STOCKTON-ON-TEES BOROUGH COUNCIL

CABINET RECOMMENDATIONS

PROFORMA

Cabinet Meeting14th January 2016

1. <u>Title of Item/Report</u>

Rail Franchise Announcements for Northern and Transpennine Routes

2. Record of the Decision

and how the proposals will affect the Tees Valley. Two rail franchises in the region had been announced and the Government intended to award Northern franchise to Arriva Rail North Ltd, and TransPennine Express franchise to First Trans Pennine Express Ltd to operate from April 2016.

In response to a 2012 DfT consultation on rail decentralisation, Local Transport Authorities (LTAs) across the north of England had formed the Rail North organisation and it proposed in partnership with the Department for Transport (DfT) to manage the services operated by the Northern and TransPennine Express franchise commences from their renewal in April 2016.

The franchise announcements had been made with the award of the Northern franchise to Arriva Rail North Ltd, and TransPennine Express franchise to First Trans Pennine Express Ltd. The Department for Transport had made the award as until April 2016 they were solely responsible for the management of the franchise. The Northern franchise would operate for 9 years with a possible 1 year extension and the TransPennine franchise is to operate for 7 years with a possible 2 year extension.

The key benefits of the new franchises were detailed within the report.

RESOLVED that the report be noted.

3. Reasons for the Decision

To update Cabinet on the Rail Franchise announcements for Northern and TransPennine routes.

4. Alternative Options Considered and Rejected

None.

5. Declared (Cabinet Member) Conflicts of Interest

Councillor Cook declared a personal non prejudicial interest in respect of agenda item 13 - Rail Franchise announcements for Northern and TransPennine routes as he was a member of Rail North Association.

6. <u>Details of any Dispensations</u>

N/A

7. <u>Date and Time by which Call In must be executed</u>

Midnight on 22nd January 2016.

Proper Officer 18 January 2016