**Introduction**

JB asked everyone at the meeting to briefly introduce themselves for the benefit of any new person attending. He announced the apologies for non-attendance at the meeting.

**Minutes of Last Meeting**

Minutes from the previous meeting were reviewed and agreed.

**Freight on Rail**

The final draft of the rail report, having been reviewed will be issued in July. There were two main recommendations from the report which were:

- Organise a workshop for the steering to gauge the interest of the final group of stakeholders to sit on the panel
- Develop the stakeholder group by recruiting a range of organisations onto the panel

The stakeholder group would be developed at the workshop stage. Invitations to join the panel would be sent to the appropriate personnel who have influence in the relevant organisations.

A request was put forward to the steering group to provide any possible relevant contact details to get the process started.
The way forward would need to incorporate the DfT Delivering a Sustainable Transport System (DaSTS) for Road Rail and Water.

Possible lorry Road user charging should be used to fund enhancement to rail freight

**Website**

The new web page was discussed at the meeting and will go live in the summer, which will be accompanied with a press release.

Continual reviews are carried out on the website and the Truck Information Point (TIP) to ensure accuracy of the information provided and to check for the satisfactory operation of the systems.

The website has proved to be as popular as ever with 167,089 hits over a 12 month period. In the last three months there were 33,282 hits viewing the following pages in order of popularity – Lorry parking, Multi Map, Traffic Info, Common Questions. Regional Map and Contact and Links.

The TIP at Durham Services had 1,500 hits in the last three months and the most popular pages to be viewed were Traffic Info and Lorry Parking.

There were 1,277 maps replenished in the leaflet stand over the last three months in the services. The most popular maps taken are – Northumberland Street, MetroCentre, Port of Tyne, Eldon Square, East Gateshead, Team Valley North Washington Crowther and Port of Sunderland.

**Mapping**

*Individual Destination Maps*

The review of the companies and locations of the suite of individual maps is nearly completed. The updates to the maps are progressing. A slight amendment to the key of the maps has taken place to place the properties to let at the end of the list and not in alphabetical order.

Updates of the maps will encompass inclusion of business located on smaller adjacent estates not previously visited because of size.

The Tyne and Wear partnership branding has also been added to the suite of maps.

**Additional Maps for Year 6**

Agreement was reached at the meeting to map the following industrial estates:

- Simonside Industrial Estate
- Bede Industrial Estate
- Derwenthaugh Industrial Estate
- Newburn Business Park and Surrounding area
- Pallion Industrial Estate
Interactive Maps
The interactive maps were launched on the website on March 30th 2010. A press release went out to the industry and local papers on the same day to announce the launch. Feedback has been very positive.

Coordinates have been given to each individual building to identify its precise location, these will be reviewed on a site visit. Five of the current suite of individual maps, are to be converted into interactive maps.

Highways restriction Maps
The map went live using the LTP website on March 30th 2010. A press release went out to the industry and local papers on the same day to announce the launch.

The next stage of the mapping is to organise a meeting with the engineers to work out how to develop map to enable standardisation for referencing restrictions. Structures are assessed periodically and may the data may need amending. The information transfer process needs to be agreed so that the map is current and accurate.

Promoting the Partnership
Award Applications
The application the Transport Times in the category of Most Innovative Transport Project did not reach the short list this year.

The CILT award application in the category of Transport Policy and Planning has been submitted on May 25th.

New Tyne Crossing
The latest meeting was held in East Howdon at the Community Centre announced that the project was still on target for completion. The north side of the river temporary road has been removes.

The south side continues to see substantial work. The latest information regarding the closure of the tunnel on June 5th and 6th was sent out by the Partnership in a newsflash. This was due to the demolition of the old Howard Street Bridge.

Sign and Design
Contact has been made with Andy Jameson and Ian Pearson of Sunderland City Council to organise a meeting allowing discussions regarding the sign and design project to direct goods vehicles to the city centre.

It is envisaged that the meeting will be held at the Civic Centre with John Bourn, Michael Page, Andy Jameson, Ian Pearson and a signa ge specialist from AECOM.

CIVITAS
Partner Search
A number of Cities have been contacted to find a partner. The good news is that...
Bremen has agreed to partner the Tyne and Wear freight Partnership. Further contact is to be made to obtain a more detailed perspective of their aspirations. We will continue with the search for additional partners. Other groups could be sought through Government Office and AMEC.

**Site Visits**
We have requested a convenient time to organise a visit to Bremen for the Partnership. The travel plan Coordinator from Newcastle City Council has requested that she accompany us on the visit. Other visits will be organised in the near future to share best practice. And of course invitations will be sent out to other European Cities to visit Tyne and Wear.

**Freight Conference**
After long discussions it was clear that to host the European Freight Conference in November would clash with other conferences. It was decided to defer the date until January or February so that other CIVITAS members could attend. A list of members is published by CIVITAS which would give a good starting point for sending out invitations.

The majority thought that the conference should be kept away from the Friday or Monday to allow easy travel from other European Cities.

**Port Study**
The studies at the DFDS Seaways, Port of Tyne is to commence on the June 20th and June 28th at Teesport with P&O. There is one daily sailing from the Port of Tyne seven days a week, however Teesport operates on a 6 days’ timetable with sailings to one daily sailing on each of the 6 days to Zeebrugge and three sailings per week to Rotterdam.

The outcomes of the study will show the most common spoken language, which can be used to update the Website and Regional freight map and help us target future sharing of best practice.

**North East of England Office**
Anne-Benedicte Genacthe kindly gave an insight on how the NEEO works and what they achieve. Her office is located in Brussels working with all the North East Local Authorities, One North East, the Universities and North East Chamber of Commerce.

The main challenge and trends of the EU transport policy is reducing CO2 emissions (Covenant of Mayors) the aging society and the decrease in public funding. Its main focus this year is on promotion of electric vehicles.

We would like to thank Anne for the interesting presentation.

**A.O.B**
JB discussed the Local Transport Plan 3 which commences 2011. This plan is set to cover 10 years instead of the normal 5. There is an expectation that it will incorporate the aims from the Covenant of Mayors, challenging carbon reduction, with less funding. The focus will be ‘Cheaper and Greener’, and
operating more competitively with a reduction in lorry miles

10 Date Time and Venue of Next Meeting
The meeting will be held on September 8th 2010 at Sunderland Civic Centre in Committee Room 6, reception for coffee, tea and biscuits from 10:00 for start at 10:30.

The address of the venue is Sunderland City Council, Burdon Road, Sunderland, SR2 7DN. Directions to the venue will be sent out with the agenda.