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**West Midlands
Combined Authority**

Transport Scrutiny Sub-Committee

Monday 14 September 2020 at 10.30 am

Minutes

Present

Councillor Cathy Bayton (Chair)
Councillor Rois Ali
Councillor Philip Bateman MBE
Councillor Liz Clements
Councillor Ken Hawkins
Councillor Ian Kettle
Councillor Gurmeet Singh Sohal
Councillor Jackie Taylor

Association of Black Country Authorities
Coventry City Council
City of Wolverhampton Council
Birmingham City Council
Solihull Metropolitan Borough Council
Dudley Metropolitan Borough Council
Walsall Metropolitan Borough Council
Sandwell Metropolitan Borough Council

In Attendance

Dan Essex
David Harris
Adam Harrison
Jon Hayes
Lyndsey Roberts
Anne Shaw

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Item Title No.

1. Apologies for Absence

Apologies for absence were received from Councillor Ken Hawkins (Solihull Metropolitan Borough Council) and Councillor Matt Rogers (Dudley Metropolitan Borough Council).

2. Declarations of Interest

Councillor Jackie Taylor, Councillor Ian Kettle and Councillor Philip Bateman declared non-pecuniary interests.

3. Welcome & Introductions

The Chair welcomed all to the first meeting of the Transport Scrutiny Sub-Committee. Each member provided a brief introduction of themselves along with relevant officers to the committee.

4. Appointment of Vice-Chair

A unanimous decision was made by the committee that Councillor Philip Bateman be appointed as Vice-Chair of the committee.

Resolved:

- (1) Councillor Philip Bateman be appointed as Vice-Chair of the committee.

5. Members Introduction / Briefing

Members received a presentation from the Governance Services Manager on the roles, purpose and vision of the Combined Authority, information on the portfolio areas, transport governance and the roles and responsibility of this newly established committee.

The committee also received a presentation from the Transport Strategy and Place Manager on Transport for West Midlands. The information provided gave oversight of historic transport governance, the roles, responsibility, key individuals, funding, investing and challenges for the future for Transport for West Midlands. The committee will receive further information at its next meeting on the Local Transport Plan.

Councillor Philip Bateman requested statistical information on the transport network to allow him to better his knowledge and understand the wider context of commercial network verses the social network developments.

Councillor Liz Clements was interested to understand the committees involvement in the Enhanced Partnership and other policy development opportunities. She was also interested in received information on the Emergency Active Travel Funds and the involvements of the Combined Authority with this.

Resolved:

- (1) The presentations be noted.

6. Presentation: Student Transport Arrangements - Return to School

The committee received a presentation from the Director of Network Resilience on school restart. Information provided to the committee related to guidance published by Government on return to schools including transport requirements, along with the funding allocation to support this. Transport for West Midlands main responsibility was to oversee operators on bus, train and trams for all other travellers ensuring an appropriate network was in place.

Councillor Jackie Taylor requested information on how social distancing was being managed across the transport network in terms of keeping young people safe. The Director of Network Resilience assured the committee that lots was being done to keep all individuals using the network safe. Lots of communication tactics had been identified in terms of educating individuals on the need to keep safe whilst using the network as well as information being provided to education establishments, support was also being received from the Safer Travel Partnership and other transport colleagues.

The Chair shared her concerns social distancing on the dedicated school services as it had been reported of the lack of maintaining social distancing. She recognised the positiveness of the provision for transport home for any pupil or student showing symptoms of COVID-19 whilst at school or college.

Resolved:

(1) The presentation be noted.

- 7. Date of Next Meeting**
Monday 19 October 2020 at 10.30am.

The meeting ended at 12.30 pm.

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