Tyne and Wear Freight Partnership

September Quarterly Meeting

Leazes Room, Civic Centre, Newcastle

In Attendance:

- John Bourn (Chair) - Tyne and Wear LTP Team
- Andrew Jameson - Sunderland City Council
- Trevor Male - South Tyneside Council
- Jessica Anderson - Tyne and Wear LTP Team
- Gary Walker - Clipper Logistics Group
- Darren Coates - Clipper Logistics Group
- Dave Riding - Your Homes Newcastle
- Malcolm Dodds - RHA
- Gary Appleby - Port of Tyne
- John Cram - North Tyneside Council
- Colin Gransbury - AG Barr
- Kieron Bridges - Newcastle City Council
- Peter Hayes - Aecom
- Paulus Aditjardra - New Rail, Newcastle University
- Martin Murphy - NECTAR
- Paul Fenwick - Newcastle City Council
- Sally Herbert - Newcastle City Council
- Graeme Heron - Northumbria University
- Richard Toner - Elddis Transport
- Yvonne Forster* - Tyne and Wear LTP Team *

Apologies:

- Councillor Paul Mason - North Tyneside Council
- Dick Phillips - Northumberland County Council
- Tom Zunder - University of Newcastle
- Councillor Ed Hodson - North Tyneside Council
- Ian Radley - Highways Agency
- Rachel McGraffin - Tyne and Wear LTP Team
- Mike Page - Aecom
- Gordon Carr - GILT
- Lee Davies - Railfuture NE
- Stuart Corker - Gateshead Council
- Steve Brown - DBS

* Author of note
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| JB (Chair) welcomed everyone to the meeting  
Introductions were made round the table and apologies read out. | |

**Minutes of last meeting**

Minutes of meeting held on 15 June 2011 were agreed as a correct record.

**Matters Arising**


Offer from Transport Newcastle to host European Freight Conference – JB to liaise with TZ.

**Tyne Tunnel 2 – Presentation by Paul Fenwick, Project Director NTC**

Following discussion about Tyne Tunnel 2 at the last meeting where concerns were raised regarding lorry tolls, PF was invited to give a presentation at tonight’s meeting.

PF explained how the tolling strategy was decided by the ITA in line with European Directives. All tolls are set by and paid to the ITA. He said the ITA had accepted a multiplier of 2 for lorries (compared to cars). Other crossings have generally been found to have a higher multiplier. The ITA has to set a concession order in 2012, discussions are ongoing until October. PF said he will speak to Steve Biddle at RHA about this.

The original tunnel is now being upgraded and PF advised the group that, due to providing a safety walkway along one side of the tunnel, the height will be reduced to 4.2 metres, so high vehicles will be directed to move into the centre of the tunnel. LTP Team to check if this information is on TIPs.

In the discussion which followed, MD said there was concern from local operators based near the tunnel, who were away all week and didn’t use the tunnel at peak times. He felt it was unfair that HGVs will pay twice as much as cars and the cost should be reduced. Many of his members have said they will not use the tunnel, which will cause more congestion on other roads.

**Action**

**Point:**

LTP Team to follow up
PF replied he was aware of the argument but has to comply with the Directive and has tried to keep a fair balance. They want to keep lorries on the route and have deliberately kept tolls down. There is now legal pressure to comply, after such a low multiplier previously. He felt it would be beneficial to talk to operators to see what can be done. The Modification Order provides more time to do this.

PF said more modelling is being done to find out expected traffic levels when both tunnels operating.

Traffic levels through the tunnel have reduced.

MM expressed his thanks and said not many Project Directors committed themselves over such a long time to one project and the project owes a lot to Paul.

JB thanked PF for the informative presentation.

Newcastle Freight Consolidation Centre – Presentation by Gary Walker, Clipper Logistics

GW gave an interesting and informative presentation on how the centre operates and the benefits it will bring. This was followed by a short discussion. JB thanked GW.

Fuel Saving for Operators – Presentation by Peter Hayes, AECOM

PH said Aecom is hoping to encourage operators to use the website and available resources. Unfortunate not many operators at meeting.

MD said operators doing all they can to cut costs. Small operators don’t always know what it costs to run a vehicle. Driver CPC £10k on price of unit. New technology is a big cost to the industry. Cost of second hand vehicles is rocketing. Not many operators have bonus schemes to incentivise good driving habits. DfT Freight Best Practice information (soon to be added to the Partnership website) is very good.

JB thanked PH for an informative presentation.

Fleet Recognition Progress Update – AECOM

Feasibility Study carried out with FORS scheme coming out on top. Use as optional model. Has a range of benefits – details given in report on website. Cost hasn’t been looked at yet. Design for FORS Tyne & Wear will consider costs in light of limited budget, audit provision and level of benefits. AECOM and LTP Team to discuss further with TFL.
RT said he would like to see more details before giving opinion.

MD said RHA don’t favour FORS. Each operator has to have licence, these are at different levels, cost of audit, admin costs, will cost operators, preferential treatment for some. City of Paris declined to use it. MD to email views to PH. JB said views will be taken into account in discussions.

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<th>2011/12 Business Plan Update</th>
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<tr>
<td>PH flagged up key points</td>
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<td>Mapping – complete</td>
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<td>Freight on Rail meeting arranged for 28 September 2011</td>
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<td>If FORS is chosen as Fleet Recognition option, this would incorporate a Fuel Saving “Ready Reckoner” – this means the Partnership can then proceed to develop a Multi-Modal Map - more details to follow</td>
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<td>Adding Freight Best Practice info to website in next 2 weeks – promoting Partnership and trying to engage with operators more and hope it will be used more.</td>
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AOB

None

Next Meeting

Next meeting will be held on 7th December 2011. As last two meetings held in Newcastle, JB will seek to hold it in another authority. Details to follow. (Likely to be North Tyneside).

JB thanked speakers for excellent presentations and everyone for attending.

The presentations are available on the Partnership website.