**Notes of Discussion**

**Project:** Tyne and Wear Freight Partnership Meeting  
**Job No/Ref:** 48725TALT

**Purpose:**  
**Date held:** 5th December 2006

**Held at:** Bewick Rooms, Newcastle Civic Centre  
**Made by:** M Page

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<th>No.</th>
<th>Item</th>
<th>Action By</th>
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<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Introduction</td>
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MW welcomed all attendees to the meeting. DA provided an overview of the agenda. |
| 2   | Minutes of last meeting |  
Minutes of the last meeting were agreed without any amendments. |
| 3   | Website |  
DA presented the updated version of the Tyne and Wear Freight Partnership website, which has been amended following feedback at the last meeting. Changes included the addition of tailored destination maps, hot buttons for traffic information and route planning, updated lorry parking information, links to the Highways Agency's Heavy Good Vehicle website, and new traffic contacts for local authorities. Following this, the site was set up on a test page and the link was circulated to the Partnership for comments. Most of the comments have now been addressed, with the exception of some provided by Sunderland on the Tyne and Wear Freight Map. These comments are to be addressed prior to the launch of the site. |

Some further comments were made at the meeting:
- Arrange Traffic Manager contacts in columns.
- Include Abnormal loads contact at the Highways Agency (KM to provide details).
- Amend Cobalt Office Park to Cobalt Business Park in drop down box 7.
- Include the names of roundabouts in the map and website - this amendment was agreed, but for inclusion at a later date. CE produced photographs to show how Sunderland have re-named their roundabouts.
- Insert a disclaimer on the destination maps.
- Look at possibility of developing a drop down box for the destination maps page.

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<tr>
<td>M Page</td>
<td>All</td>
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**Present:**  
Mark Wilson: Tyne and Wear LTP team  
Gordon Carr: ILT  
Mark Jackson: Newcastle City Council  
Martin Murphy: NECTAR  
Susan Darroch: North Tyneside Council  
Andy Jameson: Sunderland City Council  
Kyle Maylard: Highways Agency  
Colin Engleby: Cooperative Retail logistics  
John Bourn: Tyne and Wear LTP team  
John Robertson: Newcastle City Council  
Martin Gibson: GONE  
James Firth: FTA  
Jonathan James: Faber Maunsell  
David Arthur: Faber Maunsell  
Mike Page: Faber Maunsell
CE commented that the Co-op have used the website as a training tool to assist recently recruited route planners in the area. DA highlighted the importance of establishing links to the new website from existing sites.

A draft press release to promote the site was circulated at the meeting for comments. JR suggested the press release should be based around a Santa’s little helper’ theme for delivering goods. GC offered to include the release in the ILT magazine ‘Focus’ in conjunction with other press releases. FM to circulate the press release following the launch of the site.

It was agreed that following final amendments, the website will be launched in the week commencing 11th December 2006.

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<th>4</th>
<th>Tailored maps</th>
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<td>Tailored maps have been produced for 11 key destinations in Tyne and Wear. All comments received on the maps have been addressed and sent back out to relevant authorities and retail outlets. The maps have since been included on the website. All feedback was very positive. There may be an opportunity in the future to develop the destinations to other key destinations.</td>
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<th>Progression of Signage Recommendations</th>
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<td>FM have contacted South Tyneside Council for an update on the progression of the signing recommendations for the Port of Tyne. South Tyneside are still to receive a quote from their contractor for undertaking the work. MW to follow up. Redirecting HGV traffic from the Silverlink roundabout access to the A191 Holystone junction was discussed at a meeting held on 4th December. Representatives from the Highways Agency, North Tyneside Council, the Tyne and Wear LT team and Faber Maunsell attended the meeting. The project has the support of the Highways Agency and a signage study is to commence to report on the most appropriate design and location for the new signs. FM to report progress at the next meeting.</td>
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<th>Electronic Information Point</th>
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<td>MP explained that work has commenced to look at the feasibility of installing an Electronic Information Point (EIP) into the NT Newcastle truckstop. The following would be necessary to ensure the success of the EIP:</td>
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<td>• Place in a prominent position;</td>
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<td>• Attract attention with an interesting standby screen;</td>
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<tr>
<td>• Need to keep attention, not too much text;</td>
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<tr>
<td>• Enable simple navigation around the system; and</td>
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<tr>
<td>• Deliver required information.</td>
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Three hardware suppliers are being researched with the intention of installing the information point in the new financial year. There was a suggestion that a leaflet dispenser be positioned by the EIP to house the Tyne and Wear Freight map. A report is being prepared at present - FM to issue before the next meeting. |
### Assessment of Driver rest Facilities

