



Sheffield Chamber of Commerce

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SHEFFIELD CHAMBER OF COMMERCE & INDUSTRY

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Transport Forum Minutes

Thursday 22nd March 2018 – 9.30am – 11.30am

Sheffield Chamber of Commerce

Albion House, Savile Street, Sheffield S4 7UD

Minutes

Present

Peter Kennan – Chair of Transport Forum (PK)
Ian Appleby – Vice Chair of Transport Forum/PWC (IA)
Tom Sutton – Sheffield Chamber of Commerce (TS)
Richard Wright – Sheffield Chamber of Commerce (RW)
John Bowes – Mott MacDonald (JB)
Emma Marshall – 3Squared (EM)
Greg Challis – Sheffield City Council (GC)
Duncan Cale – East Midlands Trains (DC)
Nigel Wragg – Supertram (NW)
Lauren Eades – Supertram (LE)
Kevin Parkes – Amey Consulting (KP)
Alex Bray – Cross Country Trains (AB)

Apologies

Chris Finch - The Burley Group
Chris Morgan - Friends of Dore & Totley Station
Pete Myers – Northern
Duane Trower – Ferraris Piston Services
John Young – Stagecoach Yorkshire
Tim Hale – Champion Hire
Graham Micklejohn – Transpennine Express

Sheffield Transport Strategy

Greg Challis, Sheffield City Council presented the Sheffield Transport Strategy on a confidential basis to the Forum.

The below questions and comments were posed to Greg by the group:

- PK from a Chamber perspective we would like to support Sheffield City Council with the vision and seek business engagement



- PK suggested an event to bring the Transport Strategy Vision to the forefront of businesses minds. Proposed times are around public consultation (TBC). EM suggested to take a wider scope with the event to encourage involvement. Link the event with other issues that businesses/people face with environment, health & wellbeing and the effect on recruitment that improved transport links has. PK agrees, and we could involve other Forums that have an overlay with Transport related interests. EM it's not the transport per say it's what transport enables – The same principle applies in technology – Technology is an enabler
- RW cited that businesses will ask 'what does this mean for my business?'
- NW stated that congestion is a real issue for people. There's a paradox between city centre parking provision and public transport. Park and Ride needs to be a more of a focus. Tram should play a prominent part of the Transport Strategy
- PK and RW white van will grow as the retail offer and dynamic shifts
- Heart of the City II will impact long term of traffic flows into the centre. The idea behind Heart of the City II is to retain shoppers in the SCR as opposed to losing these consumers to other regions
- JB Business relocated to another area in the city. Parking is more expensive in new location and this has encouraged modal shift amongst employees. Busses are often too long to encourage use as they encompass a wide route to get to destination
- NW Confidence in availability and information in public transport need to be there for users
- PK the long-term upgrade plan of the transport system may not necessarily be new routes it may involve segregation. Example, separate tram from road so it doesn't cross ring roads
- RW looking at contributions from businesses will need a clear business case with demonstrable ROI's. Businesses did support the Lower Don Valley Flood Project. It had a clear and measured proposal that provided cost savings on insurance. 83% of businesses supported the Lower Don Valley Flood Project. NW stated that improved productivity with any levy investment need to be promoted
- PK in summary to present this to business further clarity is needed. RW also added that to encourage business engagement we need to be mindful of the levels of transport that all feed into one another – National, Regional and Local

Rail Updates

- East Midlands Trains – PK cited a problem with May 2018 timetable - It's had an impact on journey times south. Sub 2-hour journey northbound. DC cited that EMT has taken the stance of balancing the positives with the potential negatives. DC, EMT are getting ready for new May timetable. PK has arranged a meeting with EMT to speak further. A report will be made back to the group. PK business would be more interested in a train that would arrive in London pre 9am. The Forum agreed that the 9.41am arrival train is of less value to maximise a business day in London that incorporates meetings or attendance at events/conferences. DC thanked PK and Forum for ongoing support and engagement
- Cross Country Trains – DfT met with Chamber, SCR and SYPTE. Positive meeting that led to consultation event being hosted at Sheffield Chamber in June. AB No major changes envisaged up to the end of the current franchise in 2019
- Trans-Pennine Express – 6 Car trains from Sheffield to Manchester will be introduced
- Northern – New Northern Connect service needs to be 30 minutes apart from Cross Country to not conflict so as to properly space the service and provide a wider choice to customers. Currently services are 5 minutes apart from each other
- Supertram/Tram Train – Tram Train works being undertaken in April. Tram Train infrastructure work coming to an end. Remain on schedule for Autumn completion. Sheffield Chamber has requested a 'launch' event to show businesses



the new Tram Train service. Next phase of rail replacement will take place this year. Further details will be circulated to notify members of any potential disruption of service. It will improve the infrastructure long-term to allow a 30-year lifespan

- HS2 and HS3 – No new updates to report
- Hope Valley Upgrade – Was an announcement by Secretary State to provide go ahead for the project. It could take 3 years before completion, although estimated timescales. Line speed improvement isn't approved – There are challenges with weights of trains travelling on track. Many stakeholder groups having input into the upgrades – Led to comments that are not representative of single vision

Road Updates

- Trans-Pennine Roads – A consultation open that closes on 25th March. Sheffield Chamber of Commerce supports these upgrade plans. As a Chamber we have requested further upgrades; however, it is a positive start
- Streets Ahead/Amey – 70% of road resurfacing has been completed. 30% to be completed over the next 10 years. Number of interventions have been priced – Inner-relief road etc.
- Snow Debrief – The Forum felt that the roads were dealt with very promptly and effectively following the recent snowfall. A positive message to filter back from businesses on the operation

Air Update

- Doncaster Sheffield Airport – Masterplan and Vision launch at DSA airport yesterday. Plans to grow passenger numbers and new service to announced on Monday. Plans to situate a train station on-site

Other Matters

- SCR Transport Strategy – Responded on SCR Transport. Positive comments were submitted. Feedback that key transport surplus land needs to be protected
- TfN Transport Strategy – Currently open for consultation and submitting response
- Highways England Strategy – Strategic Road Network report produced. Covers whole network and Sheffield Chamber welcomed report. Focused on issues with middle lane driving and improved signage on motorways with more frequent updates

Any Other Business

No other business to report.

2018 Meeting Dates

Dates for 2018 Meetings are included below. All will be held at Sheffield Chamber of Commerce:

- Thursday 21st June
- Thursday 20th September
- Thursday 6th December

