

New Anglia Transport Board

Regional Connectivity and Our Priority Places

Meeting Note

2pm – 4pm, Tuesday 4th September 2019
George Hines Room, Wherstead Park, IP9 2BJ

Board attendance:

Carolyn Barnes (observer)
Neal Birkett
Philip Broadbent-Yale
Karen Chapman
David Cumming
Cllr Mary Evans
Nova Fairbank
Doug Field
Ellen Goodwin
Simon Hamilton (observer)
Graeme Mateer
Paul Martin
Richard Pace
Jonathan Rudd
Rajinder Sharma
Cllr Phil Smart
Chris Soule
Alan Todd
Jeremy Wiggin

East Suffolk Council
Associated British Ports
Sustrans
Suffolk Growth Programme Board
Norfolk County Council
Suffolk County Council
Norfolk Chamber of Commerce
New Anglia LEP
New Anglia LEP
Sport England
Suffolk County Council
First Buses
Norwich Airport
New Anglia LEP
Connected Places Catapult
On behalf of Suffolk districts
CLA
Federation of Small Businesses
Norfolk County Council

Apologies:

Paul Ager
James Bradley
Jonathan Cage
Ali Clabburn
Cllr Stuart Clancy
Paul Davey
Jonathan Denby
John Dugmore
Laura Etheridge
Andrew Harston
Patrick Ladbury
Richard Perkins
Sue Roper
Andy Walker
Cllr Martin Wilby

ABP
Network Rail
Norfolk Chamber of Commerce
Liftshare
Norfolk County Council
Hutchison
Greater Anglia
Suffolk Chamber of Commerce
East Midlands Trains
ABP
GT Railways
Suffolk Chamber of Commerce
Suffolk County Council
Suffolk Chamber of Commerce
Norfolk County Council

1. Minutes and matters arising:

Doug welcomed Cllr Phil Smart and Karen Chapman as new members representing Suffolk districts and boroughs.

Actions from last meeting:

- Offer has been made to DfT regarding its Rural Mobility Strategy
- Norfolk and Suffolk place branding launch on 25 September – link circulated separately

The previous minutes were accepted as a true record.

2. Transforming Cities: Norwich and Greater Norwich

Jeremy Wiggin (Norfolk County Council) presented Norwich's Transforming Cities and Future Mobility Zone bids. Public consultation showed that public transport investment was the number one priority with air quality featuring highly compared to previous consultations.

He explained that a £100m allocation from the TCF and a £25m allocation from the FMZ fund would be a significant success but that a scalable proposition needed to be presented to DfT in order to maximise delivery opportunities. He also stated that a 10% reduction in single occupancy would likely be a significant success but targets were currently being developed, using evidence, as part of the process.

Comments from the Board included:

- Data sharing a big ask but already started on a smaller scale
- Park and ride not always as flexible as would be liked but NCC currently reviewing evidence and a breadth of customer views in light of ongoing budget discussions
- Need to think about deliveries and last mile opportunities as well as public transport

It was noted that there had not been as much time as usual to develop projects but this had resulted in a swift programme development process which would have a positive legacy regardless of the level of success.

3. The potential for integrated ticketing

Paul Martin (First Buses) updated the Board on the first meeting of operators discussing integrated ticketing. He said there were already a number of schemes in place across Norfolk and Suffolk that could be built upon in order to achieve greater outcomes. He stated that the operators present (Greater Anglia, First and Ipswich Buses) were keen to progress but legislative challenges would need to be overcome in order to fully progress.

Comments from the Board included:

- Need to offer better value as ticketing becomes easier to access i.e. contactless
- Mobile ticketing could be a good way to progress but need to consider who we are targeting. For example, young people may need to use more traditional smart cards

A further meeting is scheduled for November.

4. The importance of active travel

Philip Broadbent Yale (Sustrans) presented on the importance of active travel.

He stated that Government ambition was to double cycling between 2014 and 2025. He also noted that Norwich had a good track record for cycling investment, but that other areas could benefit from further focus. Philip went on to say that cycling investment generally provided good value for money and highlighted the important link between cycling and tourism, particularly in Norfolk and Suffolk.

Comments from the Board included:

- Further opportunities for disused railways as new cycling routes
- Difficult to attribute health benefits to business cases but recognition that collaboration was critical
- Importance of integrated networks and modes moving forward
- Opportunities for further rural investment in cycling and in potential economic diversification

5. Making the Integrated Transport Strategy Happen – Member Roundtable

Broadland Northway and Norwich Western Link

The Broadland Northway opened in April 2018 and allowed for more reliable and quicker journey times as well as additional sustainable transport options in and around Norwich. Norfolk County Council are currently evaluating the scheme.

Norfolk County Council agreed the preferred route for the Norwich Western Link and submitted the Strategic Outline Business Case to DfT in July 2019. An Outline Business Case is expected in January 2020 with the view of appointing a contractor in October 2020. A further public consultation will follow in early 2021 with the road currently scheduled to open in 2025.

Ipswich Northern Route

The current consultation regarding route options closes on 13 September. Suffolk County Council has received 2,500 responses to date. A Strategic Outline Business Case decision is expected later in 2019 but decisions regarding affordability need to be taken by Suffolk Leaders as a significant local contribution will be required.

A47

The Norfolk Chamber updated on the eloquent Westminster business reception which was held earlier in the year. Further discussions will take place with the new Minister moving forward.

A14

The Suffolk Chamber's campaign has also recently included a well-attended Westminster business reception. Conversations with the new Roads Minister are to be taken forward.

A1307

The current campaign is working with the Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Combined Authority to explore cross border opportunities.

GEML

Network Rail has published its GEML Study and the wider evidence refresh is ongoing. Jacobs have delivered a first draft of the Strategic Outline Business Case and Lichfields are looking at the wider economic benefits of an improved GEML. A second conference was held in July to update on the evidence refresh and garner further business support. The Rt. Hon Priti Patel MP has stood down as Chair since her promotion to Home Secretary, a new Chair will be announced once appointed.

Ely

Work on the Strategic Outline Business Case continues alongside a programme review to consider how the project may be delivered in a phased approach. A final funding decision is expected for the programme as a whole, with early delivery expected by 2024. It was noted that collectively we need to continue to emphasise the national significance of the scheme.

Haughley

Suffolk Growth Programme Board have agreed to co-fund improvements to Haughley junction.

Norwich Airport

- Announcement of new £7m hangar
- Additional flights to Aberdeen
- KLM hub service has seen double digit growth this year

Connected Places Catapult

- Working with Cambridge Norwich Tech Corridor initiative
- Blue tech case study with Port of Felixstowe, BT, University of Suffolk and others
- Working with BT on Adastral Park ambitions

Sport England

“We Are Undefeatable” campaign

ABP

Good harvest this year has meant Ipswich Port is taking a flexible approach to manage demand

6. Transport East update

The paper was accepted by the Board

7. Any other business

No new items for future business were discussed

Date of next meeting – 9.30am, 19 November