

LEP - Transport for Lancashire Committee

Minutes of the Meeting held on Wednesday, 28th March, 2018 at 2.00 pm at the Committee Room 'D' (The Henry Bolingbroke Room) - County Hall, Preston

Present

County Councillor Geoff Driver CBE (Chairman)

Graham Cowley

Councillor Fred Jackson
Councillor Phil Riley

Also In Attendance

Mike Cliffe, Strategic Transport Manager, Blackburn with Darwen Borough Council
Dave Colbert, Specialist Advisor - Transportation, Lancashire County Council
County Councillor Michael Green, Cabinet Member for Economic Development and
Planning
Martin Kelly, Director of Economic Development, Lancashire County Council
Richard Perry, Department for Transport
Mike Sinnott, Highways England
Cath Rawcliffe, Democratic Services, Lancashire County Council

1. Welcome and Apologies for Absence

County Councillor Driver welcomed everyone to the meeting and noted that apologies had been received from Jeremy Walker, Transport Policy Manager, Blackpool Council.

2. Declarations of Interest

None declared.

3. Minutes of the meeting held on 10 January 2018

That the Minutes of the last meeting held on the 10 January 2018 be confirmed and signed by the Chair.

4. Matters Arising

There were no matters arising from the Minutes.

5. Transport for the North Draft Strategic Transport Plan Public Consultation

Dave Colbert, Specialist Advisor - Transportation, Lancashire County Council,

presented a report on Transport for the North's (TfN) Draft Strategic Transport Plan Public Consultation.

The report expressed broad support for the draft plan but identified three key strategic concerns. These related to proposals for the development and delivery of Northern Powerhouse Rail / Long Term Rail Strategy, the Major Road Network and Strategic Development Corridor priorities.

The report also recommended that a number of issues should be brought to the attention of TfN. These included the long-term strategic transport requirements set out in the Lancashire Strategic Transport Prospectus relevant to the Strategic Development Corridors and the issue of freight transport.

The Committee was informed that the report reflected the proposed response of the County Council.

Following discussion, it was agreed that the concerns identified in the report should form the basis of a submission by the LEP to the TfN consultation.

Following further discussion, it was agreed that officers from Lancashire County Council would liaise with Blackburn with Darwen Council and Blackpool Council with a view to ensuring consistency across the responses from the LEP, the County Council and the two Unitary Councils.

It was also proposed that any response to the consultation should include an affirmation of the positive aspects of the Strategic Transport Plan and demonstrate the value of the proposed amendments to the Plan.

Resolved: That the strategic concerns and issues raised in the Committee report form the basis for a LEP submission to Transport for the North's Draft Strategic Transport Plan Public Consultation.

6. Any Other Business

Dave Colbert presented an oral report on the Department for Transport's recently announced Transforming Cities Fund.

The Committee was informed that the Fund is part of the wider National Productivity Investment Fund aimed at driving up productivity and spreading prosperity through investment in public and sustainable transport in the larger city regions in England. It is expected that the fund will also support the delivery of the Government's Industrial Strategy, taking a place-based approach to investment in England's city regions.

The Committee was advised that the Government's key objective was to make a small number of large investments to drive up connectivity to centres of employment. Funding would be available over a four year period.

The Government would be seeking evidence of the case for investment, the wider fit with other stakeholders and investment programmes and the ambition of a city region to improve specific routes. Successful city regions would also need to demonstrate clear prioritisation and that significant investment on a small number

of corridors would have a big impact.

Following discussion, it was proposed that Lancashire County Council, Blackburn with Darwen Council and Blackpool Council would explore the possibility of sharing information and compiling and submitting joint bids.

The Committee noted that a progress report would be presented to the next meeting on the 5 June 2018 and that the closing date for applications was the 8th June 2018.

Resolved:- That the report be noted and that a progress report be presented to the next meeting of the Transport for Lancashire Committee on the 5th June 2018.

7. Date of Next Meeting

It was noted that the next meeting would be held on Tuesday 5 June 2018 at 2pm in Committee Room 'D', County Hall, Preston