



Minutes of Board Meeting

Held on Friday 17th February 2012

At 10.30am at NTA Offices

Present: Mr John Fitzgerald (Chairperson), Mr Gerry Murphy (CEO), Mr Hugh Creegan (Director of Transport Planning and Investment), Mr Frank King, Ms Valerie O'Reilly, Mr James Deegan, Mr Damian Usher, Ms Linda Saunders, Dr Berna Grist, Mr Daithí Alcorn, Mr John Tierney (Dublin City Manager), Ms Margaret O'Shaughnessy.

Staff in attendance: Mr Philip L'Estrange (Agenda Item 3), Mr Michael Aherne (Agenda Item 4); Ms Anne Graham (Agenda Item 5) and Mr Karl Seeber (Minutes).

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1. Minutes of previous meeting

The minutes of the meeting held on 27th January 2012 were agreed.

On matters arising from the minutes, attention was drawn to the commendation received by the Authority at the Irish Planning Institute's national awards ceremony for its role in the development of a personalised travel planning pilot project for Adamstown.

2. CEO Report

The Chief Executive outlined a decision by Government to give additional functions to the Authority. A formal announcement of the decision will be made in the near future. Cork's real-time passenger information system has been launched. At this point 17 signs are operational which will increase to 45 within a matter of weeks.

The Authority understands that a revised Employment Control Framework is expected in the near future. The Chief Executive noted that the staffing situation at the Authority is acute. The Leap Card is continuing to grow. Approximately 57,000 cards have been issued and 35,000 journeys are being undertaken each day using the card. The Chief Executive outlined the latest position concerning legal challenges involving the Authority.

In the discussion that followed the Chief Executive responded to questions concerning the status of the Dublin-Galway rail review and proposed changes to the No. 84 bus service. He confirmed that the Authority's pension scheme is still not finalised. The Authority's likely response to questions raised by An Bord Pleanála concerning the railway order application for the proposed Luas BXD line was outlined. In the case of the proposed National Journey Planner the Chief Executive confirmed that the Authority is developing arrangements which will require subsidised and licensed public

transport operators to use an online portal to notify the Authority of changes to their services. The Board agreed the need to specify a unified brand for transport combining colour, design and logo in order to identify all public transport provision in future design decisions and contracts.

3. Finance update

The Director of Finance and Corporate Affairs presented the December Management Accounts and gave a detailed rundown of the accounting arrangements for the integrated ticketing project. The Authority incurred expenditure of almost €512 million to end 2011. Overall the Authority came in almost €0.5 million under budget. Administration expenses came in €0.82 million under budget. The total available budget for capital grants in 2011 was fully utilised.

4. Planning and Investment Matters

Coach Parking: Mr Creegan made a presentation to the Board concerning work undertaken by the Authority to establish the existing level of provision for coach parking in Dublin City Centre and likely future demand as well as examining the scope for an off-street coach parking facility. The Board noted that a private sector proposal to establish such a facility is currently in train and that the Authority will await the outcome before proceeding further.

Small Projects Programme: Mr Aherne outlined the results of the 2011 programme of works and the proposed 2012 programme of works. In 2011 199 projects were funded at a total cost of €51.6 million. The Board noted that the 2012 programme has a budget of approximately €18.5 million and will support 73 schemes of which 22 are a continuation of 2011 projects. Included among the 51 new projects are improvements works along the Sutton to Sandymount walking and cycling route, a major reconfiguration of the roundabout at the O² (Point Depot) and removal of a severe pinch-point for many important bus services at the Cat and Cage on Drumcondra Road Lower.

5. Transport Services

Ms Graham explained that the Authority's existing direct award contracts with Dublin Bus and Bus Éireann are due to expire in 2014. She gave a presentation outlining the timetable and steps to be followed by the Authority in deciding whether to renew the existing direct award contracts or introduce competitive tendering for some or all of the bus services provided under those contracts.

6. Taxi update

The Chief Executive outlined the detailed planning work in being undertaken by the Authority in preparation for the implementation of the recommendations contained in the Government's Taxi Regulation Review Report. He indicated that he would be in a position to advise the Board on the actions programme at its next meeting and would also provide an overview of the Report.

7. Any other business

A Board member drew attention to recent developments in the UK concerning safety for cyclists.

Next Meeting: Friday 30th March 2012 @ 10.30am at NTA Offices.

Signed: _____

John Fitzgerald, Chairperson

Dated: _____