



New Anglia Transport Board

Tuesday 2nd June 2020

Agenda Item 4

Transport East 100-Day Plan

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Summary

The Transport East partnership is our Sub-national Transport Body (STB), created in 2018 by leaders across Norfolk, Suffolk, Essex, Southend and Thurrock to provide a single voice on our region's transport strategy and strategic transport investment priorities.

To accelerate its work programme, Transport East appointed a Strategic Director in April 2020. This 100-day plan proposes the short-term actions now required to ensure Transport East is fully capable of influencing and securing national transport investment to support our economic, social and environmental goals and ambitions.

The New Anglia LEP is a key member of Transport East, and actively participates on the Transport East Senior Officer Group and the Transport East Forum. This 100-day plan has been scoped out via a workshop with LEP officers and other core Transport East partners, and the New Anglia Transport Board is invited to provide further input and steer today.

Purpose of this paper

The Transport Board is asked to:

- Review the four proposed work packages set out in the 100-day plan (see appendix) and propose any further activities
- Discuss opportunities for collaboration and further joint working between the LEP Transport Board and Transport East

Background

The Transport East partnership is one of seven STBs established across England following the government's 2016 legislation to deliver greater devolution to sub-national areas. The purpose of STBs is to act as a single voice for their regions on transport matters, with specific roles to:

- Develop and communicate a single transport strategy and strategic investment programme, with its priorities ultimately embedded in the delivery plans of government, Network Rail, Highways Agency, private sector and other transport providers.

- Provide a strong, loud and collective regional voice in the national planning, prioritisation and delivery of strategic transport improvements, helping to ensure investment decisions are locally supported, evidence-led, joined-up and take a strategic long-term approach
- Enhance the work of existing local transport bodies and Local Enterprise Partnerships by ensuring that funding and strategy decisions about the sub-national transport system are informed by local knowledge, outcomes and requirements
- Provide leadership and strategic oversight on strategic transport priorities which cross local authority or regional boundaries.

The members of the Transport East partnership include Norfolk, Suffolk, Essex, Southend and Thurrock transport authorities, LEPs (both New Anglia and SELEP), district councils, Highways England, Network Rail, the UK Innovation Corridor, Chambers of Commerce and other partners. Transport East works closely with its wider partners across the region (including ports, airports and other infrastructure and transport operators), as well as the Department for Transport and the wider English STB network, particularly the neighbouring STBs (Transport for the South East, England's Economic Heartland and Midlands Connect).

To date the work of Transport East has been undertaken by its members, however Transport East appointed a Strategic Director in April 2020 as its first dedicated resource.

Next Steps for Transport East: A 100-day plan

The Strategic Director and Senior Officers Group (including LEP officers) have reviewed the member, wider partner and government requirements of Transport East, and subsequently developed a 100-day plan to progress Transport East to its next stage of maturity. The plan establishes four work packages to progress our four priority outcomes:

A) Transport East as a functional and representative STB – A successful, effective and well-run STB, fully championing the aspirations of the Transport East partners, working in close partnership with DfT and the rest of the UK.

B) Transport East evidence base and strategy – An ambitious, focused and coherent Transport Strategy, based on evidence, fully reflecting the unique ambitions of local partners and aligned to national goals (including COVID19 recovery).

C) Investment and delivery planning – A pipeline and delivery plan for investment priorities, aligned to the Transport Strategy, supporting local authorities and infrastructure providers to develop, fund, accelerate and deliver priority projects.

D) Partnerships, communications and advocacy– Transport East speaks as a single voice for its constituent partners, with our priorities communicated loudly, credibly and effectively via a close working relationship with the government and other STBs.

The full 100-day plan is set out in the appendix.

Recommendation

The Transport Board is asked to:

- Review the four proposed work packages set out in the 100-day plan (see appendix) and propose any further activities
- Discuss opportunities for collaboration between the LEP Transport Board and Transport East