

6.1 Blake Jones Action Plan – Appendix 1

	Action	Milestone	Owner
1. Passenger Promise	Work with TOCs to produce a concise, accessible Passenger Promise, and develop proposals for promoting and expanding passenger engagement in decision making, for discussion and agreement.		Transport for the North, DfT, external partners
	Invite TOCs to produce draft proposals for improved passenger information systems for discussion and agreement.		Rail North Partnership, external partners
	Invite Transport Focus to establish new ways of working, possibly through a Memorandum of Understanding to set out the terms (including specific reporting mechanisms).		Rail North Partnership, external partners
	Produce a performance snapshot for discussion and agreement. This will be impacted by the dashboard information made available by Network Rail.		Rail North Partnership, external partners
2. Decision making	<p>Develop a formal scheme of delegation. This will include, among other elements:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Role profiles for all relevant parties, setting out their responsibilities and relationships, in particular the Rail North Partnership Board Members and Chair, and the Rail North Committee Chair; • Consideration of where greater responsibility can be delegated within the framework of the current Partnership Agreement <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ from the DfT to the Rail North Partnership where there are no material financial consequences or risks for DfT, ○ to Northern leaders to enable them to be responsible and accountable for relevant choices, and ○ to Rail North Partnership officers in order to ensure the RNP Board retains a strategic focus • A breakdown of what decisions are taken, when, by whom, and who should be consulted. 		Transport for the North, DfT
	As part of Transport for the North’s Constitutional Review currently being undertaken, a revised Rail North Committee Terms of Reference to allow for greater visibility and accountability between the Rail North Committee and Rail North Partnership Board.		Transport for the North

	<p>This may include changes to meeting patterns to schedule alternating meetings – and reflecting the Integrated Forward Plan – and the membership of the Committee to provide for Transport for the North Partnership Board Members to formally attend in a non-voting, ex-officio capacity in order to enable direct reporting.</p>		
	<p>Deliver the Rail North Partnership Annual Review.</p>		<p>Transport for the North, DfT</p>
	<p>Produce a draft Memorandum of Understanding between DfT, Transport for the North, and Network Rail for discussion and agreement.</p>		<p>Transport for the North, DfT, external partners</p>
3. Information sharing	<p>Review the information sharing and confidentiality provisions within the bounds of the current Partnership Agreement and Franchise Agreements. This will reflect the new scheme of delegation, and will require the identification of different types of sensitive information currently used within the Partnership.</p>		<p>Transport for the North, DfT</p>
	<p>Produce a draft decision making log for discussion and agreement.</p>		<p>Rail North Partnership</p>
4. Forward planning	<p>Develop a draft Integrated Forward Plan, including a new Communication Protocol, for discussion and agreement.</p>		<p>Rail North Partnership, external partners</p>
	<p>This will reflect the new scheme of delegation, and will require coordination with Network Rail and the TOCs to ensure read-across with their business plans, as well as to request Network Rail provide an ongoing information dashboard and to agree the details of it.</p>		
5. Resource	<p>Establish the financial requirements of additional resources for the RNP team and Transport for the North Strategic Rail team to provide for the Recommendations. This may include some temporary resource to enable delivery, and will establish what the financial implications are for all partners.</p>		<p>Transport for the North</p>

	Produce a draft member-officer code of conduct for discussion and agreement, similar to that used by local authorities, which addresses the need to more firmly reflect that the Rail North Partnership represents the interests of both Northern communities as well as the Government.		Transport for the North, DfT
6 - 9. Wider changes	Develop a response to the Williams Review into the operation of the rail industry, reflecting the questions raised regarding the need for: a guiding mind on system-wide risk; greater Northern accountability of Network Rail; the reconfiguration of the rail franchises; and full devolution of responsibilities of the North.		Transport for the North
	Develop an evidence base with relevant information for the case for the North to assume full control of the franchising process.		Transport for the North