



Minutes of Board Meeting

Held by video conference on Friday 19 March 2021

Present: Mr Fred Barry (Chairperson), Ms Anne Graham (CEO), Mr Hugh Creegan (Deputy CEO), Mr Owen Keegan (CEO, Dublin City Council); Mr David Gray; Mr Pat Mangan, Ms Ann Fitzgerald, Mr Frank O'Connor, Mr Brian McCormick.

Apologies: None

Staff in attendance: Mr Philip L'Estrange, Director, Finance & Corporate Services / Board Secretary; Mr Tim Gaston, Director, Public Transport Services; Dr Declan Sheehan, Chief Information Officer; Ms Wendy Thompson, Director, Transport Regulation; Mr Bernard Higgins, Director, Transport Technology; Mr Eoin Gillard, Head of Public Transport Investment (Items 5 & 6); Ms Freda Quinlan, Senior Capital Finance Manager, Mr Stephen Downes, NGT Programme Director (Item 6); Mr Mark Bradwell, Procurement Manager (Item 7); Mr David O'Flynn, Financial Controller, Mr Noel Beecher, Head of Governance, Mr Gerard McBrien, Risk Manager (Items 8 & 9); Mr Karl Seeber (Minutes).

Others in attendance: None.

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1. Declarations of Interest

None.

2. Minutes of previous meeting

The draft minutes of the Board meeting on 19 February 2021 were approved without amendment.

3. Matters Arising & Board Schedule

The Chairperson noted that since the last meeting he had engaged with each Board member on a one-to-one basis. He noted that while there was general satisfaction among Board members with the operation of the Board, a number of suggestions for additions to the Board's agenda had been put forward and he indicated that he would follow up on the implementation of those suggestions in tandem with the Chief Executive.

The Chairperson noted that a special meeting will be required in advance of the next planned Board meeting to discuss business cases for some major projects.

4. CEO Report

The Chief Executive outlined developments since the last meeting and responded to matters raised by Board members.

The Board noted the position regarding progress on implementation of the Authority's Business Plan for 2021.

5. Bus Fleet Technology

Following a presentation by Mr Gillard and subsequent discussion, the Board noted that:-

- a. on a steady state renewal basis the urban bus fleet will be entirely zero emission or hybrid by 2032 , and entirely zero emission by 2035; and
- b. opportunities to achieve early conversion of some regional cities to zero emission vehicles, with existing buses redistributed, are being kept under review.

6. Addendum to BusConnects Preliminary Business Case for BusConnects Dublin for Next Generation Ticketing (NGT) to proceed through Decision Gate 2

Following presentations by Mr Downes and Ms Quinlan and subsequent discussion, the Board gave its approval for the onward submission of the NGT Project Brief and Procurement Strategy as an addendum to the Preliminary Business Case issued to the Department of Transport in March 2021, for the purposes of obtaining Government approval to issue Decision Gate 2 approval in respect of the NGT project.

7. Contract Award for ICT Managed Services

Following introductory remarks by Mr Bradwell and subsequent discussion, the Board approved the award of a contract for the provision and operation of information and communications technologies (ICT) managed services to Evros Technology Group.

8. Finance Update

Mr O'Flynn summarised the main points of the Management Accounts for February 2021 and the emerging financial position for 2021 as a whole and responded to questions from Board members.

9. Risk Update

Mr Beecher summarised the up-to-date position on risk management issues and responded to questions from Board members.

10. Taxi Fares Schemes Update

Ms Thompson explained that due to the impact of Covid-19 on the taxi sector, it is not planned to implement a fares increases in 2021 and that it has been decided to defer a full maximum fare review in 2021.

Following a discussion, the Board noted the situation will remain under review and changes in travel uptake or the tourism / hospitality environment will be evaluated on at least a six monthly basis.

11. Review of general objectives and functions of NTA

Following a presentation by the Chief Executive, the Board discussed how the Authority is working to provide an integrated transport system and its impact on other transport operators. It was agreed that it would be worthwhile for the Chief Executive to arrange to obtain feedback in the matter from her counterparts in those organisations.

The Chairperson indicated that it is intended to return again to this topic and he asked Board members to reflect in the interim on the issues raised by the Chief Executive.

12. Any other business

The Chairperson outlined his concern at recent reports outlining the fear for their personal safety which women experience in public areas including when using or accessing public transport services. Following an extensive discussion, it was agreed that the Executive would reflect on the matter and would revert to the Board.

13. Meeting without Executive

None.

Next Meeting: Friday 16 April 2021 @ 10.30am.

Signed: _____
Chairperson

Dated: _____