



Tees Valley Combined Authority Transport Committee

Date: Wednesday 13th October, 2021 at 2pm

Venue: Cavendish House, Teesdale Business Park, Stockton

. These Minutes are in draft form until approved at the next Transport Committee meeting and are therefore subject to amendments.

Attendees

Members

Councillor Heather Scott - Chair (Leader of Darlington Borough Council)
Councillor Andy Keir (Darlington Borough Council)
Councillor Mike Smith (Stockton Borough Council)
Councillor Eric Polano (Middlesbrough Council)
Councillor Cameron Stokell (Hartlepool Borough Council)
Matthew Ord (LEP Board Representative)

Apologies for Absence

Councillor Julie Craig (Redcar & Cleveland Borough Council)

Officers

Tom Bryant, Head of Transport, Tees Valley Combined Authority
Peter Judge, Monitoring Officer, Tees Valley Combined Authority
Sally Henry Governance Officer, Tees Valley Combined Authority

Officers joining via Teams

Dave Winstanley – Darlington Borough Council
Anthony Hewitt – Darlington Borough Council
Kieran Bostock – Hartlepool Borough Council
Andy Corcoran – Stockton-on-Tees Borough Council
Chris Moon – Redcar & Cleveland Borough Council
Craig Cowley – Middlesbrough Council
Alan Weston – Tees Valley Combined Authority

APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

As noted.

DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

None

MINUTES OF MEETING HELD ON 7TH DECEMBER 2020

The minutes of the meeting held on 7th December 2020 were agreed as a true record.

The Chair requested nominations for a member to act as Deputy Chair in the event of her absence.

RESOLVED THAT:-

- The Transport Committee agreed the nomination of Cllr Cameron Stokell.

MATTERS ARISING

There were no matters arising.

APPOINTMENT TO THE TRANSPORT FOR THE NORTH SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

Nominations were requested for a Tees Valley representative to the Transport for the North Scrutiny Committee.

No nomination was received.

TRANSPORT UPDATE

Tom Bryant gave a presentation to the Transport Committee and advised that the ambition is to deliver a world-class transport system so everyone, no matter where they live within the Tees Valley is connected to opportunity, existing businesses can grow, and the Tees Valley is able to continue attracting new businesses and inward investment.

He then provided the Transport Committee with a progress update on the Transport Investment Programme, which included:-

- Making cycling & walking the natural choice for shorter journeys;
- Transforming the Tees Valley rail system;
- A shared commitment with the operators to transform Tees Valley bus services and grow passenger numbers;
- Positioning the Tees Valley at the forefront of decarbonising transport;
- Ensuring the Key Route Network can facilitate sustainable growth;
- Putting Tees Valley at the heart of digital transport revolution; and
- Ensuring everyone can access opportunity.

The Committee were then given an opportunity to ask questions and comment. This can be summarised as follows:-

- Cllr Scott commented that cycling and walking strategies, while commendable, do not benefit the elderly or those unable to cycle or walk.
- Cllr Scott assured the Committee that the rail freight strategy is a priority and she continues to lobby on behalf of the Tees Valley through Transport for the North.
- Cllr Scott expressed her frustration that identifying a funding source for the Darlington Northern Link Road is proving to be so challenging. Tom Bryant assured the Committee that, whilst there is no obvious pot of money to bid into for this project, TVCA continue to explore all funding options.
- Cllr Scott asked Committee members to actively promote the Wheels to Work scheme wherever possible. Tom Bryant advised that a promotional pack is being developed by TVCA's Comms team, which will be distributed to Local Authority Comms teams. It was also suggested that recruitment companies should be promoting it.

Cllr Scott expressed her thanks to Tom Bryant and his team for the tremendous amount of work that has taken place, which has put the Tees Valley in an advantageous position. Tom advised the Committee that it is partnership working with the Local Authorities and thanked TAG colleagues.
The Committee echoed Cllr Scott's comments.

ANY OTHER BUSINESS

None.

DATE OF NEXT MEETING

TBC
