



Joint Transport Committee Overview and Scrutiny Committee

Thursday, 7th November, 2019 at 2.00 pm

Meeting to be held in the Lamesley Room - Civic Centre

AGENDA

Page No

1. **Apologies for Absence**

2. **Declaration of Interests**

Please remember to declare any personal interest where appropriate both verbally and by recording it on the relevant form (to be handed to the Democratic Services Officer). Please also remember to leave the meeting where any personal interest requires this.

3. **Minutes of the Inquorate Meeting held on 19 September 2019** 3 - 6

4. **Budget Proposals - Report to Follow**

5. **Date of Next Meeting**

The next meeting will be held on 19 December at 2pm at South Shields Town Hall.

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JOINT TRANSPORT COMMITTEE, OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

DRAFT MINUTES FOR APPROVAL

Thursday 19 September 2019, 2pm

Meeting held Gateshead Civic Centre, Blaydon Room

Present:

- David Taylor-Gooby (Chair)
- Andy Clark (Vice Chair)

Councillors:

- M Clarke - Durham County Council
- O Avery – Newcastle City Council
- I Patterson – Gateshead Council
- G Sanderson – Northumberland County Council

1 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from the following:

- B Crute – Durham County Council
- A Batey – Durham County Council
- R Glindon – North Tyneside Council
- S Graham – North Tyneside Council
- P Steward – Sunderland City Council
- J Kelly – Sunderland City Council
- J McCabe – South Tyneside Council
- A Ellison – South Tyneside Council

2 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

RESOLVED:

- (i) There were no declarations of interest.

3 MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING HELD ON 18 JULY 2019

It was highlighted that the previous minutes recorded Durham members as being from Durham City Council as opposed to Durham County Council; this was noted to be updated.

A discussion took place on buses as noted in the previous meeting. A comment was made expressing a desire to see an improvement in rural bus connectivity in Northumberland. It was further stated that Northumberland residents, particularly those in areas such as Blyth are poorly connected to other parts of the county. Tobaugh Hughes agreed to circulate the most recent briefing to update the Committee on the work underway on bus services across the region. The Committee were also advised that the Joint Transport Committee will receive a report on the matter of buses in November 2019; it was noted that this document could be made available to this Committee for information.

A further comment was made on bus connectivity in Newcastle; in particular the rural fringe of the city.

An additional discussion took place on the Williams Rail Review as reported at the previous meeting. The Committee were advised that a further update on the review will be brought back to the meeting in due course.

It was highlighted that the Work Programme report had not been updated to include the suggestions made at the last meeting; the Committee were advised that this would be done ahead of the next meeting.

RESOLVED:

- (i) The minutes of the last meeting held on 14 March 2019 were agreed as a correct record.

4 JOINT TRANSPORT OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE WORK PROGRAMME

The Committee received a report to consider the items on the Joint Transport Committee Forward Plan for the current 28-day period and to discuss items for the Work Programme for 2019-20.

The Work Programme report will be updated to include the issues raised at the meeting held on 18 July 2019.

RESOLVED:

- (i) The Committee reviewed the current Forward Plan and considered items for exploration in more detail for the Work Programme 2019/20.

5 NORTH EAST TRANSFORMING CITIES FUND – PROGRAMME DEVELOPMENT

The Committee received a report to provide an overview of the process followed to identify, sift and prioritise sustainable transport schemes included in the North East's bid to the Transforming Cities Fund for capital investment.

The report provided the Committee with an update on the next stages of the process and the actions that will be taken to administer and prioritise schemes to match funding subsequently received from the DfT should it fall short of the amount requested as part of the bid.

From the report the Committee were provided with an overview of the bid preparation; it was highlighted that the focus of the team has been to develop a programme of schemes that are eligible for funding, meet regional priorities for sustainable transport investment and are deliverable. The Committee was provided with an explanation of how the region's schemes had been ranked according to those criteria. Further details were appended to the report for the Committee's information.

It was asked what would happen if less than £200m is received from the bid, and whether there is a framework in place to decide on which two schemes that currently ranked the same would be prioritised. It was noted that there is no definitive answer to this question currently but that it is anticipated this situation would not arise.

It was asked whether the Durham Bus Station improvements scheme would go ahead if the bid is unsuccessful. It was confirmed that this would be a matter for the local authority.

RESOLVED:

- (i) The Committee noted the contents of the report; the meeting was not quorate so no action was agreed.

6 AVIATION 2050

The Committee received a report providing an overview of the process undertaken by the JTC to respond to the Aviation 2050 consultation.

It was noted that the response to the consultation had been submitted; a copy of the response was appended to the report for information.

A discussion took place on climate change; it was requested that the issue of climate change in aviation be added to the Work Programme report for a future meeting. It was also suggested that the North East could be a hub for low carbon aviation.

Resolved:

- (i) The Committee noted the contents of the report and the consultation response.

- (ii) The Committee requested that Climate Change in Aviation be added to the Work Programme for a future meeting.

7 ANY OTHER BUSINESS

A discussion took place on the effectiveness of scrutiny and how this Committee feeds in and is part of the bigger picture. It was suggested that this Committee produce regular updates on what work the Committee is doing. It was noted that this could be agreed at a time when the meeting is quorate.

The Committee received a statement from Toby Hughes on Nexus' current position regarding the procurement of the new Metro Fleet.

8 DATE AND TIME OF THE NEXT MEETING

The next meeting will take place on 7 November 2019 at 2pm in the Lamesley Room, Gateshead Civic Centre.