record and signed by the Chair.