



Minutes of Board Meeting

Held on Friday 29 May 2015

At 10.30am in the NTA Offices

Present: Mr John Fitzgerald (Chairperson), Ms Anne Graham (Chief Executive), Mr Hugh Creegan (Deputy Chief Executive), Mr Owen Keegan (CEO, Dublin City Council), Dr Berna Grist, Ms Linda Saunders.

Apologies: None.

Staff in attendance: Mr Philip L'Estrange, Mr Tim Gaston, Mr Karl Seeber (Minutes).

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1. Minutes of previous meeting

The draft minutes of the Board meeting held on 17 April 2015 were agreed subject to the addition of the following sentence under Item 3 (Finance Report):-

The Board requested that clarification be given on a data issue in respect of Leap card.

2. CEO Report

The Chief Executive updated the Board on developments since the last meeting and responded to issues raised by members. The matters discussed included

- Implementation of alternative bus services following the decision by Bus Éireann to withdraw two of its *Expressway* routes;
- Trend in passenger numbers on subsidised bus, rail and Luas services;
- Issues related to the operation of tour bus services in Dublin;
- Future investment in public transport services and infrastructure;
- Leap card and real time passenger information developments;
- Planned promotional campaigns;
- Proposed public consultation on taxi issues;
- Planned new grant scheme for purchase of wheelchair accessible taxis and hackneys;
- Filling of staff and Board vacancies;
- Need for additional bus shelters nationwide;
- Goods deliveries in Dublin City Centre;
- Pension scheme for NTA staff.

3. Finance Report

Mr L'Estrange outlined the main aspects of the NTA's Management Accounts for April. He noted that overall the NTA was performing well to budget at end April.

Ms Saunders updated the Board on the outcome of the Audit Committee meeting which took place immediately before the Board meeting. She noted that the Audit Committee meeting was attended by a representative of the Office of the Comptroller and Auditor General (C&AG). Among the items which had been considered were the C&AG's audit of the Authority's Financial Statements for 2014, the Authority's surplus, the outcome of an internal audit of the Sustainable Transport Management Grant Programme 2013, the Audit Plan for the remainder of 2014 and the tendering process for the appointment of internal auditors.

4. Bus Market Opening Update

The Chief Executive updated the Board on developments in relation to the tendering of bus services. She outlined the terms of the settlement of the recent industrial dispute at Dublin Bus and Bus Éireann, which was facilitated by the Labour Relations Commission following discussions involving the Department of Transport, Tourism and Sport, the NTA, Dublin Bus and Bus Éireann and workers' representatives. She explained that arising from the settlement a proposal will be brought to the Board for a change to the Bus Éireann services to be tendered.

She also outlined the position concerning proceedings to judicially review the Authority's commencement of the relevant procurement process, which were withdrawn following the LRC settlement.

5. Draft Transport Strategy for Greater Dublin Area

Mr Creegan updated the Board on the proposals for the development of a new statutory Transport Strategy for the Greater Dublin Area covering the period 2015-2030. He explained that it is proposed to commence a public consultation on the draft Transport Strategy at end June with a view to submitting a final version to the Board in October prior to its submission to the Minister for Transport, Tourism and Sport who is empowered to approve, approve with modifications or reject the draft Transport Strategy. It was agreed that the consultation documentation should set out the background and context to the making of the new Transport Strategy.

6. Dublin City Centre Plan Update

Mr Creegan updated the Board on the proposed Dublin City Centre Transport Study, which is being developed jointly between Dublin City Council and the NTA. He explained that the Study is in the final stages of finalisation. It is planned to bring it forward to the Strategic Policy Committee of Dublin City Council during June following which a public consultation process will commence. Mr Creegan noted that there is likely to be significant interest in the proposals. The Board discussed the need for suitable soft landscaping of civic spaces provided for in the draft Plan.

7. Any other business

None.

Next Meeting: Friday 19 June 2015 @ 10.30am in the NTA Offices.

Signed: _____
John Fitzgerald, Chairperson

Dated: _____