



Minutes of Board Meeting

Held in NTA HQ and via video conference on Friday 24th March 2023

Board Members in attendance

Ms Ann Fitzgerald (Chairperson), Ms Anne Graham (CEO), Mr Hugh Creegan (Deputy CEO), Mr Pat Mangan, Mr Brian McCormick, Mr Iain Docherty, Ms Joyce Loughnan, Ms Eleanor O'Neill, Mr David Gray, Mr Owen Keegan (CEO of Dublin City Council), Mr Frank O'Connor.

Others in attendance

All Items: Mr Philip L'Estrange, Director, Finance & Corporate Services / Board Secretary; Mr Tim Gaston, Director of Public Transport Services; Mr Bernard Higgins, Director of Transport Technology; Mr Declan Sheehan, Chief Information Officer; Ms Wendy Thompson, Director of Transport Regulation; Ms Margaret Malone, Head of Corporate Services; Mr Richard Kelly, HEO (Minutes).

Item 6: Mr Eoin Gillard, Head of Public Transport Investment; Ms Freda Quinlan, Senior Capital Finance Manager.

Item 7: Mr John Keyes, Public Transport Contracts.

Item 8: Mr Stephen Kent, CEO of Bus Éireann.

Item 9: Mr David O'Flynn, Financial Controller.

Item 10: Mr Noel Beecher, Head of Governance; Mr Gerard McBrien, Risk Manager; Ms Freda Quinlan, Senior Capital Finance Manager.

Item 11: Mr Rob Reid, ICT Security Manager.

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1. Appointment of Board member to Chair meeting

The Board approved the nomination of Ann Fitzgerald to chair the March Board meeting.

2. Declarations of Interest

None

3. Minutes of previous meeting

The draft minutes of the Board meeting held on 24th February 2023 were approved.

4. Matters Arising & Board Schedule

The Board noted that key policy issues for the SPSV sector (SPSV Strategy) will be discussed at April's Board meeting.

The Board agreed that the terms of reference for the Capital Investment Committee be amended to include that a minimum of three Board members are required to be on the Committee.

5. CEO Report

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

The Board agreed that the Authority write to the Minister for Transport regarding the staffing plan for the National Transport Authority.

6. Capital Programme Committee Report

Mr Docherty provided an update report from the March meeting of the Capital Programme Committee. Mr Docherty noted that there was one item considered by the Committee that is due for a decision by the Board. Mr Docherty further noted that there was one other item which was determined at the Committee's March meeting which is being brought to the Board for information purposes only.

In terms of the item determined by the Committee and for information purposes only for the Board, Mr Docherty provided an update on the following;

- Royal Canal Urban Greenway Cycle Scheme Preliminary Business Case (PBC) – this was approved by the Committee.

In relation to the item for decision by the Board, one item had been considered by the Committee at its meeting in March and was recommended by the Committee for approval by the Board. The item was:

- Cork Area Commuter Rail Programme – Decision Gate 3 – Signalling Contract – Final Business Case.

The above item was considered by the Board and an overview was provided of the Cork Area Commuter Rail Programme – Decision Gate 3 – Signalling contract final business case.

Following discussion, the Board confirmed, subject to receipt of prior Government authorisation, the issue of approval for the Cork Area Commuter Rail Programme, Decision Gate 3, Signalling Contract Final Business Case.

7. Operator Performance

Mr Keyes provided an overview of the Public Transport Operators performance highlighting the key points from the operator's current performance on Public Service Obligation routes including bus operators, Luas and Irish Rail.

Following the overview provided, Mr Keyes responded to questions from the Board members.

8. Bus Éireann CEO

Mr Stephen Kent, CEO of Bus Éireann joined the meeting and presented to the board on matters related to Bus Éireann. Following a comprehensive discussion, the Chairperson thanked Mr Kent for his attendance. Mr Kent expressed his thanks to the Board for the invitation noting that Bus Éireann would continue to work closely with the respective NTA teams to deliver on our common objectives.

Mr Kent then left the meeting.

9. Finance Report

Mr O'Flynn presented the financial report on the Authority's current financial position and responded to questions from Board members.

10. Risk Matters

a) Risk Report

The Board noted the Risk Report provided by Mr Beecher.

b) Risk Paper - Inability to manage project delivery costs & Inability to secure timely funding of future projects and initiatives

Ms Quinlan provided an overview of the Risk Paper titled "Inability to manage project delivery costs & Inability to secure timely funding of future projects and initiatives".

An extended discussion took place on this and Ms Quinlan responded to questions from the Board members. The Chairperson on behalf of the Board thanked Ms Quinlan for the work done on preparing the paper.

11. Cybersecurity Strategy

Due to time constraints the Board agreed to defer the discussion on the Cybersecurity Strategy to the April Board meeting

12. AOB

None

13. Meeting without Executive

a) CEO Performance Plan 2023

The CEO Performance Plan 2023 was approved by the Board

Next Meeting: Friday 21st April 2023 @ 10.30am.

Signed: _____
Chairperson

Dated: _____