Minutes of Board Meeting

Held in NTA Offices, Smithfield - Thursday 24th September 2026

Board Members in attendance
Mr Peter Strachan (Chairperson), Ms Anne Shaw (CEO), Mr Hugh Creegan (Deputy CEO), Mr Brian McCormick, Mr Eddie Doyle, Mr Bernard McLoughlin, Mr Iain Docherty, Ms Joyce Loughnan, Ms Eleanor O'Neill.

Apologies: Mr Richard Shakespeare (CEO of Dublin City Council), Mr David Holohan.

Others in attendance

All Items: Mr Jeremy Ryan, Director of Public Transport Services; Mr Declan Sheehan, Chief Information Officer; Mr Bernard Higgins, Director of Transport Technology; Mr Kevin O'Brien, Director of Transport Regulation; Mr Richard Kelly, Higher Executive Officer (Minutes); Mr Gerard Cuddihy, Head of Governance - Chief Risk Officer; Mr Tom Ward, Institute of Public Administration.

Items 5, 6 & 7: Mr Gerard McBrien, Corporate Risk Manager.

Item 8: Mr David O'Flynn, Group Head of Finance and Deputy Chief Financial Officer.

Items 9 & 11: Mr John O'Flynn, Head of Customer Experience.

Item 10: Mr Marcello Corsi, Head Rail Investment.

* * * * * * * * * * *

1. **Declarations of Interest**

a) Declarations of Interest

None.

2. **Minutes**

a) Minutes of Previous Meetings

The draft minutes of the Board meeting held on 9th July 2026 were approved.

In addition, the draft minutes of the Special Board meeting held on 20th July were also approved.

3. Matters Arising & Board Schedule

None.

4. CEO Report

a) CEO Report

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

5. ARC Update

Mr McCormick outlined the main issues discussed at the ARC meeting held on 11th of September last and responded to questions from Board members.

The Board noted the update provided by Mr McCormick.

6. Risk & Governance Matters.

The Board noted the Risk Report provided by Mr Cuddihy.

7. Annual Corporate Policy Updates

Mr Cuddihy provided an overview of the Annual Corporate Policy Update documents. Following the overview provided, the Board approved the following Corporate Policy Update documents.

- ARC Terms of Reference;
- Fraud, Bribery and Corruption Policy; and
- Protected Disclosures Policy.

8. Finance

a) Management Accounts

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

b) C&AG Management Letter

Mr O'Flynn provided an update on the C&AG Management letter in respect of the NTAs Financial Statements for 2025. The Board noted the update provided by Mr O'Flynn.

9. Procurement

a) Provision of Transport Regulation Legal Services

Mr O'Brien provided an overview of the procurement competition related to the provision of Transport Regulation Legal Services.

Following the overview provided, the Board approved the awarding of the provision of Transport Regulation Legal Services to Coughlan White & Partners.

b) Provision of Creative Advertising Services

Mr O'Flynn provided an overview of the procurement competition related to the provision of Creative Advertising Services.

Following the overview provided, the Board approved the awarding of the provision of Creative Advertising Services to Connelly Partners Integrated Europe Limited.

c) Provision of Leap Card Services – Supply, Distribution, Configuration and Sales

Mr Higgins provided an overview of the procurement competition related to the provision of Leap Card Services - Supply, Distribution, Configuration and Sales.

Following the overview provided, the Board approved the awarding of the provision of Leap Card Services – Supply, Distribution, Configuration and Sales to Credit Card Services Ireland (CCSI).

d) Provision of onsite Operation Resources (Transport Technology incl. NGT, NGAVL)

Mr Higgins provided an overview of the procurement competition related to the provision of onsite Operation Resources (Transport Technology incl. NGT, NGAVL).

Following the overview provided, the Board approved the awarding of the provision of onsite Operation Resources (Transport Technology incl. NGT, NGAVL) to Org Group.

e) Provision of Legal Services for Compulsory Purchase Orders

Mr Creegan provided an overview of the procurement competition related to the provision of Legal Services for Compulsory Purchase Orders.

