



Cardiff Capital Region Transport Authority

10.00am-12.00pm on Thursday 26 November 2020

Remote Meeting using Microsoft Teams

Minutes

Members

Cllr Huw David (Chair)	(HD)	Bridgend County Borough Council
Cllr Richard Young	(RY)	Bridgend County Borough Council
Cllr Sean Morgan	(SM)	Caerphilly County Borough Council
Cllr Caro Wild	(CW)	Cardiff Council
Cllr Geraint Thomas	(GT)	Merthyr Tydfil County Borough Council
Cllr Jane Pratt (until 12:07)	(JP)	Monmouthshire County Council
Cllr Roger Jeavons (until 11:49)	(RJ)	Newport City Council
Cllr Andrew Morgan	(AM)	Rhondda Cynon Taf CBC
Cllr Ann Crimmings	(AC)	Rhondda Cynon Taf County Borough Council
Cllr Amanda Owen	(AO)	Torfaen County Borough Council
Cllr Peter King	(PK)	Vale of Glamorgan Council

Officers

Owen Ashton	(OA)	Blaenau Gwent County Borough Council
Jonathan Parsons	(JN)	Bridgend County Borough Council
Clive Campbell	(CC)	Caerphilly County Borough Council
Paul Carter	(PC)	Cardiff Council
Kellie Beirne	(KB)	CCR City Deal
Hrijinder Singh	(HS)	CCR City Deal
Clare Cameron	(CC)	CCR City Deal
Suzanne Chesterton	(SC)	CCR City Deal
Nathan Llewellyn	(NL)	CCR City Deal
Liz Fitzgerald (minutes)	(ESF)	CCR City Deal
James Williams	(JW)	CCR City Deal Accountable Body
Alun Evans	(AE)	Merthyr Tydfil County Borough Council
Frances O'Brien	(FO'B)	Monmouthshire County Council
Richard Cope	(RC)	Monmouthshire County Council
Christian Schmidt	(CS)	Monmouthshire County Council
Roger Hoggins	(RH)	Monmouthshire County Council
Siân Isgrove	(SI)	Monmouthshire County Council
Susan Wilkins	(SW)	Monmouthshire County Council
Simon Nicholls	(SN)	Newport City Council
Charlie Nelson	(CN)	Rhondda Cynon Taf County Borough Council
Stephen Jarrett	(SJ)	Torfaen County Borough Council
Geoff Ogden	(GO)	Transport for Wales
Emma Reed	(ER)	Vale of Glamorgan Council

Presenter

Simon Jones (until 11:02) Welsh Government

Observer

Tim Peppin (TP) Welsh Local Government Association

Apologies

Cllr Dai Davies (DD) Blaenau-Gwent County Borough Council

Nicola Somerville (NS) CCR City Deal

Gareth Gates (GG) CCR City Deal Accountable Body

Cllr John Ridgewell (JR) Caerphilly County Borough Council

Roger Waters (RW) Rhondda Cynon Taf County Borough Council

Recording of the meeting was started at 10:05

1. Welcome and Apologies

Cllr David opened the meeting and apologies were noted.

2. Declarations of Interest

Cllr Sean Morgan declared a general interest because as a member of the WLGA Council, he sits on the Board of CBI Cymru (Traveline).

3. Minutes from the Meeting held on 17 September 2020

The minutes of the previous meeting were agreed as a true and accurate record as moved by Cllr Jeavons and seconded by Richard Cope.

4. Welsh Government Update

- (1) **The discussion is exempt from publication because it contains such information as described in paragraphs 14 (information relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person) and 21 (public interest test) of sections 4 and 5 of Schedule 12A to the Local Government Act 1972 and in all the circumstances of the case the public interest in maintaining the exemption outweighs the public interest in disclosing the information**

Cllr David thanked Simon for his presentation.

Simon left at 11:02

5. Levelling-up/ Western Gateway STP and Rail Priorities

- (1) Kellie discussed the issues around levelling-up. The City Deal Office had commissioned Prof Mark Barry to draw up a set of priorities for strategic rail and set out the asks and offers for the region's levelling-up agenda. Kellie proposed badging the Levelling-up Prospectus as being led by the RTA as part of a wider prospectus for the region. This would prepare the region for the comprehensive spending review, major changes to the Green Book and the 5 Case Business Model, a levelling-up fund administered across HM Treasury, the Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government (MHCLG) and transport

departments, and the connectivity review being led by Lord Hendy. Kellie asked that Members contact her as soon as possible if they wished to comment further.

