

Rail North Committee – Minutes

Meeting: Rail North Committee
Date: 13th September 2018
Venue: Mercure Hotel, Sheffield

Attendees:

Cllr. Liam Robinson (Chair)	Liverpool City Region
Mayor Andy Burnham	Greater Manchester
Cllr. Harold Davenport	Cheshire & Potteries
Cllr. Rob Waltham	Humber Authorities
Mayor Ben Houchen	Tees Valley
Cllr. Judith Blake	West Yorkshire & York
Cllr. Carl Marshall	North East Combined Authority
Cllr. Don Mackenzie	North Yorkshire
Keith Little	Lancashire & Cumbria
Trevor Ainsworth	East Midlands

Apologies:

Mayor Dan Jarvis	Sheffield City Region
Cllr. Keith Iddon	Lancashire & Cumbria
Cllr. Carl Les	North Yorkshire

Industry Representatives:

Anna-jane Hunter (Item 1-5)	Network Rail
Leo Goodwin (Item 1-5)	TransPennine Express
Liam Sumpter (Item 1-5)	Northern
David Brown (Item 6)	Northern
Richard Allan (Item 6)	Northern

Officers in Attendance:

Barry White (Item 6 onwards)	Transport for the North
David Hoggarth	Transport for the North
Gary Bogan	Rail North Partnership
Tom Davidson	Transport for the North
Deborah Dimock	Transport for the North
Mark Hardman	Transport for the North
Simon Shrouder	Transport for the North

1.0 Welcome and Apologies

Action

- 1.1 Colleagues were welcomed to the meeting.
- 1.2 Apologies for absence were noted as above.

2.0 Declaration of Interests

- 2.1 No personal, prejudicial or disclosable pecuniary interests were noted.

3.0 Minutes

- 3.1 The minutes of the meeting held on 23 August 2018 were agreed as an accurate record.

4.0 Exclusion of the Press and Public

RESOLVED: That the public be excluded from the meeting during the consideration of the following items because it is likely that there will be disclosure of exempt information as defined in paragraph C of Part 1 of Schedule 12A (as amended) of the Local Government Act 1972.

5.0 Industry Performance and Timetable Update

- 5.1 Anna-jane Hunter (Network Rail) (AJH) noted that the presentation regarding performance and timetable issues had already been given at the earlier Transport for the North meeting, but that any further questions were welcome.
- 5.2 Members discussed a number of points in the presentation including:
- Performance improvement targets
 - Impact on passenger demand
 - Short formations
 - Northern's Sunday cancellations
 - Preparedness for the Autumn
- 5.3 The Committee requested a report setting out what measures are being taken to mitigate Autumn performance by 21st September.
- 5.4 Various Committee members noted that the performance analysis provided made it difficult to see what a typical dataset should be; in particular, how do the figures compare to the previous year? In this regard, industry partners were requested to provide a comparison of 2017 and 2018 data.
- AJH to provide on industry actions regarding Autumn performance. Industry partners to provide comparison of 2017 and 2018 data.

RESOLVED: That the Report be received and Members be provided with year on year comparison data.

6.0 Industrial Relations Update from Northern

6.1 Responding to a previous request from members, Northern representatives gave a presentation regarding industrial relations and performance.

6.2 It was noted that TfN was arranging to meet RMT.

RESOLVED: It was agreed that a further briefing for members should be arranged with DfT as co-client.

7.0 Franchise Contract Management (r) / (p)

7.1 A presentation was given by Gary Bogan (Transport for the North) (GB) regarding the franchise management issues being dealt with by Rail North Partnership.

7.2 Discussion followed this, regarding the nature of the incentives and measures within the franchise agreement.

7.3 Councillor Judith Blake (JB) requested that a copy of the presentation be available electronically. TfN to share presentation.

RESOLVED: That the report be received and that Members be forwarded a copy of the presentation.

8.0 Timetable Enhancement Schemes

8.1 A presentation was given regarding a proposal to scope and cost a scheme to develop TPE's North Route, including the recast of stopping services and an extension to Saltburn. This could resolve a number of key issues with the current timetable and provide enhancements for passengers.

8.2 Rail North Committee will be kept informed and approval will be sought before final implementation of the scheme.

RESOLVED: Approval was given to develop the scheme further.

9.0 TransPennine Express – Performance Improvement for October 2018

The Chair agreed that this item could be considered as an urgent item under section 100B of the Local Government Act 1972 to enable a timely response to be given to TPE's request for timetable changes.

- 9.1 TPE had shared a report setting out an option to improve performance from October 2018 through to the December 2018 timetable change, involving a number of train service alterations.
- 9.2 BH noted that the proposal was unacceptable. Various committee members stated that the timescale required for approving this scheme was not sufficient, given the lack of data available. Similar concerns have been raised at officer level.
- 9.3 RW noted that the Committee was willing to consider options, if sufficient evidence is available within an appropriate timeframe.

RESOLVED: Feedback be provided to the Rail North Partnership (RNP) setting out Transport for the North's views, and that any further proposals developed by the industry would be considered. DH to provide feedback to RNP

10.0 Dates of the next meetings

- 10.1 The next meetings will be held on:
- 9th October 2018, 2pm
 - 13th November 2018, 2pm
 - 6th December 2018, 2pm