

Project:	Tyne and Wear Freight Partnership	Job No/Ref:	60044340/7																																				
Purpose:	Partnership Meeting	Date held:	12th June 2008																																				
Held at:	North Tyneside Council Offices, Cobalt Office Park	Made by:	Mike Page																																				
Present:	<table border="0"> <tr><td>Malcolm Dodds</td><td>RHA</td></tr> <tr><td>Martin Murphy</td><td>NECTAR</td></tr> <tr><td>Martin Gibson</td><td>GONE</td></tr> <tr><td>Mark Wilson</td><td>Tyne & Wear LTP Core Team</td></tr> <tr><td>John Robertson</td><td>Newcastle City Council</td></tr> <tr><td>Lynne Biddles</td><td>Highways Agency</td></tr> <tr><td>Andrew Jameson</td><td>Sunderland City Council</td></tr> <tr><td>Nigel Cook</td><td>Elddis Transport</td></tr> <tr><td>Dave West</td><td>Port of Tyne Distribution</td></tr> <tr><td>Keith Monkhouse</td><td>Robert Horne Group</td></tr> <tr><td>Colin Engleby</td><td>Co-op CRL</td></tr> <tr><td>Trevor Male</td><td>South Tyneside Council</td></tr> <tr><td>Stuart Corker</td><td>Gateshead Council</td></tr> <tr><td>Susan Darroch</td><td>North Tyneside Council</td></tr> <tr><td>Gordon Carr</td><td>CILT</td></tr> <tr><td>David Arthur</td><td>Faber Maunsell</td></tr> <tr><td>Mike Page</td><td>Faber Maunsell</td></tr> <tr><td>David Moat</td><td>North Tyneside Council</td></tr> </table>	Malcolm Dodds	RHA	Martin Murphy	NECTAR	Martin Gibson	GONE	Mark Wilson	Tyne & Wear LTP Core Team	John Robertson	Newcastle City Council	Lynne Biddles	Highways Agency	Andrew Jameson	Sunderland City Council	Nigel Cook	Elddis Transport	Dave West	Port of Tyne Distribution	Keith Monkhouse	Robert Horne Group	Colin Engleby	Co-op CRL	Trevor Male	South Tyneside Council	Stuart Corker	Gateshead Council	Susan Darroch	North Tyneside Council	Gordon Carr	CILT	David Arthur	Faber Maunsell	Mike Page	Faber Maunsell	David Moat	North Tyneside Council	Distribution:	All
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No.	Item	Action By
1	Introduction MW welcomed attendees to the meeting at the recently opened new North Tyneside Council offices.	
2	Minutes from last meeting The minutes of the last meeting were reviewed by MW.	
3	Operator Face-to-Face Interviews MP presented the findings of the Face-to-Face interviews, which were carried out between March and May. Detailed information has been collated in order to review the work carried out by the Partnership and inform future tasks. MP explained that feedback was very positive overall, and that constructive ideas had been put forward. The findings have been assembled onto a report, which was circulated at the meeting. Operators interviewed included: C Herring, Skip Operator, Hartlepool, Eden Transport, General Haulage, Hartlepool AV Dawson, Multi Modal Operator, Middlesbrough	

Crawford Transport, General Haulage, Washington
 Robert Horne Group, Paper and Plastics, Boldon
 Burn & Hewitt Contracts, Aggregates, South Hetton
 Alex Smiles, Recycling, Sunderland
 Van Hee, Driver Training, Gateshead
 Co-op Distribution, Birtley
 Beamish Transport, Vehicle Transport, Chester le Street
 AG Barr, Soft Drinks, Newcastle

Mapping

Comments from Operators

Operators considered the 'Tyne and Wear Freight Map' to be an important tool for navigation and thought it generally provided the correct level of detail. Sat Nav was thought to be helpful for general traffic, but there were concerns regarding the lack of information on highway restrictions. There was a view that more towns and cities should have advisory route maps and individual destination maps. The FTA and RHA were thought to be appropriate channels for disseminating the maps.

Recommendations

Operators recommended adding commercial sites, larger supermarkets, landfill sites, fuel stations, postcodes and suggested adding information in other languages. It was also suggested that the maps could be made more interactive, to show the details of the companies when highlighted by the cursor.

One operator recommended adding text to explain what constitutes an abnormal load on the Abnormal Load Route Map and that hazardous loads routes should be identified. Further to this, it was recommended that the maps should be included on the website.

Signage

Comments from Operators

To deliver the goods quickly and on time, operators thought that it was important to direct the driver by the most appropriate route; this would help in reducing journey times and reduce fuel consumption. Signs were generally thought to be good on the main route network to the outskirts of the Towns and Cities. However, once inside this boundary the signage becomes less effective. Examples of best practice were the Sunderland Southern Radial Route, petrochemical plants in Hartlepool, Metrocentre, Washington and Port of Tyne.

