
Rail North Committee Meeting – Item 6

Subject: Business Plan for 2019/20

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Sponsor: Iain Craven, Finance Director

Meeting Date: Thursday 6 December 2018

1. Executive Summary:

- 1.1 This report provides an update on the draft business plan objectives for 2019/20. The Committee is asked to consider the level of member contributions for 2019/20.

2. Recommendations:

- 2.1 That Committee members **consider** the draft business plan and level of member contributions for 2019/20.

3. Draft Business Plan for 2019/20

- 3.1 At the last meeting of the Committee, members discussed the planned priority areas of focus for the TfN Strategic Rail team for next year being:

- Industry Performance improvement;
- Service Development/Delivery;
- Long Term Rail Strategy delivery;
- Communications and Engagement.

- 3.2 Members requested further information on the proposed business plan. The draft plan for 2018/19 is attached as Appendix 1.

- 3.3 The proposed staffing plan includes 2 x additional members of staff providing TfN's input to delivery of franchise outputs and performance improvement. This includes the provision of enhanced data and reporting to TfN member authorities. These additional staff will be supported by further input from and close collaboration with TfN member authority staff working in that area.

- 3.4 The business plan also proposes 2 x additional members of staff supporting the development and delivery of schemes flowing from the Long-Term Rail Strategy. This would include supporting member authorities' priority schemes as well as developing business cases to

secure a greater level of investment in the North. The opportunity to utilise member authority resources will be explored including the opportunity for secondments.

- 3.5 Funding for additional posts would have to come from TfN's Core Budget (if not from member contributions) and TfN will need to consider this in the context of all other funding and staff requirements.

4. Budget and Member Contributions

- 4.1 At the Committee meeting on 13 September, members expressed the view that it would be difficult to provide additional funding at the present time, implying that the status quo in terms of member contributions should be maintained.

- 4.2 Given the on-going review of the Rail North Partnership (and its expected consideration of resource requirements to implement the recommendations), it is proposed to leave members contributions unchanged at the present time and possibly re-visit in light of the review and the capacity to fund the requirements from TfN's Core Budget.

- 4.3 The proposition for Member contributions for the year 2019/20 is therefore no change from the current financial year (save for the application of indexation as set out in the relevant agreements).

- 4.4 The total Members contributions (as specified in TfN's Franchise Management Agreement) are:
- Member Contributions: £36,000 (plus indexation) 'Cash' contribution
 - Additional Contributions: £36,000 (plus indexation) 'Cash' or 'in kind' contribution.
 - Supplemental Payments: £500,00 (plus indexation) Combined Authorities/PTEs only

5. Options Considered:

- 5.1 There is an alternative option to set a different level of Additional Contributions and/or vary the draft Business Plan and priorities therein.

6. Considerations:

- 6.1 Members are asked to consider the options.

7. Preferred Option:

- 7.1 The preferred option is to leave the Additional Contributions at the same level as 2018/19 and review the position once the Review of the Rail North Partnership is complete.

8. Appendices:

- 6.1 Appendix 1: Draft Business Plan for Strategic Rail.

List of Background Documents
Required Considerations

Please confirm using the yes/no options whether or not the following considerations are of relevance to this report.

Equalities:

| | | |
|-------------------------|-----|----|
| Age | Yes | No |
| Disability | Yes | No |
| Gender Reassignment | Yes | No |
| Pregnancy and Maternity | Yes | No |
| Race | Yes | No |
| Religion or Belief | Yes | No |
| Sex | Yes | No |
| Sexual Orientation | Yes | No |

| Consideration | Comment | Responsible Officer | Director |
|----------------------|---|----------------------------|-------------------------|
| Equalities | A full Impact assessment has not been carried out because the report does not relate to a specific scheme | Programme Manager | Strategic Rail Director |

Environment and Sustainability

| | |
|-----|----|
| Yes | No |
|-----|----|

| Consideration | Comment | Responsible Officer | Director |
|----------------------|----------------|----------------------------|-----------------|
|----------------------|----------------|----------------------------|-----------------|

| | | | |
|------------------------------|---|-------------------|-------------------------|
| Sustainability / Environment | A full impact assessment has not been carried out because the report does not relate to a specific scheme | Programme Manager | Strategic Rail Director |
|------------------------------|---|-------------------|-------------------------|

Legal

| | |
|-----|----|
| Yes | No |
|-----|----|

| Consideration | Comment | Responsible Officer | Director |
|----------------------|--|----------------------------|------------------------|
| Legal | TfN <i>Legal Team</i> has confirmed there are no legal implications. | Strategic Rail Director | Head of Legal Services |

Finance

| | |
|-----|----|
| Yes | No |
|-----|----|

| Consideration | Comment | Responsible Officer | Director |
|----------------------|---|----------------------------|------------------|
| Finance | The options relating to Members' contributions are set out in the report. | Strategic Rail Director | Finance Director |

Resource

| | |
|-----|----|
| Yes | No |
|-----|----|

| Consideration | Comment | Responsible Officer | Director |
|----------------------|--|----------------------------|-------------------------|
| Resource | The level of Members' contributions will be a factor in the resources available. | Programme Manager | Strategic Rail Director |

Risk

| | |
|-----|----|
| Yes | No |
|-----|----|

| Consideration | Comment | Responsible Officer | Director |
|----------------------|----------------|----------------------------|-----------------|
|----------------------|----------------|----------------------------|-----------------|

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|------|--|-------------------|-------------------------|
| Risk | There are no new risks associated with the report. | Programme Manager | Strategic Rail Director |
|------|--|-------------------|-------------------------|

Consultation

| | |
|-----|----|
| Yes | No |
|-----|----|

| Consideration | Comment | Responsible Officer | Director |
|----------------------|---|----------------------------|-----------------|
| Consultation | Consultation has taken place with Lead Rail Officers. | Strategic Rail Director | Chief Executive |