



## **Minutes of Board Meeting**

**Held on Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> January 2010  
at 10.30am at NTA offices**

### **Present:**

Mr. John Fitzgerald (Chairperson), Dr. Berna Grist, Mr. Frank King, Mr. Gerry Murphy (Chief Executive), Ms. Linda Saunders, Mr. John Tierney, Mr. Damian Usher.

### **1. Minutes of previous meeting**

The minutes of the Board's 1<sup>st</sup> meeting were proposed by Mr. King, seconded by Mr. Usher and agreed.

### **2. CEO Report**

A written report had been circulated to Board members in advance of the meeting. The CEO delivered a power-point presentation drawing attention to particular issues arising under the various headings. The presentation was circulated.

It was agreed that the Transport Strategy should be added to the agenda for the Board's next meeting.

On Integrated Ticketing the CEO noted that although responsibility for the project has not yet been transferred from the Department of Transport and the Railway Procurement Agency to the NTA and may not be transferred until 2011, the proposal to determine the level of standard fares in order to encourage customers to transfer to smart cards will be a matter for consideration and decision by the Board in due course.

Discussion on this agenda item was suspended at this point in order to facilitate consideration of the next agenda item.

### **3. Irish Rail presentation on DART Underground Programme**

An Irish Rail team joined the meeting for this item. The team gave a power-point presentation, which was circulated to Board members. Following the presentation the Irish Rail team dealt with a number of questions from Board members.

The Chairperson thanked the Irish Rail team for their excellent presentation and the team left the meeting. The Chairperson indicated that the CEO would arrange for other transport agencies to make presentations at future Board meetings.

## **2. CEO Report (resumed)**

In relation to Planning Matters there was general discussion on how the NTA could best fulfill its statutory role. Dr. Grist considered that strategic issues should not be defined too narrowly in determining whether to submit on individual planning applications. The Chairperson indicated that the Board would revisit the matter again and would gradually define its inputs into the statutory planning process

The CEO noted that the NTA is currently engaging with the Department of Transport with a view to clarifying the NTA's Staffing and Budget Allocation in 2010. In view of the importance of these matters they will be considered at the next Board meeting.

## **4. Draft Corporate Governance**

During the course of a brief discussion the CEO confirmed that the draft NTA Corporate Governance pack circulated in advance of the meeting takes account of the updated Code of Practice published by the Department of Finance in May 2009. A copy of the Code of Practice was circulated to members. The draft Corporate Governance pack was proposed by Mr. Tierney, seconded by Mr. King and agreed.

The Chairperson indicated that he would wait until the Minister for Transport has appointed the remaining members of the Board before asking the Board to decide on the composition of the Audit Committee.

## **5. On-line banking approval**

The proposal to establish on-line banking for the NTA and the associated signatory list was proposed by Ms. Saunders, seconded by Mr. Usher and agreed.

## **6. AOB**

The CEO requested Board approval for the contents of a proposed letter to Dun Laoghaire Rathdown County Council regarding proposed amendments to their draft Development Plan 2010-2016. Following consideration of the letter the Board approved its contents subject to a minor amendment to the final sentence.

## **7. Date of next meeting**

The Chairperson proposed that Board meetings should be held on the third Friday of each month (excluding July and August) with meetings commencing at 10.30am.

Details of the dates of future meetings were circulated to members. The chairperson requested members to revert to the CEO with any comments.

**Next Meeting Friday 21<sup>st</sup> February @10.30am at the NTA's offices**

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_

Dated: \_\_\_\_\_

John Fitzgerald, Chairperson