



Transport Delivery Committee

Monday 18 March 2019 at 1.00 pm

Minutes

Present

Councillor Kath Hartley (Chair)	Birmingham City Council
Councillor Timothy Huxtable (Vice-Chair)	Birmingham City Council
Councillor Pervez Akhtar	Coventry City Council
Councillor Keith Allcock	Sandwell Metropolitan Borough Council
Councillor Robert Alden	Birmingham City Council
Councillor Adrian Andrew	Walsall Metropolitan Borough Council
Councillor Phil Davis	Birmingham City Council
Councillor Allah Ditta	Walsall Metropolitan Borough Council
Councillor Mohammed Fazal	Birmingham City Council
Councillor Mohammed Hanif	Dudley Metropolitan Borough Council
Councillor Celia Hibbert	City of Wolverhampton Council
Councillor Diana Holl-Allen	Solihull Metropolitan Borough Council
Councillor Les Jones	Dudley Metropolitan Borough Council
Councillor Chaman Lal	Birmingham City Council
Councillor Keith Linnecor	Birmingham City Council
Councillor Ted Richards	Solihull Metropolitan Borough Council
Councillor David Welsh	Coventry City Council

**Item Title
No.**

80. Apologies for absence

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Horton and Rowley

81. Chair's Remarks

(i) ATG

The Chair informed the committee that a private briefing session would be held at the rising of today's meeting regarding the Accessible Transport Group (ATG) and it was important for members to attend if possible.

(ii) Member Visits

The Chair reported that future member visits would be scheduled to be held after the local elections.

82. Minutes of the last meeting

The minutes of the meeting held on 4 February 2019 were agreed as a

correct record.

83. Matters Arising/Action Tracker

There were no matters arising from the last meeting.

The action tracker was noted.

84. Correspondence/ Petitions

None submitted.

85. Financial Monitoring Report

The committee considered a report of the Interim Finance Director that set out the financial position as at the end of January 2019 for the financial year 2018/19.

The Lead Member for Finance and Performance, Councillor Akhtar introduced the report and highlighted the report's recommendations.

Councillors Alden and Huxtable expressed concerns regarding the significant in-year and full year forecast favourable variances in relation to the Metro schemes element of the TfWM delivered Investment and sought assurances around delivery of the overall Metro scheme programmes.

In response, the Lead Accountant Transport, Wayne Farrington, reported that a number of the delays to schemes could be attributed to factors outside of TfWM's control and referred to funding challenges regarding the Wednesbury to Brierley Hill Metro Extension for which a proposed solution was due to be reported to the WMCA Board for decision on 22 March 2019. He added that the favourable variances related to multi-year schemes and the end date of schemes were not affected as per the narratives given in the report.

Councillor Akhtar, Lead Member for Finance and Performance added that members shared Councillor Alden's concerns but he acknowledged that the Investment Programme comprised of significant complex schemes that would be delivered over a number of years.

Resolved:

1. That the year to date to net revenue expenditure position for 2018/19 shows a favourable variance of £538,000 compared to budget and a full year favourable forecast variance of £213,000 (a favourable movement of £166,000 since the previous reported position be noted and
2. That the total capital expenditure to the end of January 2019 for the overall transport programme is £66.8m, within the year to date budget be noted.

86. 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 2018/19 programme and projects.

The Lead Member for Finance and Performance, Councillor Akhtar, outlined the achievements for elements of the Capital Programme that had been completed during January and February 2019 as referred to in paragraph 3 of the report.

In relation to an enquiry from Councillor Huxtable regarding further information on BCC One Station project which was reported as being on hold, the Director of Development and Delivery, Sandeep Shingadia reported that the project has not yet been defined as the scope has yet to be agreed but he expected this would be resolved shortly and more information would be provided on the dashboard in due course.

Resolved:

1. That the achievements since the January 2019 meeting of the Transport Delivery Committee be noted;
2. That progress of deliverables under the 2018/2019 Capital Programme be noted and
3. That a variation to the baseline programme in respect of the TBT Platinum Route RTI Equipment Upgrades be noted.

