

North East Combined Authority

Transport North East (Tyne and Wear) Sub-Committee

9 July 2015

Meeting held Civic Centre, Burdon Road, Sunderland, SR2 7SN

Present:

Councillor: Harrison (Chair)

Councillors: McCarty, McElroy, Mordey and Hobson

1 APPOINTMENT OF CHAIR FOR THE PURPOSE OF THE MEETING

RESOLVED – That Councillor John Harrison be appointed as Chair for the purpose of the meeting.

Members discussed the approach to the appointment of Chair of the Sub-Committee, including the approach taken in the municipal year 2014/15. It was confirmed that the North East Leadership Board had delegated the authority for appointing Chair and Vice-Chair of the Transport North East (Tyne and Wear) Sub-Committee to the Transport North East Committee.

2 APPOINTMENT OF VICE-CHAIR FOR THE PURPOSE OF THE MEETING

RESOLVED – That Councillor Gladys Hobson be appointed as Vice-Chair for the purpose of the meeting.

3 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

There were no apologies for absence received.

4 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest.

5 MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING

The minutes of the previous meeting held on 20 April 2015 were approved as a correct record and signed by the Chair.

In relation to the request that a policy seminar should be organised for Members early in this municipal year, as referred to in the resolution in Minute 51, it was confirmed that the policy seminar had been held in June.

6 PETITION - USE OF A TRAVEL PASS ON METRO

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

Members considered the report which informed them about the receipt of a petition from the Newcastle Transport Users Group (NTUG) who were asking for more flexibility in relation to the time of use of a travel pass on Metro. Representatives of the NTUG addressed the Sub-Committee in support of the petition.

RESOLVED – That:

- I. the petition, as attached at Appendix A, be received; and
- II. the Managing Director (Transport Operations) would consider the matter and report back to the Sub-Committee at the next meeting.

7 TYNE AND WEAR GO SMARTER PROGRAMME 2015/16

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

Members considered the report which provided an update on the Tyne and Wear Go Smarter Programme 2015/16. During the ensuing discussion it was noted that:

- The schemes within the programme had been prioritised by analysing the key congested corridors and identifying potential areas of the biggest impact as a result of the schemes.
- The Tyne and Wear Go Smarter programme was funded by a combination of revenue and capital funding and also contributions from the local authorities.
- A lot of data was collected as part of monitoring the performance of the programme. Performance information would be provided to Members at a future meeting.
- There were risks associated with the lack of certainty of funding for the programme for the future years.
- It was important to continue the work on Schools Go Smarter, including addressing the issue of inconsiderate parking at around schools and nearby residential areas.

RESOLVED – That:

- I. The report be noted;
- II. A report be submitted to a future meeting with information on:
 - the funding of the programme, including funding for projects after 2015/16 and the options that had been submitted to the Department for Transport in relation to securing the continuation of funding;
 - the process that had been taken to identify and prioritise schemes and initiatives within the programme; and
 - the evidence that the programme and the individual schemes within it were making a difference, including information on the tools that were used to measure the performance and outcomes.

8 **MONITORING NEXUS' PERFORMANCE 2014/15 AND 2015/16**

Submitted: Joint reports of the Chief Executive Officer for Transport and the Managing Director (Transport Operations) on Nexus' performance 2014/15 and 2015/16 (previously circulated and copy attached to Official Minutes).

Members considered the two reports jointly.

(a) **Monitoring Nexus' Performance 2014/15**

Members considered the report which set out information on the Nexus performance during the financial year 2014/15. During the ensuing discussion it was noted that:

- Members asked for a more detailed report that would be inclusive of information on patronage, mileage and secured services. It was confirmed that a future report would include a wider range of indicators.
- A Member expressed concern about the performance of the Metro services and the adverse impact on users, particularly at the beginning of 2015. A Member spoke about the importance of continuing to work to address these issues.
- Work was in progress to roll out the North East Smart Ticketing Initiative's pilots and to consider options for the potential increase of the functionality of the Pop Card.

RESOLVED – That the report be noted.

(b) **Monitoring Nexus' Performance 2015/16**

Members considered the report which set out information on the Nexus performance in the current financial year. During the ensuing discussion a Member welcomed the recent increase in the Metro patronage.

RESOLVED – That the report be noted.

9 **DB REGIO TYNE & WEAR LIMITED (DBTW) PERFORMANCE UPDATE**

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

Members considered the report which provided an update to the current performance of the Tyne and Wear Metro system which was operated by DB Regio Tyne and Wear Limited (DBTW). During the ensuing discussion it was confirmed that DBTW had a track access contract with Network Rail and that DBTW, Nexus and Network Rail met regularly with the aim to improve service delivery.

RESOLVED – That:

- I. the report be noted; and

- II. consideration be given to inviting a representative of the management team of Network Rail to a future meeting.

10 **NEXUS'S STRATEGIC RISKS 2015/16**

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

Members considered the report which provided an update on the current strategic risks that had been identified by Nexus for the financial year 2015/16 and the associated control processes.

RESOLVED – That the current status of the strategic business risks identified by Nexus for the financial year 2015/16 be noted.

11 **REVIEW OF NEXUS POLICIES**

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

Members considered the report which sought endorsement of the intention to review a range of Nexus's policies.

RESOLVED – That Nexus' intention to bring a series of policies to the Sub-Committee for review be endorsed.

12 **NEXUS GOVERNANCE ARRANGEMENTS**

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

Members considered the report which set out information on the proposed changes to the internal governance structures of Nexus. As a point of correction in relation to the information set out in paragraph 2.4 of the report, it was noted that the intention was to appoint two independent members of the NECA Governance Committee to the Nexus Audit Committee.

RESOLVED – That:

- I. The proposal to update the Nexus governance arrangements in relation to its Management Committee/Executive Board by disbanding those committees and replacing them with the Nexus 'Corporate Management Team' be endorsed; and
- II. The proposal to retain the Nexus Audit Committee which would continue to draw its membership from an external, independent source (paragraph 2.4, subject to its amendment to reflect the intention to appoint two independent members of the NECA Governance Committee to the Nexus Audit Committee, refers) be endorsed.

13 **DATE AND TIME OF NEXT MEETING**

17 September 2015 at 2pm at North Tyneside.

14 **EXCLUSION OF PRESS AND PUBLIC**

RESOLVED – That by virtue 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 15 - Confidential Minutes of the Previous Meeting and agenda item 16 - The Tyne and Wear Metro Concession because exempt information was likely to be disclosed and the public interest against the disclosure was satisfied.