



## **Minutes of Board Meeting**

**Held on Friday 17 June 2016**

**At 10.30am in the Imperial Hotel, Cork**

**Present:** Mr John Fitzgerald (Chairperson), Ms Anne Graham (CEO), Mr Hugh Creegan (Deputy CEO), Mr Owen Keegan (CEO, Dublin City Council), Ms Fiona Ross, Mr Frank O'Connor, Mr Pat Mangan, Ms Linda Saunders, Ms Sineád Walsh, Dr Berna Grist, Ms Ann Fitzgerald.

**Apologies:** Mr Frank Gleeson.

**Staff in attendance:** Mr Philip L'Estrange (Director of Finance and Corporate Affairs); Mr Tim Gaston (Director of Public Transport Services); Mr Karl Seeber (Minutes).

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

The draft minutes of the Board meeting held on 20 May were agreed without amendment.

### **2. CEO Report**

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

- NTA attendance at a recent meeting of Wicklow County Council;
- Eastern Bypass and Dublin City Council Development Plan;
- Galway Transport Strategy;
- Decision by An Bord Pléanala to grant planning permission for new coach parking facility in Dublin;
- Luas Cross City developments and issues;
- Taxi developments including wheelchair accessible grant scheme;
- Development of Kent Station;
- NTA meeting with the Competition and Consumer Protection Commission;
- NTA review of the operation of Part 2 of the Public Transport Regulation Act 2009;
- Resolution of Luas drivers pay dispute;
- Trend in passenger numbers on contracted public transport services;
- Integration of Leap Card with Dublin Bikes scheme;
- Results of market research on Leap Card and Transport for Ireland TV advertisement.

### **3. Finance Report**

Mr L'Estrange outlined the main features of the Management Accounts for May 2016 and noted overall good performance to budget year to date.

Following discussion, the Board approved the draft revised terms of reference of the Audit Committee subject to a number of amendments.

Mr L'Estrange explained that the Office of the Comptroller & Auditor General has completed its audit of the NTA 2015 accounts and he outlined the main changes from the initial draft Financial Statements presented to the Board last February. Following discussion the Board approved the signing by the Chairperson and Chief Executive of the revised draft Financial Statements and draft letter of representation as circulated prior to the meeting.

The Board approved the proposed extension by 22 months of the term of the NTA's existing contract with MDV in respect of the National Journey Planner.

#### **4. Cork Locallink Presentation**

Mr David O'Brien, Manager of Cork Local Link gave a presentation on the extent of the rural transport and other specialised transport services (e.g. hospital transport) provided by his company in the Cork region. Cork Local Link has 23 staff and operates 19 minibuses, some of which are wheelchair accessible. It provided 126,000 passenger journeys in 2015. Mr O'Brien highlighted a number of issues and opportunities for further enhancing rural transport services. Mr O'Brien also responded to questions from Board members.

The Chairperson thanked Mr O'Brien for attending the meeting. He noted that the formal launch of Cork Local Link would take place later in the day and he took the opportunity to wish the new organisation success in the provision of rural transport services in Cork.

#### **5. Cork City Council Presentation**

Mr Gerry O Beirne and Ms Liz Kidney of Cork City Council outlined the Council's plans for the development of an integrated transport system in Cork City and the progress being made. Mr O Beirne noted that while the car is still the primary mode of transport for people travelling to work, there has been a significant improvement in the bus service. The Regional Bike Scheme is also having a positive impact.

The Council's City Centre Movement Strategy (CCMS) provides for the re-allocation of the limited available road space along designated strategic corridors to ensure a more appropriate balance between the different transport modes. Investment along these Corridors will focus on significantly enhancing the links between key population centres and the City Centre. This will include areas of significant employment, education, recreation, residential and commercial activity. Planning policies in the Council's Development Plan mirror this approach.

Following a discussion, the Chairperson thanked the Cork City Council representatives for their presentation and looked forward to continued co-operation between the NTA and the Council in the development and implementation of sustainable, integrated transport measures in Cork.

#### **6. Any other business**

None.

**Next Meeting: Friday 15 July 2016 @ 10.30am in the NTA Offices.**

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_  
**John Fitzgerald, Chairperson**

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