

## **BIRMINGHAM CITY COUNCIL**

# **ECONOMY, SKILLS AND TRANSPORT O&S COMMITTEE**

**1400 hours on 13<sup>th</sup> July 2017, Committee Rooms 3&4 – Actions**

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### **Present:**

Councillor Zafar Iqbal (Chair)

Councillors David Barrie, Zaker Choudhry, Liz Clements, Phil Davis, Ziaul Islam, Timothy Huxtable, John O'Shea and Ken Wood.

### **Also Present:**

Councillor Stewart Stacey, Cabinet Member for Transport & Roads

Kevin Hicks, Assistant Director, Highways

Philip Edwards, Head of Growth and Transportation

John Myatt, Principal Transportation Officer

Baseema Begum, Research & Policy Officer, Scrutiny Office

Rose Kiely, Overview & Scrutiny Manager, Scrutiny Office

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### **1. NOTICE OF RECORDING**

The Chairman advised that this meeting was not being livestreamed however members of the press/public were still able to record and take photographs should they wish to.

### **2. APOLOGIES**

Apologies were received from Councillors Sir Albert Bore and Mahmood Hussain.

### **3. ELECTION OF DEPUTY CHAIR**

Councillor John O'Shea was confirmed as Deputy Chair for the municipal year.

#### **4. ECONOMY, SKILLS AND TRANSPORT: ACTION NOTES 13<sup>TH</sup> JUNE AND 15<sup>TH</sup> JUNE 2017/ISSUES ARISING**

The Chair, Cllr Iqbal confirmed progress on outstanding actions from the Committee's previous meetings:

1. The April Quarterly briefing on unemployment on wards and constituencies was circulated to the Committee following Cllr Islam's request. Information on the contract overview and objectives for the Youth Promise Plus programme were also circulated.
2. Ashley Innis provided Cllr Islam with further information on how many jobs would be created as a result of HS2 in the region.
3. Cllr Barrie requested further details on the Sprint and Connectivity Package to Sutton Coldfield. City Council officers are due to meet with Sutton Coldfield Councillors in the near future and will cover this.
4. Chair had written to the Cabinet Member to outline the concerns raised by Members at the call-in on the BCR A38 Bristol Road. Copies have also been sent to Cllrs Alden and Bennett as agreed.

#### **5. CABINET MEMBER FOR TRANSPORT AND ROADS**

The Cabinet Member outlined his priorities for 2017/18 as set out in the presentation circulated (see Document 1). The focus for the current municipal year has been on delivery.

He made reference to his report outlining in particular the work on:

- The delivery of the Capital Programme in particular getting money spent on the various projects to set timescales.
- The Highways PFI – renegotiating of the contract however this discussion with members will be done in private due to commercially sensitive nature. A report will be presented to Cabinet on 25<sup>th</sup> July.
- With regards to moving the SPRINT scheme forward. The Cabinet Member has a meeting with the Mayor on 14<sup>th</sup> July.
- The Connectivity Package will be dealing with issues to do with Rail. Midlands Connect is currently at the design stage.
- Large schemes such as the A38 Tame Valley Viaduct and Dudley Road need to be finalised through the Department for Transport.

During discussion Members made the following points:

- Which SPRINT routes are contained within the connectivity package?
- Upgrades to Perry Barr interchange are needed and an increase in frequency to facilitate usage should the city be successful in securing the Commonwealth Games.
- Consideration should be given to future proofing for future potential metro works such as the University of Birmingham rail station and Digbeth/Smithfield as part of the upgrade working with Network Rail.
- Which schemes were part of the National Productivity Investment Fund for Birmingham?

- Clarification on what 'SPRINT' is and how this is linked in with the impact on Air Quality and congestion?
- There is a need to invest in buses. With respect to a SPRINT bus – it would use the current bus lane so there is no change to the road infrastructure and therefore the only spend would be on the procurement of a vehicle. Cllr Clements raised the issue of what was being done across the region in terms of integrated ticketing on public transport and who was responsible for this.
- In terms of road safety it was highlighted that behaviour change was key especially with regards to pedestrians around schools and the issue of parents parking inconsiderately outside schools.
- What are the priorities on Air Quality. A City Council Debate/discussion is required.
- Snow Hill Masterplan – address issue on access for heavy rail and metro.
- It was clarified that the future work around Air Quality will lie within the Homes and Neighbourhoods Overview & Scrutiny Committee.

#### **RESOLVED:-**

1. Transport for West Midlands to be invited to a future meeting to talk about plans for integrated ticketing.
2. Members asked for further information on the transportation costs for Commonwealth Games.
3. A list of Transport Delivery Committee dates to be provided so Members can note if they wish to attend.
4. Cabinet Member to provide feedback on his meeting with the Mayor.
5. Further details on the location of the Metro stop adjacent to Snow Hill station.

#### **6. WORK PROGRAMME FOR THE ECONOMY, SKILLS AND TRANSPORT OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE 2017-18**

Members noted the work programme and it was agreed that an update on flood risk management would be scheduled.

#### **RESOLVED:-**

That the work programme be noted.

#### **7. REQUEST(S) FOR CALL IN/COUNCILLOR CALL FOR ACTION/PETITIONS**

None.

#### **8. OTHER URGENT BUSINESS**

Cllr Davis gave a brief outline of the new structure of the Transport Delivery Committee. There are now two vice-chairs – Cllrs Phil Davis and Timothy Huxtable.

**9. AUTHORITY TO CHAIRMAN AND OFFICERS**

Agreed.

**RESOLVED:-**

That in an urgent situation between meetings the Chair, jointly with the relevant Chief Officer, has authority to act on behalf of the Committee.

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The meeting ended at 1540 hours.