Recommendations

An urgent action identified was the need to put in place a restriction sign on the inside lane of the Tyne Bridge – this had been removed following recent works. Newcastle City Council have started an investigation into this – the signs have been ordered and will be installed as quickly as possible. Signage to Sunderland City Centre was thought to need improving. There was also a view that multi-lingual signs should be introduced in certain areas.

Lorry Parking

Comments from Operators

Operators commented that the lack of available parking spaces prevents drivers parking safely for their statutory breaks. An ideal location for a driver rest facility was thought to be at the junction of the A19 and A184 at Testos roundabout, or

JR

<p>the junction of the A194(M) and the A184 at White Mare Pool. Van Hee, were interested in investigating the possibility of providing parking spaces at their depot in Felling.</p> <p>Reciprocation parking, whereby companies exchange parking spaces, was thought to be a good idea in principle, but most of the companies interviewed did not have the required space to become involved in the scheme. Beamish Transport were interested in partaking in a pilot study.</p> <p><i>Recommendations</i> Discuss further with Van Hee and Beamish Transport on the feasibility of accommodating lorry parking.</p> <p>Backloading <i>Comments from Operators</i> Operators were asked questions relating to the feasibility of setting up a backloading trial through the Partnership. There are a number of on-line Backloading sites - as a minimum, the partnership website should set up a link to these. The cost to using these can be prohibitive and most companies use their own contacts and regular customers. Backloading is difficult in some instances for the movement of cars transporters, food and aggregates. NC noted that there are more goods coming into the North East than out as the area is a net importer.</p> <p><i>Recommendations</i> Provide a link from the Tyne and Wear website to the current backload sites, but also carry out an assessment for setting up a facility on the Tyne and Wear website.</p> <p>Communication <i>Comments from Operators</i> The website was generally considered to be clear and provide the correct level of information. Operators agreed that Durham Services was a good place to locate the Truck Information Point. The leaflet produced to profile the work of the Partnership was thought to be good for raising awareness. Some operators suggested that it should be sent to all companies by post, possibly through FTA and RHA distribution channels.</p> <p><i>Recommendations</i> Provide a links in the website to mapping sites such as Google Maps. There are webcams located around the conurbation and a link to these could be provided. This would include the Tyne Tunnel, the estuary at the mouth of the Tyne, and the Tyne Bridge. Updating leaflet is important and should be carried out annually. Distribution could be assisted through the RHA and the FTA.</p> <p>Other No Car Lanes were popular with operators, as was the concept of journey time trial lanes, whereby freight vehicles are restricted to the inside lane. There was support for the provision of a third lane on the A1 Western Bypass in the form of a high occupancy lane that could be used by HGVs.</p>	<p>FM/MW</p> <p>FM</p> <p>FM</p>
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	<p>Way Forward MP explained that some of the recommendations can be incorporated into this current year within the existing budget, but others will require additional resource and would be considered for future years.</p>	FM
4	<p>Promoting the Partnership DA provided an overview of the tasks to be completed during Year 4. A copy of the agreed programme detailing the work was circulated at the meeting.</p> <p><i>Task 1 - Facilitate Quarterly Partnership Meetings</i> Continue to meet on a quarterly basis, supply minutes of each meeting and encourage more operators to get involved.</p> <p><i>Task 2 - Newsletter</i> Produce a Newsletter following each meeting to inform the wider members of progress. Increase the circulation list to raise awareness.</p> <p><i>Task 3 - Website Maintenance, Review and Development</i> The website will be updated each quarter to include the minutes of the meetings and the Newsletter. Contacts will be reviewed on a regular basis and new link (eg Webcams) will be provided where appropriate. Statistics on the usage of the site along with figures on the pages accessed will also be provided.</p> <p><i>Task 4 – Loading and Unloading Arrangements</i> The task will review arrangements in town and city centres. Will meet the local authorities to discuss and collect information on existing problems. Surveys will be carried out throughout the day, but mainly early morning when a high proportion of deliveries are made. Consideration will be given to restrictions times, parking restrictions existing codes of practice and location of bays in relation to the delivery point.</p> <p><i>Task 5 – Design Improvements to Loading and Unloading Arrangements</i> The will involve the detailed design three to five schemes to improve arrangements. Will be based on the review carried out as part of Task 4.</p> <p><i>Task 6 – Night Time (Out of Hours) Delivery Restrictions</i> Will assess the scope for lifting one or more delivery restrictions on a trial basis. Restrictions have been put in place for understandable reasons, but it is important to review them in light of changing circumstances. The FTA and the DfT have investigated the issues around night time deliveries and have developed a ‘Delivering the Goods’ toolkit to assist in the assessment of current curfews and restrictions. Potential benefits in terms of reduced congestion and fuel consumption for operators. Consultation would be required with residents, businesses and local authorities. MM suggested that the scope of the task should be widened as there may be some instances where new restrictions are required.</p> <p><i>Task 7 – Develop Tailored Destination Maps</i> Rather than developing new maps, work will focus on developing existing maps to include additional information, including company names. Maps to be developed include Crowther, Hertzburn, Pattinson, Armstrong, Portobello, Silverlink, Rainton Bridge, North Tyne Industrial Estate and Tyne Tunnel trading Estate. One interactive map will be developed whereby the company name and contact details appear when the cursor is placed over the symbol.</p>	

