



**Tees Valley Combined Authority Transport Committee
Agenda**

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Date: Wednesday 18th December 2019, at 3pm

Venue: Cavendish House, Teesdale Business Park, Stockton-On-Tees, TS17 6QY

Membership:

Cllr Heather Scott - Chair (Leader of Darlington Borough Council)

Councillor Christopher Akers-Belcher (Hartlepool Borough Council)

Councillor P Howell (Darlington Borough Council)

Councillor Ashley Waters (Middlesbrough Council)

Councillor Wayne Davies (Redcar and Cleveland Borough Council)

Councillor Mike Smith (Stockton Borough Council)

AGENDA

1. Apologies for Absence

2. Declarations of Interest

Attached

3. Minutes

The minutes of the meetings held on 5th July for approval.

4. Matters Arising

5. Appointment of Member and substitute Member to Transport for the North Scrutiny Committee

**6. Strategic Transport Plan Consultation
Presentation**

**7. Transport Update
Presentation**

9. Any Other Business

10. Date and Time of Next Meeting: TBC

Tees Valley Combined Authority Declaration of Interests Procedures

1. The purpose of this note is to provide advice and guidance to all members (the Mayor, elected and co-opted members, substitute members and associate members) of the Combined Authority Cabinet, Sub-Committees and Local Enterprise Partnership Board, on the procedure for declaring interests. The procedure is set out in full in the [Combined Authority's Constitution](#) under the "Code of Conduct for Members" (Appendix 8).

Personal Interests

2. The Code of Conduct sets out in full, the principles on the general conduct of members in their capacity at the Combined Authority. As a general principle, members should act impartially and should not use their position at the Combined Authority to further their personal or private interests.
3. There are two types of personal interests covered by the constitution:
 - a. "disclosable pecuniary interests". In general, a disclosable pecuniary interest will involve any financial interests, such as paid employment or membership of a body, interests in contracts, or ownership of land or shares. Members have a pecuniary interest in a matter where there is a reasonable likelihood or expectation that the business to be considered will affect your well-being or financial position, or the well-being or financial position of the following persons:
 - i. a member of your family;
 - ii. any person with whom you have a close association;
 - iii. in relation to a) and b) above, their employer, any firm in which they are a partner, or a company of which they are a director;
 - iv. any person or body in whom persons described in a) and b) above have a beneficial interest in a class of securities exceeding the nominal value of £25,000; or
 - v. any body as described in paragraph 3 b) i) and ii) below.
 - b. Any other personal interests. You have a personal interest in any business of the Combined Authority where it relates to or is likely to affect:
 - i. any body of which you are a member (or in a position of general control or management) and to which you are appointed or nominated by the Combined Authority;
 - ii. any body which:
 - exercises functions of a public nature;
 - is directed to charitable purposes;
 - one of whose principle purposes includes influencing public opinion or policy (including any political party or trade union) of which you are a member (or in a position of general control or management).

Declarations of interest relating to the Councils' commercial role

4. The constituent councils of the Combined Authority are closely integrated with its governance and financial arrangements, and financial relationships between the Combined Authority and Councils do not in themselves create a conflict of interest for Council Leaders who are also Combined Authority Cabinet members. Nor is it a conflict

of interest if the Combined Authority supports activities within a particular council boundary. Nevertheless, there are specific circumstances where the Cabinet is considering entering into direct contractual arrangements with a council, for example in relation to a particular commercial investment project, or in which that council is a co-funder. In these circumstances a non-pecuniary declaration of interest should be made by the Council Leader or their substitute.

Procedures for Declaring Interests

5. In line with the Code of Conduct, members are required to adhere to the following procedures for declaring interests:

Register of Interests

6. Each member is required to complete a register of interests form with their personal interests, within 28 days of their appointment to the Combined Authority. Details of any personal interests registered will be published on the Combined Authority's website, with the full register available at the Combined Authority's offices for public inspection. The form will be updated on an annual basis but it is the responsibility of each member to notify the Monitoring Officer of any changes to the register throughout the year. Notification of a change must be made to the Monitoring Officer within 28 days of becoming aware of that change.

Declaration of Interests at Meetings

7. The Combined Authority will include a standing item at the start of each meeting for declaration of interests. Where members are aware that any of their personal interests are relevant to an item of business being considered at a meeting they are attending, they must declare that interest either during the standing item on the agenda, at the start of the consideration of the item of business, or when the interest becomes apparent, if later.
8. Where members consider that their interest could be considered by the public as so significant that it is likely to prejudice the members' judgement then they may not participate in any discussion and voting on the matter at the meeting, but may attend the meeting to make representations, answer questions or give evidence relating to the business, before it is discussed and voted upon.
9. If the interest is a disclosable pecuniary interest (as summarised in paragraph 3a) then the member must leave the meeting room during discussion and voting on the item of business, but may make representations, give evidence and answer questions before leaving the meeting room. Failure to comply with the requirements in relation to disclosable pecuniary interests is a criminal offence.

