

Tyne and Wear Freight Partnership

September Quarterly Meeting

Committee Room 1 Sunderland Civic Centre

In Attendance:

John Bourn (Chair)	- Tyne & Wear LTP Team
Michael Page	- Aecom
John Cram	- North Tyneside Council
Andrew Jameson	- Sunderland City Council
Martin Forster	- Sunderland City Council
Bob Donaldson (left at 11.35)	- Sunderland City Council
Paul Lewins	- Sunderland City Council
Paul Davison	- Aecom
John Hix	- Aecom
Malcolm Bingham	- FTA
Martin Murphy	- NECTAR
Councillor Frank Lott	- TWITA
Gary Appleby	- Port of Tyne
James Turnbull	- Durham County Council
Kevin Cobb	- Alex Smiles Ltd
Stuart Smiles	- Alex Smiles Ltd
Trevor Male	- South Tyneside Council
Trevor Watson	- Railfuture North East
Councillor Peter Wood	- TWITA
Yvonne Forster *	- Newcastle CC

* Author of note

Apologies:

Nigel Cook	- Eddis Transport
Richard Toner	- Eddis Transport
Tom Zunder	- Newcastle University
Graeme Heron	- Northumbria University
Anthony Walker	- Railfuture North East
Peter Morton	- Newcastle City Transport
Gordon Carr	- CILT
Councillor Ed Hodson	- North Tyneside Council
Ian Radley	- Highways Agency

Item	Action
<p>1. Attendance and apologies.</p> <p>JB (Chair) welcomed everyone and thanked Sunderland City Council for hosting meeting. Introductions were made around the table and apologies read out.</p>	
<p>2. Minutes of last meeting and Matters Arising.</p> <p>Minutes of meeting held on 12 June 2013 were agreed as a correct record</p> <p>Matters Arising not on the agenda</p> <p>Item 3 No Car Lanes – JB had received some feedback from stakeholders which he has forwarded to Mark Jackson. No feedback from him as yet but it is understood Newcastle City Council are proceeding with changing the no car lanes to bus, cycle and taxi lanes.</p> <p>Item 6 LEP North East Economic Review – Proceeding with proposals for Combined Authority from next April. LEP required to submit Strategic Economic Plan to Government in the Autumn.</p> <p>Item 9 – AI Western By Pass – JB/MP to supply details of Route Management Strategy.</p> <p><i>Post-Meeting Note: This can be found online at http://assets.highways.gov.uk/our-road-network/managing-our-roads/route-based-strategies/FINAL%20A1%20RBS.pdf</i></p>	JB/MP
<p>3. Transport Developments in Sunderland</p> <p>MP presented an update on Sunderland City Council's current transport projects and future aspirations, prepared by Andy Jameson.</p> <p>MB asked if low carbon zones are the same as low emission zones.</p> <p>BD advised these are not related – the Sunderland Low Carbon Zone relates to the area around Nissan, which in addition to manufacture of the Nissan Leaf, and the associated battery plant, is a focus for low carbon manufacturers and suppliers.</p> <p>MM asked if any specific parts of the programme contribute to the proposed re-opening of the Leamside line.</p> <p>BD said that the Council remains supportive of the potential for reinstatement of the Leamside Line, which could provide rail access for freight shipments to and from the Sunderland Low Carbon Zone around Nissan. However re-instatement costs are likely to exceed £100 million.</p> <p>SS asked about timetable for phases of the SSTC.</p> <p>BD said the only timetable available is for Phase 1 (St Mary's Way) which is under construction, and is due for completion in November 2014.</p>	

