

North East Combined Authority, Transport North East (Tyne and Wear) Sub-Committee

26 January 2017

(2.00 - 3.25 pm)

Meeting held TT2 Limited Administrative Building, Tyne View Terrace, Wallsend, North Tyneside, NE28 0PD

Present:

Councillor: J Harrison (Chair)

Councillors: G Hobson, J McCarty and M Mordey

119 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies were received from Cllr Brain (Gateshead Council).

Members of the Sub Committee also expressed their thanks to Victoria Miller who had served the Committee since its inception.

120 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

None

121 MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING HELD ON 3 NOVEMBER 2017

RESOLVED – that the minutes of the previous meeting held on 3 November 2016 were approved as a correct record and signed by the Chair.

122 MONITORING NEXUS' PERFORMANCE: 1 APRIL TO 10 DECEMBER 2016

Submitted: Report of the Managing Director (Transport Operations) (previously circulated and a copy attached to the Official Minutes).

Members considered the report which provided an update on Nexus' Performance against its Corporate Business Plan (CBP) targets and objectives for 2016/17 for the period 1 April to 10 December 2016.

In discussion Members commented on the following:

- A new timetable with earlier scheduled trains.

- A welcome increase in punctuality of 76% compared to 73% over the same period in the previous year, however this could still be improved.
- Caution against raising expectations of improved performance too high, given the age and condition of the fleet.
- Request for a breakdown of events leading to the slight dip from 76% punctuality to 68% punctuality over the final four weeks.
- Acknowledgment of the importance of the Metro system and the need to replace the fleet.
- Positive feedback on the introduction of an earlier train from Sunderland.
- The recent Snow Dogs sculpture trail and the increase in take-up of single and day tickets as a result.
- The good progress achieved and the importance of sustaining the direction of travel and achieving and maintaining targets.
- Passenger safety and the restructuring of Metro operations.
- The sub-standard train station in Sunderland.
- The need for an update at a future meeting on carbon emissions linking to air quality and public health.

Points to note were:

- Information in respect of discussions with the Department for Transport and HM Treasury regarding fleet replacement.
- The significant incidents resulting in the slight dip in performance i.e. overhead line problems, flash flooding and a suspected suicide.
- In relation to the Snow Dogs event it was noted that Metro were the lead sponsor and the event had raised £250,000 for St Oswalds; Nexus' have purchased two of the dogs using funds donated by contractors. The Snow Dogs had also resulted in a 7% uplift in patronage against the target.
- The Metro Asset Renewal Plan was on target. The forecast for 2016/17 as at 10 December was £39.691m, within the maximum/minimum spend targets set by the DfT
- The Metro system was designed and built to be a driver only operation from the outset. It has been approved by the Regulator and is under continuous review and assessment

- Issues in relation to the Single Local Growth Fund and investment in Sunderland Station. A meeting has been arranged with Network Rail to raise the importance of progressing this project. A discussion has also taken place with the Rail Minister.
- Time tables should be reliable and provide a performance boost.

RESOLVED – That the report be noted.

123 **NEXUS' CORPORATE BUSINESS PLAN 2017/18 TO 2019/20**

Submitted: Report of the Managing Director (Transport Operations) (previously circulated and a copy attached to the Official Minutes).

Members considered the report, agreed by the Leadership Board, which sought approval of Nexus' Corporate Business Plan for 2017/18 to 2019/20.

Consideration was given to discussions in relation to new time tables, the importance of real time information and air quality.

RESOLVED – that

- Nexus' Corporate Business Plan for 2017/18 to 2019/20 be approved.
- The Sub-Committee would continue in a supervisory role in the further review of Nexus' Services to achieve the required savings targets.

124 **UPDATE ON NEXUS' CORPORATE RISKS 2016/17**

Submitted: Report of the Managing Director (Transport Operations) previously circulated and a copy attached to the Official Minutes.

Members considered the report which provided information on the up-to-date-position with regard to Nexus' Corporate Risk Register.

It was noted that 2 risks had been removed from Nexus' Corporate Risk Register, risks 1 and 13. This followed a meeting of the Nexus Audit Committee who had asked that consideration be given to whether these risks were of a more lower-level operational nature.

Members also noted the two additional risks had been added to the Corporate Risk Register:

- That a catastrophic event may occur on the Metro.
- That the process of bringing Metro operations in-house results in a significant decline in service level outputs and customer satisfaction.

Following discussion, the chair was given an assurance that the 2 risks that had been removed from Nexus' Corporate Risk Register were still being actively managed as departmental risks within Nexus.

RESOLVED – that the report be noted.

125 **METRO GOLD CARD PRICING**

Submitted: Report of the Managing Director (Transport Operations) (previously circulated and a copy attached to the Official Minutes).

Members considered the report which sought approval to reduce the price of the non-resident Metro Gold Card by £1.00 to begin on 1 April 2017.

RESOLVED that –

The proposal to change the price for the non-resident Metro Gold Card from £25 to £24 per year to be effective from 1 April 2017 be approved.

126 **DATE AND TIME OF NEXT MEETING**

27 February 2017 at 1.30pm at the Civic Centre, Newcastle upon Tyne NE1 8QH

127 **EXCLUSION OF PRESS AND PUBLIC**

RESOLVED – that by virtue of paragraphs 3, 4 and 5 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972 the press and public be excluded from the remainder of the meeting during the consideration of agenda items 10, 11 and 12 (Confidential Minutes of the Previous Meeting, Metro Transition Project Update and Tyne Tunnels Update because exempt information was likely to be disclosed and the public interest test against the disclosure was satisfied.