

New Anglia Transport Board

Agile to Change

Meeting Note

1.00pm – 3.00pm, Tuesday 25th February 2020 – Ipswich Town Hall, Ipswich

In attendance:

Paul Ager
Simon Amor
Matt Capp – for item 3
Karen Chapman
Andrew Chillingsworth
David Cumming
Paul Davey
Jonathan Denby
Doug Field – chair
Ellen Goodwin
Riz Hanid – for item 6
Graeme Mateer
Desi Reed – observer
Richard Pace
Richard Perkins
Jonathan Rudd
Cllr Phil Smart
Chris Soule
Andy Walker
Laura Waters
Cllr Martin Wilby

ABP
Highways England
BT
Suffolk Growth Programme Board
GT Railway
Norfolk County Council
Hutchison Ports
Greater Anglia
New Anglia LEP
New Anglia LEP
Network Rail
Suffolk County Council
East Suffolk Council
Norwich Airport
Suffolk Chamber of Commerce
New Anglia LEP
Suffolk District Councils
CLA
Suffolk Chamber of Commerce
Norfolk County Council
Norfolk County Council

Apologies

James Bradley
Philip Broadbent-Yale
Jamie Burles
Ali Clabburn
Cllr Stuart Clancy
John Dugmore
Nova Fairbank
Andrew Harston
Paul Horne
Patrick Ladbury
Paul Martin
Andrew Mower
Cllr Graham Plant
Cllr Andrew Reid
Sue Roper
Steve Wickers

Network Rail
Sustrans
Greater Anglia
Liftshare
Norfolk County Council
Suffolk Chamber of Commerce
Norfolk Chambers of Commerce
ABP
Suffolk County Council
GT Railway
First Buses
FSB
Norfolk District Councils
Suffolk County Council
Suffolk County Council
First Buses

Minutes and matters arising

Richard Pace and Cllr Phil Smart apologies to be noted for the last meeting.

ACTION – last note to be amended and re-issued

All other matters arising covered by the agenda or circulated to the Board.

Innovation in Transport

Matt Capp attended and updated the Board on innovation with respect to transport at Adastral Park, who have implemented various elements of technology to detect & share details of traffic and transport problems to ensure minimal disruption to daily ingress and egress. They have also encouraged more take up of sustainable travel. These are measures that might benefit commuters elsewhere.

Transport and clean growth

Ellen Goodwin introduced the paper and outlined the previously circulated information regarding the Norfolk and Suffolk Investment Plan.

The Investment Plan is a new proactive way of working designed to help influence and negotiate as well as lever in private sector investment. The LEP has a current call for EOIs out which will close on 20 March, but it is very much an iterative process. The Board were asked what they would like to achieve and what interventions may help to deliver these ambitions. Projects submitted via the EOI process must meet LEP strategic objectives and demonstrate value for money to be considered for inclusion.

Comments received prior to the meeting:

- Opportunities for walking and cycling need to be included. With the increasing number of electric bikes, the reasonable commute by bike has increased from 5-7 miles to 10-12 miles.
- The importance of sharing was highlighted as a key avenue to pursue alongside other actions in the shorter term.
- Active Design can support behavioural change.

ACTION – Sports England offer to present at June meeting with respect to Active Design

Comments at the meeting:

- Public transport and EV network key to pursue
- Importance of freight and associated barriers i.e. Ely must be considered. Electrification of rail.
- Regularity of passenger transport options will help drive behaviour change
- Green credentials are positive but sometimes have tax disincentives – do we need to challenge?
- NCC environmental policies – carbon neutrality by 2030. UEA and others to look at carbon emissions across the county in more granular detail to develop policy instruments and their impact.
- Transport East decarbonisation agenda to be considered
- Rail network set up for times gone by – how do we modernize affordably?
- Airport Masterplan access strategy, its associated carbon reduction ambitions and link to TCF
- Need to think about quick wins re. rail and influence Government/fund locally. Consider a common message and promote accordingly
- DfT silos makes clean growth challenging as options often demand an integrated approach

ACTION – relevant actions to be considered as part of the clean growth action plan

ACTION – come back to specific interventions next time

Transport East update

The rescheduled Transport East Summit is 26 February 2020. The agenda will cover work and achievements to date and opportunities with respect to the upcoming Transport Strategy around strategic connections, working with other areas, inclusive growth and the decarbonisation agenda.

The new Transport East Director has been appointed and is due to start on 14 April.

Transport East is taking a new approach regarding its decarbonisation agenda as the inquiry approach was proving challenging. A consultant will be appointed to do some detailed work moving forward which will include an event of some description.

The Body has asked DfT for funding this year and next and has done this through a range of scenarios. The Department has been clear that funding will not fund staff, although this may be different to the approach taken for Transport for the North.

Ely update

Last presented in November 2018. The programme is now much broader due to complicated geography and need for risk mitigation. Development work has concluded that improvements are unlikely to get us all the additional train paths we want without additional work on other parts of the network. A scaleable solution is attractive to DfT but we need to be mindful that solutions are needed outside the Programme in order to reap the widest possible benefits in the longer term.

BCR currently at 1.5 (central case) or 2.3 (for an initial freight focused approach)

New Anglia LEP has co-funded the Strategic Outline Business Case due to be submitted to HMT and DfT at the end of March. An announcement regarding next steps is expected by May 2020. £10-15m is needed for the Outline Business Case development stage which would take around 18-24 months to complete. Network Rail are working to understand what elements of the scheme could start to be delivered between 2023 and 2025 depending on various funding decisions.

Need to work nationally to develop (political) momentum.

ACTION – influencing strategy between now and May to be considered

Making the Integrated Transport Strategy Happen

Roads Investment Strategy

RIS 1 – A47 schemes moving forward: consultation on North Tuddenham to Easton starting 26 February 2020. Other Development Consent Orders advancing this year. A14 opened early.

RIS 2 – delivery to start in April.

Orwell Bridge closures work advancing, looking at flap and variable messaging options regarding reduced speed limits in high winds.

Transforming Cities Fund

Greater Norwich already delivering phase 1 including Beryl Bikes scheme over the next few months. End of March decision on phase 2 funding expected.

Haughley

Haughley decision to design expected in June 2020. Need to appropriately align with Ely. £1m from Suffolk public sector leaders but costs have increased. Important to coordinate road/rail improvements.

ACTION – take forward coordinated delivery approach with Ellie Burrows

Trowse

Partners have agreed to look at how we take forward improvements at Trowse.

GEML

The Taskforce met on 10 February which was the first meeting chaired by the new Chair Giles Watling MP. Rollout of the new Stadler trains continues across the rural routes and two of the new intercity trains have recently been introduced on the Norwich to London line. Rollout of further intercity trains will continue over the coming months.

All Intercity trains should be introduced by next meeting in early June 2020 – need to improve infrastructure to reap all benefits.

ACTION – Norfolk and Suffolk Unlimited case study to be delivered thereafter

The project board is considering the revised draft business case for the evidence refresh on 27 February.

Others

NCC – Local Transport Plan review consultation closes 28 February.

Freeports consultation

Open until 20 April

Terms of Reference

Regular attendance was suggested as an appropriate criterion for consideration.

ACTION – Chair to consider options

AOB including Forward Plan

See here for potential funding opportunities: <https://business.esa.int/funding/invitation-to-tender/ports-future>