6. RTA ‘A New Agenda for a New Future’

- (1) Clare introduced the report which set out the need for a new agenda and future for the RTA, and to widen its remit. Working groups had been established to look at legal powers, governance, TfW, future funding and the decision-making process. The WLGA had formed a scrutiny committee for elected Members to consider the proposals by Welsh Government and TfW; a meeting scheduled for 9 November with the Deputy Minister had been postponed until each region could contribute. The City Deal proposed to formalise and appoint a Bus Manager to take the new strategy forward with TfW and Welsh Government.
- (2) The Board discussion included:
 - (1) the need for succession planning;
 - (2) leadership requirements;
 - (3) funding and the establishment of a regional unit;
 - (4) pace of activity – change must be quicker;
 - (5) top-slicing of funding (more detail would be required prior to a final commitment from the Board);
 - (6) the strategic rail programme was still being prepared; the Board agreed that Cllr David would have authority to sign-off the programme.
- (3) Chat – Christian Schmidt
There used to be a regional bus working group, with officers from all councils (+operators + community transport representatives + passenger representatives). There are still regular informal discussions but the group ceased to operate last year when the chair resigned (to take up a job at TfW as it is), and we could not find anyone to take on this work. I would expect the new regional bus manager to resurrect this
- (4) It was resolved that the CCR RTA Board:
 - a) supported a request to Regional Cabinet to seek authority from the member Councils to amend the Terms of Reference of the RTA, to include widening its remit to enable it to play a role in co-ordinating, aligning and leveraging transport planning and investment for all regional strategic programmes as identified at Appendix 1, including:
 - being a regional point of co-ordination for complementary Welsh Government (WG)/ CCR programmes;
 - an integrated and effective Regional Bus Network proposal as identified at appendix 2;
 - develop its first strategic publication setting out the Regional Rail priorities for CCR – which, in anticipation of the Western Gateway Sub-National Transport Plan work, ‘levelling-up’ asks and offers and, wider opportunities that will arise via the COVID-recovery response. The first part of this work is set out in the proposed draft

document 'Strategic Rail Vision & Priorities for Cardiff Capital Region' as attached at appendix 3;

- initial work to scope, at a policy test case level, research and insight into fiscal levers, such as NNDR and Tax Increment Financing which could be future tools in regional transport investment; and,
 - begin to scope and assess future functions and required levers in response to any future development of a Corporate Joint Committee for the CJC, which will embody a Transport Sub-committee responsible for Strategic Transport Planning and the creation of a Regional Transport Plan;
- b) supported a request to Regional Cabinet to agree to establish a Regional Unit under the auspices of the CCR Office to deliver the regional bus network that consolidates skills and resources in a combined team, including potential additional resources to accommodate increasing workload, and to resource a bus manager to provide a full time role to focus on delivering regional / local bus functions (as identified in the paper at appendix 2);
- c) supported a request to Regional Cabinet to adopt a Strategic Rail Provision & Priorities for the Cardiff Capital Region for the CCR to set the vision for the CCR in respect of future rail provision.

7. CJC Presentation

- (1) Kellie went through her presentation which described an evolutionary approach for the transition to CJs. The Board raised no questions.

Cllr David thanked Kellie for her report.

8. Metro Plus Update

- (1) Clare introduced the report and went through some remaining issues; although progress had been made, COVID-19 and deliverability meant that some issues would be addressed the following year.

Cllr David thanked Clare for her report.

- (2) It was resolved that the CCR RTA Board:

- (1) noted the progress of the regional programme; Metro Plus Phase 1, Metro Plus Phase 2, MEF Corridors and CVL enhancements and the indicative allocations set out at Appendices 1 and 2.

9. ULEV Update

- (1) Clare said that significant progress had been made on the transformation fund; the tender had been launched on 19 November for a partner to deliver infrastructure for the taxi incentive for 30 locations in the region for 50kw charges.

There was also a concession to manage the infrastructure over a 5 year period, up to a maximum of 8 years. Tenders were due on 18 December and it was hoped the City Deal Office could award the contract before the end of 2020. In recognition of the tight deadline, Welsh Government had been approached to meet the funding deficit. Delivery was intended to be in place by the end of March 2021.

- (2) A separate conversation was being held with Welsh Government about purchasing a number of Nissan dynamo taxis for the try-before-you-buy scheme. The available funding would allow 39 vehicles. Conversations had been held around a direct award but only one vehicle type was available that would meet the specification required; discussions on the legal issues were ongoing. It was intended to appoint a management company to manage the process and operation. The project would start in the next financial year for a period of 3 years.
- (3) The Board discussion included:
 - (1) making charging points available to private owners;
 - (2) power generation capacity in the region;
 - (3) working with energy providers to increase distribution and capacity locally to meet the needs of the region;
 - (4) Welsh Government funding conditions;
 - (5) number of jobs (potentially 12,000) generated by the region's energy strategy.

Cllr Pratt left at 12:07

- (4) Board discussion continued:
 - (6) the need for integrated public transport;
 - (7) the South East Wales Transport Commission report was now available at <https://gov.wales/south-east-wales-transport-commission-final-recommendations>.

Cllr David thanked Clare for her report.

- (5) It was resolved that the CCR RTA Board:
 - (1) noted the progress made on this project to deliver ULEV infrastructure to assist with the delivery of the ULEV Transformation as identified within this report;
 - (2) noted and endorsed the further bid submission to purchase up to 50 WAVs to operate a 'try before you buy' scheme.

Date of next meeting: 10.00am-12.00pm on Thursday 18 February 2021

This document is available in Welsh – translation to follow
Mae'r ddogfen hon ar gael yn Gymraeg – cyfieithiad i ddilyn