



WEST MIDLANDS COMBINED AUTHORITY

Transport Delivery Committee

Monday 14 May 2018 at 1.00 pm

Minutes

Present

Councillor Richard Worrall (Chair)	Walsall Metropolitan Borough Council
Councillor Timothy Huxtable (Vice-Chair)	Birmingham City Council
Councillor Pervez Akhtar	Coventry City Council
Councillor Robert Alden	Birmingham City Council
Councillor Adrian Andrew	Walsall Metropolitan Borough Council
Councillor Mohammed Fazal	Birmingham City Council
Councillor Mohammed Hanif	Dudley Metropolitan Borough Council
Councillor Kath Hartley	Birmingham City Council
Councillor Diana Holl-Allen	Solihull Metropolitan Borough Council
Councillor Roger Horton	Sandwell Metropolitan Borough Council
Councillor Chaman Lal	Birmingham City Council
Councillor Keith Linnecor	Birmingham City Council
Councillor Ted Richards	Solihull Metropolitan Borough Council
Councillor David Stanley	Dudley Metropolitan Borough Council
Councillor David Welsh	Coventry City Council

Item Title No.

134. Apologies for absence

Apologies for absence were received from Councillor Davis.

135. Chair's Remarks

(i) Councillor Lawrence and Transport Delivery Committee

The Chair reported that he met with the WMCA Portfolio holder for Transport, Councillor Roger Lawrence, recently who had expressed an interest in matters being considered by this committee and indicated that he would look to attend a future meeting of TDC if possible.

(ii) Managing Director of Wolverhampton City Council

The Chair informed the committee that the Managing Director of Wolverhampton City Council, Keith Ireland, who had played a key role in establishing the WMCA, would be leaving his post to take up the new position of Chief Executive at Lincolnshire County Council.

136. Minutes of the last meeting

The minutes of the meeting held on 9 April were agreed and signed by the Chair as a correct record.

137. Matters Arising

(i) Accessible Transport Report (*Minute no. 119 refers*)

In relation to the enquiry made by Councillor Richards with regards to a better location for service 89 in Balsall Common, Jon Hayes, Head of Network Delivery reported that work is still on-going in trying to find a suitable location for the service

(ii) TfWM Infrastructure Update (*Minute no. 127 refers*)

In relation to discussion at the last meeting regarding charging for toilet facilities, Councillor Horton sought re-assurances that a report on the matter would be submitted to a future meeting of this committee. Jon Hayes, Head of Network Delivery advised that a report would be submitted to the committee in due course.

138. Minutes of the Bus Shelter Appeals Decision Group held on 12 April 2018

The minutes of the Bus Shelter Appeals Decision Group meeting held on 12 April 2018 were noted.

139. Presentation : Midlands Connect Update

The committee received a presentation from the Director of Midlands Connect, Maria Machancoses that provided an update on the work of the partnership. The presentation outlined the priorities of Midlands Connect for 2018/19; the Midlands Railway Hub, the Midlands Motorway Hub and the ambition for smart ticketing across the Midlands.

In relation to an observation from Councillor Huxtable that the rail programme outlined for the Midlands Rail Hub did not appear to be aligned to the rail programme detailed in the Rail Business Report, the Director of Midlands Connect explained that the two were aligned and advised that the Midlands Rail Hub looked beyond the term of the West Midland franchise and was considering all possible long term options.

Councillor Horton, Lead Member for Rail and Metro, considered it would be helpful if the Director of Midlands Connect could attend a Rail Lead Member Reference Group meeting to focus on the Midland Rail Hub. Maria Machancoses, reported that she would be happy to attend such a meeting.

The Chair thanked the Director of Midlands Connect for her informative presentation and it was agreed that Maria Machancoses would provide a further update to the committee at the end of the year.

Resolved: That the presentation be noted.

140. Safer Travel Update

The committee considered a report of the Safety and Security Manager that provided an update on the performance and operations of the Safer Travel Partnership, an overview of the development of the TfWM Control Centre and provided an of some of the new powers available to the to the West Midlands Combined Authority.

Mike Sayers, Safer Travel Officer and Antony Sloan, Safety and Security Officer were in attendance to present the report.

The Chair commented that Walsall MBC had benefited from moving its CCTV system into the TfWM Control Centre financially and with regards to service improvement and urged members to encourage their local authority to engage with Mark Babington and his team to move its CCTV systems into the TfWM Control Centre if it had not already done so.

Resolved:

1. That the details of the report be noted and
2. That the overall current crime trends as set out in paragraphs 3.1-3.14 of the report be noted.

141. 2018/ 19 Child Concessions Travel Scheme & Reimbursement Arrangements

The committee considered a report of the Swift and Concessions Scheme Manager that sought approval for the changes to the Child Travel (Bus) Concessions Scheme and the Child Travel (Bus) Concessions Reimbursement Arrangements documents and their publication to effective from 1 August 2018 to 31 July 2019 inclusive.

The Head of Swift, Matt Lewis, was in attendance to present the report.

In relation to an enquiry from Councillor Alden regarding reimbursing operators the equivalent to a full adult fare for 16- 18 year old apprentices and trainees and whether TfWM has looked at the reimbursement rate for similar schemes elsewhere in England, the Head of Swift reported that this area has been examined however, it was felt that operators in the West Midlands would charge the full adult fare in the absence of a scheme.

