

**ECONOMIC REGENERATION & TRANSPORT PARTNERSHIP MINUTES**  
**MEETING HELD ON WEDNESDAY 12 JANUARY 2011**

<b>Chair:</b>	Tony Campbell	Creative Glass
<b>Members:</b>	Richard Poundford Richard McGuckin Judith Stothard Chris Butler Doug Elphee David Flewker Mike Lakinski Bryan Bunn Cllr Maurice Perry Phillip Addison Neil Kenley Lorna Mclean Cllr Bob Cook	Stockton Borough Council Stockton Borough Council The Princes Trust Five Lamps Organisation Stagecoach North East Interserve Business & Enterprise North East Paul Wurth Stockton Borough Council Western Area Partnership Tees Valley Unlimited Stockton Riverside College Stockton Borough Council

**Advisors/Observers:**

Mark Rowell	Stockton Borough Council
Marc Bould	Stockton Borough Council
Gary Lynch	Stockton Borough Council

**NO**    **ITEM COMMENTS / DECISION**

**OWNER, ACTION  
& TIMESCALE**

1.    **WELCOME/INTRODUCTION**

Tony Campbell welcomed the Partnership and introduced the meeting.

**APOLOGIES**

Lesley Cannon  
Rachel Powell  
Neil Mitchell  
David Longstaff  
Jan Harris  
Nasser Din

TC confirmed that Robin Davison has now retired and will no longer attend Partnership meetings. Sandra Morton of Stockton Riverside College has also stepped down from the Partnership, due to her taking a Vice- Principal role at Middlesbrough College. TC thanked both individuals for their support.

**Letters of thanks  
to be sent to RD &  
SM MB 31/1/2011**

2.    **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

None were declared

3. **MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING**

The minutes of the meeting held on the 10th November 2010 were agreed as a true record.

4. **Local Transport Funding**

4.1 Richard McGuckin gave a presentation on the future transport arrangements in the borough. He informed the group that the current Local Transport Plan (LTP), finishes on 31 March 2011, with the Department of Transport requesting that LTP3 be in place by 1 April 2011.

4.2 The budget received a 50% cut from last year, which equates to £1m, restricting the ability to deliver road improvements, community based road safety and traffic management systems. However, as part of LTP allocation, the road maintenance funding has increased by £360k, as part of the Local Government settlement in December 2010.

4.3 The LTP3 document is currently out for consultation, on the following website, he encouraged members of the group to submit any comments:  
<http://www.stockton.gov.uk/citizenservices/transport/ltp/ltp3/>

**Local Sustainable Transport Fund**

4.4 Plans for a new Local Sustainable Transport Fund have been announced. Local Authorities, except Metropolitan areas will be eligible to bid only for small packages of funding, up to £5m.

4.5 A bid is being written, with much of it being based around the activities ongoing at The Hub. This will involve initiatives such as travel planning, pedestrian and cycle infrastructure improvements and cycle training

**Major Transport Schemes**

5 RM gave an overview of the major transport schemes in the Tees Valley and in particular the position in Stockton.

5.1 **Bus Network Improvement Schemes**

The total scheme amount for the Tees Valley Bus Network scheme is £57m, which includes a Government grant of £37m. Stockton will receive £17m of funding, which will deliver 23 infrastructure projects. We are currently in year one of a four year scheme.

5.2 **Tees Valley Metro**

5.3 Phase 1 will cost £35m, but to date only £5m has been secured, via the regional funding allocation. The improvements will be centred around the Darlington to Saltburn line.

5.4 For Stockton the improvements will be seen at Eaglescliffe Station, with the

introduction of a ticket office, waiting area and extended car park. RM confirmed that a tariff of £1 will be introduced for all-day parking. RP asked if consultation has taken place with local residents and businesses as this could have an impact on the surrounding roads. RM indicated this process has started and is ongoing.

- 5.5 Other improvements will be seen at Thornaby, with the replacement of the footbridge. It is hoped that this will continue to improve passenger patronage. In the past 5 years, Thornaby has seen a 400% rise in numbers.

### **A19 Ramp Metering**

- 5.6 RM gave details regarding the implementation of new traffic signals on slip roads at A174, A66, A135 Norton Road and A1027 Billingham. They are being installed over next 4-6 weeks, with funding from the Highways Agency. It is hoped that through these improvements, traffic flows on the A19 will improve and further development will come forward.