87. Bus Business Update & RTI Presentation

The committee considered a report of the Network Development Manager that provided an update on matters relating to the performance, operation and delivery of bus services in the West Midlands.

The Chair and Lead Member for Putting Passengers First, Councillor Hartley, introduced the report and the Network Development Manager, Edmund Salt outlined the key highlights in the report.

Councillor Holl-Allen expressed concerns regarding the punctuality of the A3 bus service (previously S3) during the morning rush hour on behalf of users of the service and reported of the need for TfWM to look into the matter.

The Head of Network Delivery, Jon Hayes, reported that TfWM was aware of the issues and was speaking to residents on the matter.

In relation to changes to bus services in South Birmingham brought about by the South Birmingham Network Review, Councillor Huxtable reported that he would like to see an evaluation of the review as many people were not happy with the current situation.

The Head of Network Delivery, Jon Hayes, undertook to contact National Express West Midlands to update Birmingham TDC members on bus

services in South Birmingham.

The Chair endorsed the proposed briefing session and asked that all TDC members be invited to the briefing session so that members from the other 6 authorities could attend if they wanted to.

In relation to bus services in Solihull, Councillor Richards acknowledged that there had been problems following the introduction of a new bus service but recognised the difficulty in introducing a new service and expressed his appreciation to TfWM officers for their work in seeking to alleviate the problems.

Following discussion of the report, the committee received a presentation on real journey time (RJT) from Principal Transport Planner, Daniel Pass.

The presentation outlined the work being undertaken to measure delays through use of the tool www.realjourneytime.co.uk which provides an analysis of performance on the bus network.

The Chair thanked Daniel Pass for his informative presentation.

Resolved:

1. That the contents of the report be noted;
2. That TDC members receive the weekly bus service changes via email be approved and
3. That the presentation on real time information be noted.

88. Rail Business Report

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

The interim Lead Member for Rail, Councillor Davis, introduced the report and the Head of Rail Development, Peter Sargant highlighted the key areas of the report.

Resolved:

1. That the contents of the report be noted and
2. That TfWM enters into a partnership commitment with Vintage Trains be approved.

[NB Councillor Davis declared a personal interest in Vintage Trains and subsequently abstained from supporting the recommendation pertaining to Vintage Trains]

89. Rail and Metro Lead Member Report

The committee considered a report of the Rail and Metro Lead Member that reported on the progress to date with the work of the Lead Member and Lead Member Group for Rail and Metro.

The interim Lead Member for Rail, Councillor Davis, and interim Lead Member for Metro, Councillor Hartley introduced the report.

Councillor Huxtable expressed his appreciation for the enthusiasm invested in the Rail and Lead Member Group meetings by Councillor Horton and conveyed his best wishes to Councillor Horton for his recovery following his stroke. These sentiments were echoed by the committee.

Resolved: That the progress to date with the work of the Lead Member and Lead Member Group for Rail and Metro be noted.

90. West Midlands Air Quality Update

The committee considered a report of the Associate Policy Advisor, TfWM that provided an update on air quality issues in the West Midlands.

The Lead Member for Air Quality, Congestion and Environmental Sustainability, Councillor Davis introduced the report and the Associate Policy Advisor, Jake Thrush outlined the key highlights in the report. This included local authority plans to reduce nitrogen dioxide in the West Midlands, an update on bus fleet improvements and progress on the West Midlands Combined Authority's Low Emission Strategy.

Resolved: That the contents of the report be noted.

91. Notices of Motion

None submitted.

92. Questions

None submitted.

93. WMCA Board Transport Reports (For Information Only)

The committee received five transport reports that would be considered by the WMCA Board on 22 March 2019, these were; Midland Metro Wednesbury to Brierley Hill Extension; Park and Ride Policies and Principles –Towards a Strategy; Transforming Cities Fund 2; Future Mobility Zone Programme and Women's Concessionary Travel Pass Scheme.

The reports were discussed by the committee and the Chair undertook to feedback any comments on the reports to the WMCA's Transport Portfolio Lead.

Resolved: That the reports be noted.

94. Forward Plan

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

Resolved: That the report be noted.

95. Date of Next Meeting - 20 May 2019

The meeting ended at 3.05 pm.