Resolved:

1. That the amendments to the Child Travel (Bus) Concession Scheme and the Child (Travel) Concession Reimbursement Arrangements to incorporate 16 to 18 year old apprentices and trainees be approved and
2. That the publication of an amended 2018/19 Child Travel (Bus) Concession Scheme and the Child Travel (Bus) Concessions Reimbursement Arrangements to incorporate the enhanced eligibility be approved.

142. Financial Monitoring Report

The committee considered a report of the Head of Finance and Business Planning that set out the full expenditure for 2017/18, subject to audit and is the final monitoring position of the Combined Authority's Transport Delivery Revenue and Capital Budgets.

Wayne Farrington, Lead Accountant -Transport, was in attendance to present the report.

Resolved:

1. That the final revenue expenditure outturn for 2017/18 subject to audit shows a favourable variance of £409,000 compared to budget and a minor adverse variance of £11,000 against the full year favourable forecast of £420,000 be noted;
2. That the total capital expenditure to the end of March 2018 within the overall transport programme was broadly in line with the budget of £67 million be noted and
3. That the treasury indicators are within the expected range and there are no issues to highlight be noted.

143. Capital Programme Delivery Monitoring Report

The committee considered a report of the Director of Development and Delivery that provided a progress monitoring update on the approved TfWM led 2017/18 programme and projects.

Alison Peckmore, Project Delivery Manager, was in attendance to present the report.

Councillor Holl-Allen noted that the delivery confidence assessment for all projects for 2017/18 in Capital Programme was green and conveyed her congratulations to the team.

Resolved:

1. That the achievements since the April 2018 meeting of the Transport Delivery Committee be noted;
2. That progress of deliverables under the 2017/2018 Capital Programme be noted and
3. That it be noted there are no variations from the baseline programme be noted

144. Bus Alliance Update

The committee considered a report of the Network Development Manager that reported on matters relating to governance, operation, delivery and performance of the West Midlands Bus Alliance.

Jon Hayes, Head of Network Delivery, presented the report and updated the committee on the West Midlands Bus Alliance deliverables referred to in Appendix 1 of the report.

In relation to an enquiry from Councillor Lal as to whether a bus area ticket for Birmingham could be introduced similar to the area tickets for the Black Country and Coventry, the Head of Network Delivery reported that he would look into the matter and respond to Councillor Lal.

Councillor Huxtable in the Chair

In relation to comment from Councillor Akhtar regarding the age of the bus fleet operating in Coventry and an enquiry as to when the City could expect to see new buses, the Head of Network Delivery reported that TfWM was looking into submitting a bid as part of the low emissions fund in Coventry and further details follow in due course.

Resolved :

1. That the contents of the report and the current status of the West Midlands Bus Alliance be noted and
2. That a report on the West Midlands Bus Alliance be submitted to the West Midlands Combined Authority Board for information.

145. Rail Business Report

The committee considered a report of the Head of Franchise Management that provided an update in relation to the performance, operation and delivery of rail services in the West Midlands including rail partnership agreements and West Midlands Rail activity.

In relation to comments made by Councillor Stanley regarding Coseley park and ride car park and the need to address capacity issues due to the parking problems experienced by nearby residents, the Chair asked that an update on the matter be included in the Park and Ride Update report that is to be submitted to the next meeting.

In relation to the Virgin Trains Partnership Agreement approved at the last meeting that is subject to confirmation of the governance arrangements before the formal signing ceremony, Councillor Horton, Lead Member for Rail and Metro, asked that he and Councillors Huxtable and Worrall be informed of progress on the matter via email before the next meeting of this committee on 11 June.

Resolved: That the contents of the report be noted.

146. Bus Stop Rationalisation - Next Steps

The committee considered a report of the Network Development Manager that provided them with the results of the Bus Stop Rationalisation and put forward recommendations on the next steps.

The report outlined the background to the review, customer and stakeholder feedback and comments, the operational measures that were put in place and the impact on patronage and punctuality as provided by National Express.

Councillor Hartley, Lead Member for Putting Passengers First, considered that a special study should be undertaken with regards to the Pershore Road as the services on this corridor did not show the same levels of improvement in patronage and punctuality compared to other routes.

The Chair reported that he concurred with Councillor Hartley and asked that TfWM Officers look again at the Pershore Road corridor.

The Head of Network Delivery, Jon Hayes, advised that a review of the Pershore Road could be undertaken relatively quickly.

The Chair asked that with regards to any future bus stop rationalisation pilots consultation be undertaken with the relevant ward councillors and this be added to the report recommendations.

Resolved:

1. That the positive elements that the trial of the principle of bus stop rationalisation has had on bus performance including patronage, journey times, reliability and variability be noted;
2. That the current bus stop which are closed as part of the trial remain closed pending more detailed consideration and reporting with responsibility for a final decision relating to each stop delegated to the Director of Integrated Transport Services be noted;
3. That the principle of bus stop rationalisation be considered on other routes in the region inclusive of a review of the methodology used for the initial pilot and responsibility be delegated to the Director of Transport Integrated Services to take any future decisions on such pilots with the Putting Passenger First Lead Member Group and TDC Lead Members and relevant ward councillors be involved in the consultation process as appropriate be agreed and
4. That TfWM seek a greater level of direct or indirect support from operators, including financial remuneration towards permanently implementing the existing trial and roll-out be endorsed.

147. Notices of Motion

None submitted.

148. Questions

None submitted.

149. Forward Plan

The committee considered a report on agenda items to be submitted to future meetings.

Resolved: That the report be noted.

150. Date of Next Meeting -11 June 2018

The meeting ended at 3.10 pm.