### **Discussion**

- 5.7 NK commented that we must not underestimate the impact of rail improvements. He indicated that it was a common question when speaking with businesses who are looking to re-locate to the area. RP asked if the rolling stock of trains are to be upgraded? RM said that this will be assessed at the next renewal of the franchise, due for 2014.
- 5.8 DF asked if there was to be a new station to be built at Teesside Park? RM confirmed that was not part of Phase 1 proposals, although this may be accelerated in the future phases, especially if proposed housing schemes etc at the marshalling yards, come to fruition.
- 5.9 RM informed the group that a Regional Growth Fund bid is being written, with a view to securing a further £8-9m of resource. This will include work for a new platform at Darlington Station to improve journey time reliability for Tees Valley routes and freeing up capacity for the East Coast main line.

### **6. Review of Achievements**

- 6.1 A written report on the achievements will be circulated to the Partnership.
- 6.2 TC informed the group that following discussions in 2009, a programme of procurement workshops started in December and will run for a few months.

**MB to circulate with Minutes.**

**Anyone wishing to attend a future workshop, please contact Fran Hughes.**

### **7. Enterprise Update**

- 7.1 MR introduced Gary Lynch to the group, who has taken over the role of Enterprise Co-ordinator from Rachel Newton, for the Enterprise Culture Project.
- 7.2 MR gave a brief outline of the scheme, updating the group with the current output situation and achievements to date, including some case studies

**Anyone interested in becoming an**

from the schools involved. MR asked anyone interested in becoming an ambassador on the project steering group, to contact Gary.

**ambassador,  
contact Gary  
Lynch.**

- 7.3 RP asked if a breakdown of assistance, by school can be provided, which can then be shared to the area partnerships.

**GL to provide  
breakdown of  
assistance, to be  
circulated with  
Minutes.**

### **Stockton Enterprise Network**

- 7.4 MR informed the partnership, with regards to the formulation of Stockton Enterprise Network. It has been established to support a co-ordinated approach to new business start-up services in the Borough. The group has had two meetings to date, with the main aim to produce a clear, defined pathway for clients seeking business support, in a rapidly changing environment. The network could become an umbrella for future support services.

### **Discussion**

- 7.5 BB said that with the reduction in funding sources, in particular GBI , clarity needs to be given to the exact support available to people. MR Confirmed that the network will be looking to tackle this issue, however, as it stands Business Link will still be providing this service. This was confirmed by ML of BENE, who said that the business support will continue via mechanisms such as the North East Investment Centre and Compete North, whilst funding is still available. ML also indicated that much less revenue support is expected in future years, with the LEP identifying future provision
- 7.6 RP concluded that we cannot sit back and wait for 8 months, we must start mapping what practical business support is available for people now.

### **Enterprise Gateways**

- 7.7 CB gave a presentation on the work of the Enterprise Gateways. The scheme aims to support 900 residents receive 3hrs of coaching and mentoring and will provide access to Business Link services.

- 7.8 CB discussed the clients journey and how it assists 'pre pre start' customers and traditional 'pre-start' customers. As the client progresses, it will assist through the 'start-up' phase and 'post start up'. The project is 50% of the way through the contract and has assisted 440 residents and referred 123 customers to Business Link.

- 7.9 The partnership were presented with some case studies with how the Enterprise Gateway project has made a real difference to peoples lives.

### **Discussion**

- 7.10 BC asked if a breakdown could be provided at ward level, to where the support has been targeted? CB confirmed this breakdown was possible and stated that an aspiration of the project was that 80% of the support be targeted to people in disadvantaged wards, currently, this is operating at 67%.

**CB to provide  
breakdown and  
will be circulated  
with the minutes.**

7.11 RP asked if a breakdown can be provided highlighting the age profile of the clients the status of the individual. CB confirmed this was possible. RP then suggested that a selection of the business, can be used and showcased in future editions of Stockton News, to highlight the scheme and individual companies.

**CB to provide breakdown and will be circulated with the minutes.**

8. **Any Other Business**

8.1 Please see attached brief on apprenticeship opportunities on offer via a partnership between The Prince's Trust and The Waterman Railway Heritage Trust in Crewe.

**MB to circulate to Partnership and other appropriate organisations**

**DATE & TIME of NEXT MEETING**

9. **4pm on Wednesday 9<sup>th</sup> March 2011, Castlegate Quay Watersports Centre, Moat Street, Stockton TS18 3AZ.**