

**Minutes of Board Meeting**

**Held on Friday 12<sup>th</sup> July 2013**

**At 10.30am in NTA Offices on Harcourt Lane**

**Present:** Mr John Fitzgerald (Chairperson), Mr Gerry Murphy (CEO), Mr Hugh Creegan (Director of Transport Investment and Taxi Regulation), Mr Philip Maguire (Acting Dublin City Manager), Mr Frank King, Ms Linda Saunders, Mr James Deegan, Dr Berna Grist, Ms Valerie O'Reilly, Mr Damian Usher, Ms Margaret O'Shaughnessy.

**Apologies:** Mr Daithí Alcorn.

**Staff in attendance:** Mr Philip L'Estrange (Item 4) and Mr Karl Seeber (Minutes).

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**1. Minister Varadkar's visit**

The Chairperson welcomed the Minister for Transport, Tourism and Sport and his advisers Mr Brian Murphy and Mr John Carroll to the Authority and thanked him for taking the time to meet with the Board.

The Minister outlined the functions and priorities of his Department and a discussion followed with Board members.

The Minister and his advisers then left the meeting.

**2. Minutes of previous meeting**

The draft minutes of the meeting held on 21<sup>st</sup> June 2013 were agreed.

The Chairperson welcomed Mr Maguire to the Board.

**3. CEO Report**

The Chief Executive updated the Board on progress made since the June Board meeting including:-

- launch of the Authority's plans for the restructuring of the Rural Transport Programme. The Authority has now been invited to present its plans to an Oireachtas Committee meeting on 23 July;
- the recent necessity for Bus Éireann to hold an EGM due to its difficult financial position;
- future programme for the introduction of additional Leap card products and market;
- development of a strategic cycle network for the Greater Dublin Area;
- launch of Real Time Ireland app for smartphones.

The Chief Executive responded to requests by Board members for clarification on a number of points arising from the Chief Executive's report including the provision of Wi-Fi on the Dublin Bus fleet and the operating times of suburban rail services over the Christmas period.

#### **4. Financial Report**

Mr L'Estrange provided an update on the Authority's management accounts to the end of May 2013 which are in line with projections.

#### **5. Taxi Update**

Mr Creegan outlined developments in relation to the licensing of small public service vehicles and their drivers. Arrangements for the continuous monitoring of tax compliance by drivers are being developed including the preparation of supporting regulations which will be brought to the Board for approval in due course. The Authority is finalising a specification for smaller wheelchair accessible vehicles and preparing a policy document on increasing the wheelchair accessible vehicle fleet. A new smart phone app for the ordering of wheelchair accessible vehicles is under development with a view to its release by the year-end.

Mr Creegan also outlined a series of improvements to the Taxi Driver Check app and advised that the Authority is in the process of developing arrangements to enable taxi drivers without smartphones to notify the Authority by text of the vehicle being used. This service will be introduced shortly.

#### **6. Draft Implementation Plan**

Mr Creegan presented on the Authority's draft Integrated Implementation Plan for the Greater Dublin Area which has been prepared pursuant to section 13 of the Dublin Transport Authority Act 2008. It will be released for public consultation in August.

#### **7. Customer Relationship Management**

This item was postponed and will be considered at a future meeting.

#### **8. Any other business**

Board members raised a number of issues including the management of rail services in response to disruptions, and the need for consultation with Irish Water and fibre-optic providers in relation to land use and transport matters.

**Next Meeting: Friday 30 August 2013 @ 10.30am in Fota, Co. Cork.**

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_

**John Fitzgerald, Chairperson**

Dated: \_\_\_\_\_