



Minutes of Board Meeting

Held by video conference on Friday 18th June 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; Ms Lisa Tierney, Head of Human Resources (Item 5); Mr Eoin Gillard, Head of Public Transport Investment (Item 6); Mr Jeremy Ryan, Head of Public Transport Contracts (Item 8); Mr Stephen Gallagher, Head of Strategic and Business Planning (Item 9); Mr David O'Flynn, Financial Controller Ms Shanna Collins, Finance Manager (Items 10 & 11); Mr Noel Beecher, Head of Governance; Mr Gerard McBrien, Corporate Risk (Item 12); Ms Margaret Malone, Head of Corporate Services;; Mr Richard Kelly, HEO (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 held on 21 May 2021 were approved without amendment.

3. Matters Arising & Board Schedule

The Board discussed the position on matters arising from previous Board meetings and the proposed schedule of Board meetings for July and September.

The Chief Executive provided an update in respect of the vacant positions on the NTA Board and stated it is anticipated that the positions will be advertised shortly. The Board referred to the desirability of the appointment of a member with professional experience in public transport operations and raised the possibility of a candidate being appointed from outside Ireland if a suitable candidate cannot be found domestically.

Mr Creegan outlined the status of work on the Draft GDA Transport Strategy and that it was proposed to arrange a briefing on the key elements of the updated draft strategy during the second half of July

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 in respect of the Authority's Business Plan for 2021.

5. NTA Strategic Staffing Plan for 2022/2023

Mr L'Estrange outlined the main elements of the Strategic Staffing Plan for 2022-2026 and explained that the increased levels of capital funding are a significant driver in respect of the NTA compiling its resourcing plan.

The Board noted the summary provided by Mr L'Estrange and gave approval to proceed with the Resourcing Plan taking into account the various matters raised by the Board members including future capital budget allocations and any changes to the National Development Plan following its review.

6. Strategic Assessment Report (SAR) Coastal Rail Protection Scheme

Mr Creegan explained the background to the SAR Coastal Rail Protection Scheme. Mr Gillard outlined the main features of the report and the potential options in respect of the various projects contained within the Coastal Rail Protection Scheme.

The Board noted the summary provided by Mr Gillard and gave approved the Strategic Assessment Report.

7. Draft Taxi Regulations for Public Consultation

Ms Thompson updated the Board in respect of the Draft Taxi Regulations for Public Consultation. She outlined that three items were contained in the proposed Public Consultations. These were waiver of SPSV licence renewal fees for 2022, waiver of late SPSV licence renewal fees to June 2022 and doubling of the inactive period for licences to 24 months.

The Board noted that a report on the outcome of the public consultations (each with a submission deadline of 09 July) and proposals for the making of regulations will be submitted to the July meeting of the Board for consideration.

8. Bus Services Tendering Update Report

Following introductory remarks and subsequent discussion, the Board gave approval for variations to be granted to the current contract with Dublin Bus to operate the Orbital Route O and Go Ahead Ireland to operate the route N2 in Dublin.

9. Strategic Plan Progress Report

Mr Gallagher provided an update in respect of the Strategic Plan Progress Report. The Board noted the position and acknowledged that the progress on its implementation is broadly going to plan notwithstanding that some items have been impacted by Covid-19.

10. Annual Accounts – Final and Audited

Mr O’Flynn summarised the main points of the 2020 audited financial statements. During the subsequent discussion, the Board noted the comments from the Chairperson of the Audit and Risk Committee (ARC) whom confirmed that the ARC was satisfied with the audited financial statements. Following the discussion and comments from the Chairperson of the, the Board approved the 2020 audited financial statements.

11. Finance Update

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

12. Risk Update

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

13. AOB

None

14. Meeting without Executive

None

Next Meeting: Friday 16 July 2021 @ 10.30am.

Signed: _____
Chairperson

Dated: _____