MP explained that FM are undertaking a review of driver rest facilities.

Some draft findings with respect to utilisation are as follows:

**Motorway Service Areas**
- Moto Truckers Lounge A1
  - Northbound utilisation - day 93%, night 63%
  - Southbound utilisation - day 50%, night 77%

**Independent Truck stops**
- NT Newcastle Truckstop utilisation – day 7%, night 40%.

FM to issue a draft report ahead of the next meeting.

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### Priority Lanes Assessment

MW is expecting the full report for the Priority Lanes study on the 8th December.

The draft report on the assessment was explained, outlining the location and type and the times of operation. Some key data is as follows:

- **Of the 250km of strategic corridor (excluding the A1 and A19)** in Tyneside and Wear
  - Walker Road (Newcastle) the highest % of HGVs - **10.2%** compared with the average **3.7%**
  - Chester Road (Sunderland) has the highest % of buses - **6.5%** compared to the average **2.1%**

Approx **10%** of the road space on the corridors has been reallocated priority measures

- **43%** of the priority measures are in Newcastle, a **quarter** are in Gateshead and a **quarter** are in Sunderland.

- **42%** of priority measures are No Car Lanes (11 km), a **quarter** are Bus, Cycle and Taxi lanes (7 km) and **15%** are Bus and Cycle Lanes (3 km)

- **60%** of all priority measures are enforced 24 hours, with a **third** from 7am—7pm.

Impacts on traffic and journey times, including the environmental impact have been assessed. Lane utilisation, accident data and lane contravention have also been studied.

MW explained that this is the first time a solid evidence base on the different types of measure has been prepared. It is hoped that this will aid decision making when defining types of priority lane. MW to report formally on the findings at the next meeting.

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### Roadside service areas

Until 8 Feb 2007, the Highways Agency are conducting a consultation on roadside services. This a good opportunity for the industry to have a say in this key subject area.

More information can be found at [www.highways.gov.uk/roads/13362.aspx](http://www.highways.gov.uk/roads/13362.aspx)
### 10 The Way Forward

Remaining actions through to April 2007 include:

**Review of Town and City Centre signage**
This work will be commenced early in 2007.

**Abnormal Route Map**
Following the production of the freight map, it has been suggested that a Tyne and Wear Abnormal loads map should be produced. When loads are planned, the Highways Agency plan the routes and consult with the local authority to clarify the stress loading of particular routes and structures. Such a map could be of use at the planning stage. FM to produce a specification for the map.

**Multi-Modal Freight on Rail**
FM are to undertake an exercise to map rail freight flows in Tyne and Wear. This will lead to an assessment of the scope for increasing the volume of freight moved by rail in the conurbation. FM to report progress at the next meeting.

MM mentioned the need to link in with the draft Raul Utilisation study for the North East, which is being consulted on at present. This addresses the bottleneck relating to Tursdale. MM also mentioned that a scheme at Teesport is being considered for potential TIF funding.

### 11 AOB
None

### 12 Date of Next Meeting
The next meeting will be held at the Newcastle Civic Centre on **Thursday 8th March 2007 at 10.30 am**