	<p><i>Task 8 – Embedding Destination Maps</i> This task will focus on spreading the coverage of the maps developed to gain maximum value. Maps will be distributed to the named companies on each map to gain maximum awareness. Where possible, the maps will be delivered individually by the Partnership. In the case of the largest sites (eg Team Valley), contact will be made with the estate managers, who could assist with the distribution.</p> <p><i>Task 9 – Maintain and Monitor the Truck Information Point (TIP)</i> A survey of the users and non-users will be carried out to gauge the success of the TIP. A formal questionnaire is to be developed and 40 interviews carried out. The TIP usage is now being monitored and numbers will be shown at the quarterly meetings. The content of the TIP will be updated in accordance with the website. Task also includes line rental, broadband charges and software support.</p> <p><i>Task 10 – Promoting the Partnership</i> Award applications will be submitted to the IHT, Transport Times CILT and Freight Transport Association. A paper will be prepared for presentation at a conference and another leaflet will be produced to explain recent work carried out by the Partnership.</p> <p><i>Task 11 – Operator Consultation Evening Event</i> An evening event will be held for operators to consult on the work carried out by the Partnership. MD suggested Durham County Cricket club at Chester-le-Street as a potential venue – this is used by the RHA. Will be important to promote the event through the RHA and FTA.</p> <p><i>Task 12 – Private Sector Truck Parking Reciprocation Parking Pilot</i> Would involve further telephone calls to other operators to identify those prepared to partake in a pilot. Task could be flexible and adjusted to apply more generally to the promotion of lorry parking.</p> <p><i>Task 13 – Rail Freight Further Assessment</i> The Partnership will build on the assessment carried out to date, focusing on the potential to increase the volume of multi-modal traffic. Work will also consider developments in Northumberland at Blyth and Teesport.</p>	JR
5	<p>Promoting the Partnership The number of website sessions since the last meeting on 8th March was 6,810, with 36,075 pages reviewed. The most common pages viewed in order of viewings were 'Destination Maps', 'Tyne and Wear Freight Map', 'Common Questions' and 'News'.</p> <p>The TIP had 211 sessions with 892 pages viewed. The most popular were 'Traffic Information', followed by 'Destination Map's, FAQ and 'Tyne and Wear Freight Map'.</p> <p>DA explained that press releases were issued following the success of the Partnership in winning the FQP of the year award. There has been coverage in Commercial Motor, the Freight Industry Times and the Sunderland Echo.</p>	

6	<p>Progression of Year 4</p> <p>MP explained that a significant amount of progress has been made in developing the Destination Maps to show company locations. The maps will be added to the website once they have been completed.</p> <p>The task of embedding the destination maps commenced on 16th June – feedback has been positive so far. Team Valley has a large collection of companies located in the estate - UK Land Estates could assist in the distribution. FM are currently progressing.</p> <p>FM have investigated the possibility of adding links to the webcams around the conurbation. It was found that links to cameras on the Tyne Tunnel, Tyne Bridge and The Mouth of the Tyne were available. The Highways Agency have webcams on the A1 Western Bypass, but there cannot be made available owing to data protection issues. Other links will be added to the website and TIP.</p> <p>FM are currently progressing the review of loading and unloading arrangements. Initial meetings are being set up with the local authorities.</p>	FM FM FM FM
7	<p>Truck Information Point (TIP)</p> <p>MD called into the Durham services on his way to the meeting, but found that the TIP had a malfunction, where the cursor continually returned to the centre of the screen. FM to resolve these issues with Cyber D (the supplier).</p> <p>MP explained that the hard copies of the maps (located in a stand by the TIP) are proving to be very popular. The most popular maps are East Gateshead, Northumberland Street, Eldon Square and Silverlink.</p>	FM
8	<p>Consolidation Centres</p> <p>MW handed out a Progress Note prepared by WSP on the Consolidation Centre Study for Newcastle. The following tasks have been completed:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Review of the operation of existing consolidation centres. • Review of existing servicing arrangements in Newcastle through consultation with retailers. • Discussions with operators of other consolidation centres. • Assessment of the benefits of a consolidation centre. <p>Meetings are now being held with potential operators to discuss the concept of a consolidation centre at Eldon Square. This will assist in preparing a more detailed proposal that could be presented to retailers. MW to provide a further update to the Partnership at the next meeting.</p>	MW
9	<p>AOB</p> <p>New Tyne Crossing</p> <p>MW and MP represent the Partnership at the Strategic Partnering Forum, which meets bi-monthly. It was agreed that the Partnership would communicate the latest information to operators through the website and newsletter. This includes updates on planned closures or diversions.</p>	FM
10	<p>Next Meeting</p> <p>The next meeting is planned for 10:30am on 18th September 2008 at Faber Maunsell, Newcastle.</p>	