<p>Further information on the SSTC is included in the presentation slides, which will be available on the Freight Partnership website. An update on the status of the New Wear Crossing can be found at http://www.sunderland.gov.uk/index.aspx?articleid=8310</p> <p>In relation to a question concerning pedestrians and cyclists, 5m wide shared use footways will be provided on St Mary's Way.</p> <p>St Mary's Way is not anticipated to be a direct cycle route. Once the Vaux site has been developed, there will be a more direct route from the City Centre to Wearmouth Bridge and the riverside University campus.</p> <p>AJ will liaise with Aecom regarding the provision of information about the projects on the Freight Partnership website.</p>	
<p>4. Tyne & Wear FORS - Michael Page</p> <p>MP gave an update on progress with the scheme.</p> <p>JB said the scheme was receiving good support from Tyne & Wear local authorities which sets a positive example to other organisations. Work is also being done through the procurement process to promote FORS membership.</p>	
<p>5. FORS national procurement process – John Hix</p> <p>JH updated the group.</p> <p>There has been a three fold increase in the numbers of cyclists in London but there hasn't been a decrease in KSI's since 2004.</p> <p>More Information is available in the Procurement Guide booklet and the Cycle Safety Toolkit available on line at www.fors-online.org.uk .</p> <p>(BD left the meeting)</p> <p>JB said Tyne & Wear have bold aspirations for growth of cyclists, need to be conscious and proactive about safety involving HGVs.</p> <p>DVLA licence checks are a condition of FORS and increasingly a procurement requirement. Licence bureau checks find out immediately if a driver is banned.</p> <p>MB said FTA has major concerns about TfL's proposals – they are looking for one standard the industry can work with.</p> <p>SS referred back to St Michael's Way and said pedestrians and cyclists need to be segregated. MM agreed.</p>	
<p>6. Task Update</p>	

<p>Mapping – Request for update of contacts for abnormal loads and structures in each local authority.</p> <p>Rail Freight – see presentation.</p> <p>Promoting the Partnership – e-newsletter is produced twice a year. CILT/ITS maritime event was well received and well attended.</p>	<p>District Reps</p>
<p>7. Longer Semi-Trailers</p> <p>An online questionnaire has been developed and is available from today. Liaising with Local Authorities to access impact on highway design process.</p> <p>MB said construction of trailers should be able to manoeuvre roads now. Concerned that highway engineers have to change design.</p> <p>MB said there are two sizes of trailer and the smaller allocation has not been taken up. Needs to be a meaningful trial.</p>	
<p>8. Safe Urban Driving Course</p> <p>There is interest in holding a Tyne & Wear SUD driving course. 12 drivers interested in attending. Half day workshop, half day cycling. Venue in Newcastle area to be confirmed. Looking at hosting before end of September. Details will be circulated as soon as known.</p> <p><i>Post-meeting note: The event was held on September 30th and proved very successful – see http://www.tyneandwearfreight.info/news/news.aspx .</i></p>	
<p>9. New investment in cycling up to 2015</p> <p>Newcastle City Council successful in bid for £5.7 million allocation from DfT.</p> <p>All districts of Tyne and Wear have bold aspirations for increasing cycling. Will have impact on freight sector as it is expected there will be more cyclists on the roads. Newcastle are proposing to look at more physical segregation for cyclists instead of coloured cycle lane. It is hoped that, within 10 years, 12% of journeys under 5 miles within Newcastle will be by bike.</p> <p>MB asked how much of existing road would be taken over for cyclists.</p> <p>SS – would like to see more segregation of cyclists on roads. HGV drivers could end up with a prison sentence if convicted of gross negligence or similar. Roads as they stand are not suitable. Have to consider where cyclists should and shouldn't be.</p> <p>JC said need to look at what London is doing.</p> <p>MP said Partnership is trying to heighten awareness.</p>	

<p>Newcastle City Council is holding conference in November with experts from the Netherlands to look at lessons that can be learned.</p> <p>Group agreed to invite Anne Clark, Cycling Officer at Newcastle City Council to a future meeting. This will give freight industry an opportunity to put their point forward. SS asked that people read Health & Safety info beforehand and confirm what they are doing is in line with best practice.</p> <p><i>Post-meeting note: Anne has been invited to the March 2014 meeting.</i></p>	
<p>10. Any Other Business</p> <p>Cllr Lott – Consider same geographical area for this group in line with Combined Authority. JB advised it is an aspiration and have already had discussions with Durham and Northumberland.</p> <p>JB advised of Local Growth Fund 2015-20 £2 billion per year to LEP areas through competitive bidding. Useful to think about freight interventions which could contribute to economic growth.</p> <p>Comments/ideas to JB or MP</p>	<p>ALL</p>
<p>11. Dates and venues of next meetings in 2013/14</p> <p>December 4th 2013 at 10.30: Tyne and Wear UTMC Centre</p> <p>March 12th 2014 at 10.30: South Shields Town Hall</p> <p>JB thanked everyone for their attendance and participation in another productive meeting.</p>	