

AT A MEETING of SOLENT TRANSPORT held on 3 February 2016 in the Council Chamber, Fareham Borough Council, FAREHAM

Voting Members Present:

Councillor Ken Ellcome, Executive Member for Traffic & Transportation, Portsmouth City Council

Councillor Jacqui Rayment, Cabinet Member for Environment and Transport, Southampton City Council

Councillor Shirley Smart, Executive Member for Economy and Tourism, Isle of Wight Council

Councillor Seán Woodward, Executive Member for Economy, Transport and Environment, Hampshire County Council

Solent Transport Officers

Phil Marshall – Principal Transport Planner

Andrew Wilson – Manager

Hampshire County Council Officers

Keith Wilcox – Assistant Director – Strategic Transport

Dominic McGrath – Strategic Transport Manager

Jackie Taylor - Democratic and Member Services

Sue Lapham – Economy, Transport and Environment Finance Business Partner, Corporate Services

Isle of Wight Officer

Chris Wells – Principal Officer, Transport Policy and Strategy

Portsmouth City Council Officer

Alan Cufley – Director of Transport, Environment and Business Support

Southampton City Council Officers

Paul Walker – Travel and Transport Manager

PUSH

No representative in attendance at this meeting

Solent Local Enterprise Partnership

Anne-Marie Mountfield- Chief Executive

Stuart Baker – Head of Local Growth

David Lees – Business Director

Aecom

Bob Miller

Andy Rumfitt

Interested Parties

Department for Transport – Maureen Pullen

Network Rail – Alasdair Cooper-Johnston

Go South Coast – Andrew Wickham

South Hampshire Bus Operators Association – Richard Soper

First Group – Marc Reddy

Hampshire and Isle of Wight Business Alliance – Graham Ellis

Observers

Eastleigh Borough Council – Cllr David Airey

Fareham Borough Council – Cllr Geoff Hockley

Havant Borough Council- Stuart Wood

95. BROADCASTING ANNOUNCEMENT

The Chairman announced that the press and members of the public were permitted to film and broadcast the meeting. Those remaining at the meeting were consenting to being filmed and recorded, and to the possible use of those images and recording for broadcasting purposes.

96. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Cllr Shirley Smart, Executive Member for Economy and Tourism at Isle of Wight Council. Cllr Paul Fuller was in attendance in her place.

97. DISCLOSURES OF INTEREST

Members were mindful that where they believed they had a Disclosable Pecuniary Interest in any matter considered at the meeting they must declare that interest at the time of the relevant debate and, having regard to the circumstances described in Part 3, Paragraph 6 of the City Council's Members' Code of Conduct leave the meeting while the matter was discussed, save for exercising any right to speak in accordance with Paragraph 6(4) of the Code. Furthermore Members were mindful that where they believed they had a Non-Pecuniary interest in a matter being considered at the meeting they considered whether such interest should be declared, and having regard to Part 4 Paragraph 13 of the Code, considered whether it was appropriate to leave the meeting whilst the matter was discussed, save for exercising any right to speak in accordance with the Code.

There were no declarations made by Members.

98. MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 30 OCTOBER AND MATTERS ARISING

Members agreed the Minutes of the Meeting held on 30 October 2015 were a correct record and the minutes were signed by the Chairman.

99. **DEPUTATIONS**

There were no deputations.

100. **CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS**

The Chairman announced that he would be representing Solent Transport on the Solent Land and Infrastructure Board and the Transport Investment Plan Steering Group, to ensure that Solent Transport's interests would be represented in the next stage of the Transport Investment Plan.

The Chairman reported that Solent Transport had recently commissioned Atkins to undertake a "Rapid Transit" study to build on and complement the Transport Investment Plan work commissioned by the Solent LEP. The importance of engagement with key partners was highlighted by the Chairman and it was noted that a workshop was recently held consisting of representatives from Network Rail, South West Trains, PUSH and the South Hampshire Bus Operators Association.

The Chairman highlighted that the Department for Transport had opened a consultation on Sir Peter Hendy's review of Network Rail's investment programme, and that this would be responded to by officers and ratified at the next Solent Transport meeting.

It was heard that the outcome of the Low Emission Bus Scheme bid had been delayed as the Department for Transport had yet to receive a response from the European Commission on the status of its State Aid application.

The full Chairman's Announcements are appended to these Minutes in the Minute Book.

101. **SOLENT LEP TRANSPORT INVESTMENT PLAN - UPDATE**

Members received a presentation which provided an update on the Solent LEP Transport Investment Plan (Item 6 in the Minute Book).

The presentation focussed on large scale investment to support economic growth in the Solent LEP area, drawing on evidence from a number of sources and addressing key issues around tourism, employment, travel and transportation and infrastructure.

The Joint Committee welcomed the presentation and analysis and considered a number of points, including the integration of transport links around the region and the importance of including all interested parties in discussions.

