
Rail North Committee Meeting – Minutes

Meeting: Rail North Committee
Date: Tuesday 2nd April 2019, 10.00 – 12.00
Venue: Leeds – Committee Room A, Wellington House.

Attendees:

Cllr Liam Robinson (Chair)
Cllr Harold Davenport
Cllr Trevor Ainsworth
Mayor Andy Burnham

Cllr Nick Forbes
Cllr Chris Read
Cllr Judith Blake

Liverpool City Region
Cheshire and the Potteries
East Midlands Authorities
Greater Manchester Combined
Authority
North East Combined Authorities
Sheffield City Region
West Yorkshire and York

Also in Attendance:

Anna-Jane Hunter (for item 1-4)
Richard George (for item 1-4)
Barry White
David Hoggarth
Oyetona Raheem
Adam Timewell
Tom Davidson
Amanda White
Tobyn Hughes
Sam Caughey
Dawn Madin
Sasha Wayne
Deborah Dimock
Jim Bamford
Bob Morris
Jane Cornthwaite
Melissa Farmer
Richard Crabtree

Network Rail
SNC Lavalin
Chief Executive, TfN
Strategic Rail Director
Democratic Services Officer
Senior Commercial Manager
Transport Planner
TfGM
Nexus
DfT
TfN
TfN
TfN
TfN
TFGM
TFGM
SYPTE
WYCA

Apologies:

Cllr Rob Waltham
Cllr Keith Iddon
Cllr Carl Les
Mayor Ben Houchen

Humber Authorities
Lancashire and Cumbria
North Yorkshire
Tees Valley Combined Authority

1.0 Welcome and Apologies **Action**

1.1 Attendees were welcomed to the meeting.

2.0 Declaration of Interest

2.1 There were no declarations of interest.

3.0 Minutes

3.1 The Minutes of the meeting held on 6 March 2019 were considered.

RESOLVED: To approve the minutes of the meeting held on 6 March 2019 as a correct record.

4.0 Rail Performance Update

4.1 Richard George gave updates on the implementation of the remedial plan required to address industry performance following May 2018 and preparation for May 2019.

The four areas covered in his updates were implementation, investment, service promise and May 2019 readiness.

4.2 Richard George advised that all the recommended actions following his review have been acted upon with the exception of two on which he intends to have further meetings with Network Rail. The outstanding issues were related to performance modelling and Key Performance Indicators (KPIs) for timetable performance.

4.3 The Chair asked for the timescale for the completion of his final report. Richard George replied that this would be ready before the next Committee in May.

4.4 In relation to readiness for the May timetable alterations Richard George commented that in his view, the teams are ready to deliver the new timetable in a stable fashion.

4.5 At this point the Committee moved into private session from which the press and public were excluded.

5.0 Exclusion of Press and Public

RESOLVED: That the public be excluded from the meeting during consideration of the following items of business since it is likely that, in view of the nature of the business to be transacted or the nature of the proceedings, if members of the public were present there would be disclosure to them of confidential information as defined in s100A(2) of the Local Government Act 1972 (as amended) and exempt information as defined in paragraph 3 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972 (as amended).

5.1 (Item 4 was continued in the private session)

Anna-Jane Hunter provided an update on the Central Manchester Capacity study undertaken by Network Rail.

5.2 In relation to broader performance issues, Members expressed a number of concerns about ongoing problems of crowding and the number of cancellations still coming through the reports. Cllr Blake suggested, and it was agreed that the 2 April Committee should be the last when reports provided don't have the crucial information of the number of passengers affected by overcrowding.

RESOLVED: To **receive** the report

6.0 Franchise Strategy

6.1 There was a presentation by Barry White during which updates were provided to the Committee on issues relating to franchise management.

RESOLVED:

- I. To note the report
- II. To approve officers' proposals for actions to be taken as set out in the report.

7.0 Industry Updates

7.1 The report updated the Committee on progress on a number of industry and Rail North Partnership issues including:

- Readiness for May 2019;
- Future timetable development (including December 2019);

- The 'Blake Jones' Review of the Rail North Partnership;
- The Independent Chair of the Rail North Partnership Board; and
- The Williams Review.

7.2 Further discussions were held on how the train operators have been addressing the Committee's concerns on performance.

RESOLVED: To **note** the report.

8.0 Date of the Next Meeting

RESOLVED: That the next Committee will be held on Tuesday, 14 May 2019 in Committee Room A, Wellington House, Leeds from 14.00 until 16.00.