

**Minutes of Board Meeting**

**Held on Friday 18 November 2016**

**At 10.30am in NTA Offices**

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

**Apologies:** Ms Sineád Walsh.

**Staff in attendance:** Mr Tim Gaston, Director, Public Transport Services; Mr Philip L'Estrange, Director, Finance and Corporate Services; Mr Barry Dorgan, Head of Ticketing (Agenda Item 5); Mr Karl Seeber (Minutes).

\* \* \* \* \*

**1. Minutes of previous meeting**

The draft minutes of the Board meeting held on 21 October 2016 were agreed subject to the following changes:-

- Insertion of new bullet point at the end of Item 2 (CEO Report) to read "Update on Luas Cross City developments.";
- Deletion of "brief" in the second paragraph under Item 3 (Finance & Corporate Governance Report);
- Replacement of "Mr Eamonn O'Hanrahan" in the first paragraph of Item 4 (Corporate Governance) with "Mr Eamonn O'Hanrahan , Partner, McCann Fitzgerald".

**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

- Update on Integrated Implementation Plan;
- Progress on public consultation process in respect of Sandymount / Merrion to Blackrock Corridor Study;
- Luas Cross City developments;
- Barriers at Luas stop at St Stephen's Green;
- Update on grant scheme for wheelchair accessible taxis and hackneys;
- Public consultation on licensing of drivers of small public service vehicles;
- Update on preparations for commencement of vehicle clamping function;
- Update on tendering of bus routes
- Update on planned major review of Dublin Bus services;
- Review of passenger trends on subsidised public transport services;
- Commencement of commuter rail services through Phoenix Park Tunnel;
- Fares determination;

- Review of rail services nationally;
- Leap Card promotions;
- Engagement with Dublin Airport Authority with a view to improving public transport information and ticketing at Dublin Airport;
- NTA participation at meetings of Oireachtas Committees to discuss transport in the Greater Dublin Area (on 23 November 2016) and what it takes to sustain rural communities (21 December 2016);
- Security of Leap Card systems;
- Timely implementation of service enhancements by operators providing subsidised bus services;
- Filling of vacancies within NTA;
- Operation of Galway Bikes Scheme and planned improvements;
- Performance of outsourced service provider;
- Progress in respect of proposed National Train Control Centre;
- NTA submissions to planning authorities.

### **3. Finance & Corporate Governance Report**

Mr L'Estrange outlined the main features of the Management Accounts for October 2016 and noted overall good performance to budget. During the discussion that followed Mr L'Estrange provided clarification on some items.

The Board noted the updated risk assessment report and agreed to make one change.

The Chairperson indicated that Mr Pat Mangan has agreed to join the Audit and Risk Committee.

Mr L'Estrange left the meeting at this point. Following discussion, the Board approved the appointment of Mr L'Estrange (NTA Director of Finance and Corporate Services) as Board Secretary.

### **4. Luas Cross City Construction Contract**

Mr L'Estrange re-joined the meeting.

Mr Creegan explained that the overall budget for Luas Cross City is €368 million and it is planned to open for passenger services by the end of 2017. He noted that construction of the Luas Cross City project is being undertaken through a series of inter-linked contracts with numerous interfaces and many involved parties. The main contract, the Infrastructure Works (IW) Contract, is underway on the various streets at present.

Mr Creegan outlined the discussions taking place between the IW Contractor, Transport Infrastructure Ireland (TII) and the NTA with a view to ensuring the successful completion of the project. During the discussion that followed Mr Creegan provided clarification on a number of issues raised by Board members.

### **5. Account Based Ticketing**

Mr Dorgan explained that Account Based Ticketing (ABT) is a method of ticketing where the proof of entitlement to travel is held in an online central system and not on any physical card held by the passenger. For example TFL accepts contactless bank cards as an alternative to its Oyster Card.

Mr Dorgan explained the benefits of ABT for the NTA, operators and customers and he noted that if ABT is not pursued costs will increase and control will reduce. He outlined the work already undertaken by the NTA on ABT and the emerging work programme. However, the project cost has yet to be determined and funding secured.

It is likely that project implementation, which would be undertaken in stages, will take up to 10 years. Accordingly, Leap Card will continue in operation for some time to come.

During the discussion that followed Mr Dorgan provided clarification on a number of issues raised by Board members.

**6. Any other business**

The Chief Executive will update the Board on the operation of the Real Time Passenger Information System early in 2017.

The dates of Board meetings in 2017 were agreed.

**Next Meeting: Friday 16 December 2016 @ 10.30am in the NTA Offices.**

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

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