The Solent Transport authorities expressed their disappointment at the level of engagement offered by the LEP during this study. The local authorities had anticipated a greater deal of collaborative working but in their view this had not been the case and therefore collectively felt that they were unable to endorse

the study at this time. It was recognised that close working, including maintaining a good relationship with major stakeholders including the DfT, Network Rail and Highways England alongside the application of a consistent plan with a viable strategy would be instrumental in delivery. The LEP representative acknowledged the benefit of strong engagement and explained that the Board was committed to an ambitious programme, despite the challenging funding climate.

Looking forward, the Joint Committee heard that engagement with MPs through a meeting in Westminster would take place shortly, with a view to presenting a report to the LEP Board in March 2016, prior to beginning a process of public consultation. The Joint Committee Members offered to support the LEP at the meeting with MPs. It was noted that a number of MPs had concerns relating to rail connectivity and issues relating to future franchise arrangements.

Members **RESOLVED**:

That the Joint Committee notes the presentation and urges the Solent LEP to work in a more collaborative way with Solent Transport as the transport study moves to the next stages.

102. **BUDGET 2015/16 AND 2016/17**

Members received a report on the forecast revenue budget outturn for the 2015/16 financial year and to recommend a provisional revenue budget for 2016/17 (Item 7 in the Minute Book).

Members' attention was drawn to Table 1 of the report which set out the current Revenue Budget position for Solent Transport, detailing the forecast outturn of £413,000 by year-end against the revised budget of £469,000 which was agreed at the last Solent Transport meeting. The reasons contributing to this underspend were explained and it was heard that this would be carried forward to the 2016/17 revenue budget.

Table 2 of the report highlighted the provisional revenue funding for 2016/17, and detailed the partner contributions to this. It was heard that since the writing of the report, some additional funding for the Sub-Regional Transport Model (SRTM) upgrade had been identified from a combination of capital funding and partner contributions. Officers explained that under delegated authority, the Senior Management Team would take this work forward.

Members **RESOLVED**:

That the Joint Committee:

(a) Note the forecast outturn for the 2015/16 revenue budget;

- (b) Approve the proposed carry forward of the anticipated unspent balance from 2015/16 to 2016/17;
- (c) Approve the provisional partner revenue contributions for 2016/17;
- (d) Approve the provisional revenue budget for 2016/17 based on these contributions.

103. **CROSSRAIL 2 CONSULTATION**

Members received a report seeking retrospective approval to the response to the Crossrail 2 consultation which was submitted on 8 January 2016 (Item 8 in the Minute Book).

The report was summarised and Members heard that the proposed London rail tunnel from the South Western Route at Wimbledon to the Great Northern and Cambridge routes in North East London would allow for additional services to run from the Solent area. Member's attention was drawn to the full consultation response in the report and Members discussed the improved rail links from the Solent area to London and benefits for air travel. The business benefits to the Solent area were also highlighted.

Members **RESOLVED:**

That the Joint Committee retrospectively approves the consultation response to the Crossrail 2 Consultation in the attached Appendix, which was submitted on the 8 January 2016.

104. **SOUTH WESTERN RAIL FRANCHISE CONSULTATION**

Members received a report detailing the proposed consultation response on the South Western Franchise specification on behalf of Solent Transport (Item 9 in the Minute Book).

The strategic key issues of the consultation response were detailed to Members. It was noted that there were key capacity issues relating to main line services to and from London, and the consultation response highlighted the need for 2+2 seating as standard which Members were supportive of, and the consultation response highlighted the reduced comfort levels for a 3+2 seating arrangement. .

The consultation response also detailed suggested improvements to fares and ticketing, opportunities for interchange improvements and improvements to the Island Line with the possibility of a light rail based solution which was fully supported by Cllr Smart and Isle of Wight Council Officers.

The representative from Network Rail reinforced their support to the consultation response and highlighted that this reflected all the views of the partnership.

With the inclusion of a couple of minor additions to page 6 of the Consultation response at the request of Cllr Ellcome, Members were supportive of the response and congratulated officers for their work.

Members **RESOLVED:**

That the Joint Committee approves the consultation response to the South Western Franchise in the Appendix.

105. SPENDING REVIEW AND AUTUMN STATEMENT 2015 UPDATE

Members received a report and presentation detailing the transport funding opportunities over the five year period from 2016/17 to 2020/21 (Item 10 in the Minute Book).

The report was outlined to the Members and a presentation highlighting the Transport Capital Expenditure for this period was presented to Members. Members noted the £61 billion of total Transport Capital Expenditure and the breakdown of this was detailed. Attention was drawn to the £27.6 billion for network Rail Enhancements and Renewals which took account of the recent Hendy Review.

Funding associated with the Bus Service Operators' Grant was outlined and Members heard that the Grant totalling £1.25 billion would help to fund projects including the potholes action fund, cycling, ultra low emission vehicles and the Transport Development Fund.

Members **RESOLVED:**

That the Joint Committee notes the transport funding opportunities proposed in the Spending Review and Autumn Statement 2015.

Meeting closed at 11:45 am