Following the overview provided, the Board approved the awarding of the provision of Legal Services for Compulsory Purchase Orders to Philip Lee.

f) Purchase of Double Deck Electric Buses

Mr Creegan provided an overview of the proposed Bus Purchases for forty-six (46) double-deck battery electric buses. Mr Creegan was seeking approval under the provisions of the *"Single Supplier Framework Agreement for the Purchase of Double-Deck Electric Buses*".

Following the overview provided, the Board approved the purchase of forty-six (46) double-deck battery electric buses from Bamford Bus Company Limited (trading as Wrightbus).

10. <u>Capital Programme Committee</u>

a) Report from Committee Meeting

Mr Docherty provided an update report from the September meeting of the Capital Programme Committee including an update on MetroLink and the National Train Control Centre (NTCC).

b) NTCC

Mr Creegan updated the Board in relation to the NTCC project. Following receipt of the NTA's response in relation to the termination of the Indra contract for the Traffic Management System

(TMS), Irish Rail terminated this contract on 17th July 2026. The contract requires that within thirteen weeks of termination, a final payment to or from the contractor is certified by the Project Manager (under the contract) representing an assessment of the outstanding amount due to Indra. That period expires on 15th October 2026, with payment then due within three weeks of the Project Manager's certificate. Irish Rail is awaiting a final account from Indra.

The proposed approach by Irish Rail for the provision of a replacement train control system is to procure a WestCAD control system from Siemens Mobility Limited (Siemens) through variations to an existing contract with Siemens and a separate directly awarded contract to Siemens. As the Irish Rail proposal envisages the full replacement train management system being delivered without a public procurement competition, a legal review of this approach is currently being undertaken with the NTA's legal advisers to assess its alignment with public procurement legislation. Currently, responses to a number of clarification requests are awaited from Irish Rail to allow this assessment to be concluded.

Work is underway to transition four desks of the current control centre operations over to a WestCAD system, through a contract variation agreed with Siemens in May 2026 as a separate resilience project, prior to the termination of the Indra contract.

Irish Rail is currently developing a business case covering the alternative arrangements to deliver the required train control system. It is understood that this business case will be provided to the NTA at the end of September or the start of October.

In relation to the EY review of the TMS project, recent media reports of potential litigation between the parties to the traffic management system contract has created extra complexities in relation to parties participating in the review. Arising from this, it is now expected that the review will be concluded at the end of October.

The Board discussed the overall status of the project and noted the update provided.

c) MetroLink Update

The Board noted the Government decision to approve the Approval Gate 2 stage of the MetroLink project thereby enabling the project to now proceed to the tendering stage. The Board queried the status of the development of the final governance arrangements and were informed that no changes in the governance proposals had occurred since the AG2 recommendation from the Board, but that discussions were ongoing with the Department on this matter.

The Board noted the update provided by Mr Creegan. The Chairperson, on behalf of the Board, thanked the NTA MetroLink team for their significant efforts in bringing the project to a stage where the Government could make an informed decision under the Infrastructure Guidelines process.

d) Train Protection System (Onboard component) – Approval Gate 3 (For Implementation)

Mr Corsi provided an overview of the Train Protection System (Onboard component) – Approval Gate 3 (For Implementation) and responded to questions from Board members.

Following the overview provided, the Board approved the Train Protection System (Onboard component) – Approval Gate 3 that will permit Irish Rail to proceed with the award of this contract for the installation of the onboard equipment and its subsequent implementation phase.

11. <u>Strategic Risk – SR 6: Poor customer experience of public transport services</u>

Mr O'Flynn provided an overview of the Strategic Risk in relation to poor customer experience of public transport services.

Following the overview provided, Mr O'Flynn responded to questions from the Board members.

12. <u>AOB</u>

None.

Next Meeting: Thursday 22nd October 2026 at Galmont Hotel, Galway City @ 09.00hrs

Signed: _____ Date: _____

Chairperson