Sensitive Information

10. Members can seek the advice of the monitoring officer if they consider that the disclosure of their personal interests contains sensitive information.

**Tees Valley Transport Committee
Cavendish House, Stockton-on-Tees
5th July 2019 – 9:30am**

. 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 Christopher Akers-Belcher (Hartlepool Borough Council)
Councillor Wayne Davies (Redcar & Cleveland Borough Council)
Councillor Ashley Waters (Middlesbrough Council)
Councillor P Howell (Darlington Borough Council)
Councillor Nigel Cooke (Stockton-on-Tees Borough Council)

Apologies for Absence

Councillor Mike Smith (Stockton-on-Tees Borough Council)

Officers

Richard McGuckin (Director of Economic Growth & Development, Stockton Borough Council)
Tom Bryant (Head of Transport, Tees Valley Combined Authority)
Steve Payne (Strategic Transport Manager, Tees Valley Combined Authority)
Sally Henry (Governance Officer, Tees Valley Combined Authority)

APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

As noted.

DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Councillor Howells is a Councillor in Durham so declared an interest in any discussion about cross-boundary transportation.

MINUTES

Minutes of the meeting held on 11th January, 2019 and the notes from 22nd March were noted and agreed.

MATTERS ARISING

There were no matters arising.

APPOINTMENT OF VICE CHAIR

Councillor Heather Scott nominated Councillor Christopher Akers-Belcher as Vice-Chair. There were no other nominations.
The Committee unanimously agreed the nomination of Councillor Christopher Akers-Belcher as Vice-Chair.

STRATEGIC TRANSPORT PLAN AND TRANSPORT PROGRAMME

Tom Bryant provided the Transport Committee with a presentation which covered an overview of the Strategic Transport Plan (STP) and the Integrated Transport Programme.

The STP is a statutory document under the Local Transport Act 2008 and covers the authority's policies and delivery plans for transport, considers the transport needs of people and freight and is a reasonably succinct document which can be accessed and understood by a range of users.

The presentation included:-

- Challenges and opportunities;
- The Proposed Vision;
- Objectives and Outcomes;
- The structure of the plan;
- Themes within the plan;
- What the plan means for local people;
- The process which needs to be followed in order to get the STP published;
- Rail including Darlington Station, Middlesbrough Station and Teesport Rail Gauge Enhancement;
- Roads including the proposed new Tees Crossing and Darlington Northern Link Road;
- Durham Tees Valley Airport;
- Bus Network Delivery Options;
- Social equality and the environment;

- The Integrated Transport Programme.

There was an opportunity for members to ask questions and comment throughout the presentation and this can be summarised as follows:-

- Is the change in the national political scene likely to impact on funding from DfT? This is unlikely to have an impact as government has already allocated funds for large transport schemes.
- An Eastern Tees Crossing was considered – has there been any analysis on the affect it would have on the existing Tees Crossing? From a funding perspective, is there a business case to bring this scheme forward? Initial feasibility work on the possible viability of an Eastern Crossing is due to be completed very shortly. It was emphasised that the A19 Tees Crossing scheme is very different in that it addresses congestion issues on the strategic road network.
- What are we doing to improve the quality of trains – how is rail travel going to be more affordable? Northern has been a commitment to upgrade all pacer trains by the end of the year. It will be easier to promote the network once the passenger experience has been improved. TfN are working on Smart ticketing across the bus and rail network. Making it more affordable is a real challenge and beyond the control of the Combined Authority.
- Airport - can the Transport Committee receive a more focussed session on the airport at a future meeting? Yes we can include that in the forward plan.
- Buses – can we have a more detailed discussion at a future meeting? A workshop with officers is planned and there will be an update on buses at a future meeting of the Transport Committee.

Councillor Scott thanked Tom for the presentation and asked if the dates of the Local Authority consultations could be circulated once confirmed.

It was agreed that the presentation and a copy of the draft STP be circulated to Committee members post-meeting.

The Chair suggested that it would be useful for the Committee to visit some of the sites discussed during the meeting and it was agreed that a half day bus tour be organised after the summer.

ANY OTHER BUSINESS

None.

DATE OF NEXT MEETING

Date is still to be confirmed but it was suggested that the Committee should meet again in November once the STP consultation has been completed.