

## Minutes of Board Meeting

**Held in NTA Offices, Cork City on Friday 17<sup>th</sup> October 2025**

### **Board Members in attendance**

Mr Peter Strachan (Chairperson), Mr Hugh Creegan (Interim CEO), Mr Brian McCormick, Ms Eleanor O'Neill, Ms Joyce Loughnan, Mr Richard Shakespeare (CEO of Dublin City Council), Mr Iain Docherty.

### **Others in attendance**

All Items: Mr Jeremy Ryan, Director of Public Transport Services; Mr Declan Sheehan, Chief Information Officer; Mr Philip L'Estrange, Director of Finance and Corporate Services; Mr Bernard Higgins, Director of Transport Technology; Mr Kevin O'Brien, Director of Transport Regulation; Mr Richard Kelly, Acting Public Affairs Manager (Minutes); Ms Blathin McElligott, Head of Corporate Services.

Item 5: Ms Alex McKenzie, Group Head of ICT and Deputy CIO; Mr Rob Reid, ICT Security Manager.

Item 7: Mr Aidan Gallagher, Head of BusConnects Dublin Infrastructure.

Item 8: Ms Valerie O'Sullivan, CEO of Cork City Council; Mr Gerry O'Beirne, Director of Services Infrastructure Development; Mr Cormac Ó Súilleabháin. Director of Services City Centre Development; Mr Bryan Fitzgerald, Cork Docklands Programme Manager.

Item 9: Mr Ger Regan, Head of Public Transport Contracts.

Items 10 & 11: Mr David O'Flynn, Group Head of Finance and Deputy Chief Financial Officer; Mr Gerard McBrien, Risk Manager.

Item 13: Mr Stephen Gallagher, Head of Corporate Strategy.

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### **1. Declarations of Interest**

#### **a) Declarations of Interest**

None

### **2. Minutes**

#### **a) Minutes of Previous Meeting**

The draft minutes of the Board meeting held on 19<sup>th</sup> September 2025 were approved.

### **3. Matters Arising & Board Schedule**

None.

### **4. CEO Report**

#### **a) CEO Report**

The Interim Chief Executive outlined key developments since the last meeting and provided an update on various items. The Interim Chief Executive then responded to queries and other matters raised by Board members.

### **5. Strategic Risk Review – Failure of a Critical IT System & Cyber Attacks**

Mr Reid provided an overview of the Strategic Risks related to cyber-attacks. Following the overview by Mr Reid, Ms Alex McKenzie provided an overview of the Strategic Risks relating to critical IT systems.

Following the briefings, Mr Reid and Ms McKenzie responded to questions from the Board members.

### **6. Capital Programme Committee Report**

#### **a) Report from Committee Meeting**

Mr Docherty provided an update report from the October meeting of the Capital Programme Committee.

The Committee considered a number of items at its meeting, including an update on MetroLink.

Mr Docherty also provided an overview of the Approval Gate 1 request in respect of the Irish Rail Station Customer Service System and the recommendation of the Capital Programme Committee to provide a conditional approval for the proposed project.

The Board noted the update provided by Mr Docherty.

#### **b) Approval Gate 1 (AG1) for Station Customer Service System**

Following the consideration of the Approval Gate 1 for the Station Customer Service System, the Board approved the recommendation of the Capital Programme Committee for a conditional approval to Irish Rail in respect of the project proposal.

The conditions include the capping of NTA funding in respect of certain costs, the authorisation to progress the design stage for the first 20 stations only and the requirement for a value engineering and cost reduction process by Irish Rail, to reduce and optimise the implementation costs of the programme, with the outcome of that process to be included in the later Detailed Business Case.

### **7. BusConnects Clongriffin to City Centre Decision to Activate CPO (Compulsory Purchase Order)**

In accordance with the Authority's corporate governance arrangements, the Board considered the authorisation of the serving of the Notices to Treat in respect of lands identified in the "Clongriffin to City Centre Core Bus Corridor Scheme Compulsory Purchase Order 2022" as confirmed by An Bord

Pleanála (now An Coimisiún Pleanála) on 8 January 2024 in accordance with Section 217(6) of the Planning and Development Act 2000 (as amended) and Section 79 of the Housing Act 1966 (as amended).

The Chairperson noted that the following documents were currently before the Board:

1. Signed Compulsory Purchase Order from An Bord Pleanála dated 8<sup>th</sup> January 2024 for the Clongriffin to City Centre Core Bus Corridor Scheme; and
2. The proposed template for the Notice to Treat to be issued to all impacted property owners and interested parties.

