

Tees Valley Combined Authority Transport Committee

Date: Wednesday 15th June, 2022

Venue: Darlington Town Hall

The meeting was not quorate so these are notes of the discussions that took place. Not official minutes of the meeting.

Attendees

Members

Councillor Jonathan Dulston - Chair (Leader of Darlington Borough Council)

Councillor Andy Keir (Darlington Borough Council)

Councillor Cliff Foggo Redcar & Cleveland Borough Council)

Apologies for Absence

Councillor Eric Polano (Middlesbrough Council)

Councillor Mike Smith (Stockton Borough Council)

Councillor Tom Cassidy (Hartlepool Borough Council)

Matthew Ord (LEP Board Member)

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

Alan Weston – Tees Valley Combined Authority

Dave Winstanley – Darlington Borough Council

Kieran Bostock – Hartlepool Borough Council

Andy Corcoran – Stockton-on-Tees Borough Council

Rob Hoof – Redcar & Cleveland Borough Council

Craig Cowley – Middlesbrough Council

APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

As noted. Due to late apologies, the meeting was not quorate.

DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

None

MINUTES OF MEETING HELD ON 13th October 2021

The minutes of the meeting held could not be agreed as the meeting was not quorate.

MATTERS ARISING

Cllr Dulston expressed his appreciation to the previous Chair, Cllr Heather Scott and acknowledged all her work on transport in the Tees Valley during her tenure.

TRANSPORT UPDATE

Tom Bryant and Alan Weston 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.

The presentation covered:-

- Active Travel;
- Transforming the rail system;
- A shared commitment with the operators to transform Tees Valley bus services and grow passenger numbers;
- Progress on the Bus Service Improvement Plan;
- Positioning the Tees Valley at the forefront of decarbonisation transport;
- Ensuring the Key Route Network can facilitate sustainable growth;
- Putting the Tees Valley at the heart of the digital transport revolution;
- Ensuring everyone can access opportunity – including Wheels to Work, Tees Flex
- Tees Valley transport brand and customer information;
- Budget.

The presentation ended with a video on Wheels to Work. The Committee were advised that the scheme has capacity so members were encouraged to advise businesses that have issues with employees having difficulties getting to work to put them in touch with the scheme. The Wheels to Work team already attend events to promote the scheme and can accommodate further requests.

The Committee were given the opportunity to ask questions and comment throughout the presentation.

- Tom Bryant offered to meet with Cllr Foggo post-meeting if he wanted to discuss the East Cleveland rail feasibility studies further;
- Issues surrounding the lack of a bus service to enable workers to get to the early shifts at Teesworks from East Cleveland were discussed. It was noted that other industrial areas had similar challenges - Riverside Industrial Estate, Tofts Farm were highlighted. Tom Bryant noted that a piece of work has already started with Redcar & Cleveland Council colleagues to better understand the issue, but stressed that revenue funding is a real challenge.
- Cllr Keir enquired whether it would be possible for members to view the Urban Traffic Management & Control (UTMC) system in Middlesbrough.

The presentation will be circulated to members after the meeting.

Cllr Dulston thanked Tom Bryant for the presentation, which he acknowledged was a very thorough overview.

DATE OF NEXT MEETING

Transport Committee meetings will be scheduled in advance for the year – further details to follow.