The Chairperson outlined to the Board that it had to consider whether:

- a. to proceed to take the next steps to effect the acquisition of the land and/or rights described in Part I, Part II and Part IV (Section A) of the Schedule to the Clongriffin to City Centre Core Bus Corridor Scheme Compulsory Purchase Order 2022, and to restrict or otherwise interfere with the rights described in Part III (Section B), Part IV (Section B), and Part IV (Section C) of the Schedule to the Clongriffin to City Centre Core Bus Corridor Scheme Compulsory Purchase Order 2022 (as confirmed by An Bord Pleanála without modifications); and
- b. to proceed to serve all statutory notices as may be required under any enactment, including but not limited to the service of Notices to Treat under Section 79 of the Housing Act 1966 (as amended) and Notices of Intention to Enter under section 80 of the Housing Act 1966 (as amended), and to take all such other steps as may be required to give effect to the Clongriffin to City Centre Core Bus Corridor Scheme Compulsory Purchase Order 2022 (as confirmed by An Bord Pleanála without modifications).

Having considered the matters, the Board resolved:

- that the NTA proceed to take the next steps to effect the acquisition of the lands and/or rights described in Part I, Part II and Part IV (Section A) of the Schedule to the Clongriffin to City Centre Core Bus Corridor Scheme Compulsory Purchase Order 2022 (as confirmed), and to restrict or otherwise interfere with the rights described in Part III (Section B), Part IV (Section B), and Part IV (Section C) of the Schedule to the Clongriffin to City Centre Core Bus Corridor Scheme Compulsory Purchase Order 2022 (as confirmed); and
- that the NTA proceed to serve all statutory notices as may be required under any enactment, including but not limited to the service of Notices to Treat under section 79 of the Housing Act 1966 (as amended) and Notices of Intention to Enter under section 80 of the Housing Act 1966 (as amended), and to take all such other steps as may be required to give effect to the Clongriffin to City Centre Core Bus Corridor Scheme Compulsory Purchase Order 2022 (as confirmed).

In addition, the Board resolved:

- to authorise the Chief Executive, in their discretion, to take all measures as they determine to be appropriate in connection with effecting the acquisition of the land and/or rights described in Part I, Part II and Part IV (Section A) of the Schedule to the Clongriffin to City Centre Core Bus Corridor Scheme Compulsory Purchase Order 2022 (as confirmed), and the restriction of or otherwise interference with the rights described in Part III (Section B), Part IV (Section B), and Part IV (Section C) of the Schedule to the Clongriffin to City Centre Core

Bus Corridor Scheme Compulsory Purchase Order 2022 (as confirmed), including, without limitation, in each case, on such terms and conditions as may be determined by them;

- to authorise such person or persons as they deems appropriate to sign all such statutory notices and other publications and documents as may be required under any enactment, including but not limited to Notices to Treat under section 79 of the Housing Act 1966 (as amended) and Notices of Intention to Enter under section 80 of the Housing Act 1966 (as amended); and
- to take all such other steps as may be required to give effect to the Clongriffin to City Centre Core Bus Corridor Scheme Compulsory Purchase Order 2022 (as confirmed).

To the extent applicable, the matters contemplated by this resolution shall be regarded as an additional function of the Chief Executive in accordance with section 19(2) of the 2008 Act.

#### **8. Presentation by Cork City Council**

Ms Valerie O'Sullivan, Mr Gerry O'Beirne, Mr Cormac Ó Súilleabháin and Mr Bryan Fitzgerald entered the meeting.

Ms O'Sullivan provided introductory remarks regarding the work of Cork City Council.

Mr Gerry O'Beirne gave an overview to the Board of the various public transport and active travel projects that are being supported by the NTA in Cork City.

Mr Ó Súilleabháin provided an overview of the Cork City Centre Development and Operations Directorate.

Mr Fitzgerald then gave an overview of the Cork Docklands regeneration project.

Ms O'Sullivan then provided closing remarks.

On behalf of the Board, the Chairperson thanked Ms O'Sullivan, Mr O'Beirne, Mr Ó Súilleabháin and Mr Fitzgerald for attending.

Ms Valerie O'Sullivan, Mr Gerry O'Beirne, Mr Cormac Ó Súilleabháin and Mr Bryan Fitzgerald then left the meeting.

#### **9. Cork City Bus Services.**

Mr Ryan provided an overview of Cork City Bus services. Following the overview, Mr Ryan responded to questions from Board members. The Board agreed to invite the new CEO of Bus Éireann to a future Board meeting to further discuss the Cork City Bus services.

#### **10. PSO Funding Update**

Mr Ryan provided an overview of indicative PSO (Public Service Obligation) funding position for 2026. Following the overview, Mr Ryan responded to questions from Board members.

#### **11. Finance Matters**

Mr O'Flynn provided an update on the NTA's current financial position and responded to questions from Board members.

**12. Risk & Governance Matters**

**a) Risk Update**

The Board noted the Risk Report provided by Mr Cuddihy.

**13. Corporate Matters**

**a) 2025 Corporate Plan Update**

Mr Gallagher provided a progress update on the National Transport Authority's (NTA) Annual Corporate Business Plan.

Following the update, Mr Gallagher responded to questions from Board members.

The Board noted the update provided by Mr Gallagher.

**14. AOB**

None.

**Next Meeting: Friday 21<sup>st</sup> November 2025 at NTA HQ @ 10.30hrs.**

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_  
**Chairperson**

Date: \_\_\_\_\_