

Notes of meeting

<b>Title of Meeting:</b>	Suffolk Enhanced Partnership Passenger Forum - 4		
<b>Purpose or Mandate:</b>	A collaborative approach to improving passenger transport		
<b>Date:</b>	10 Oct 2022		
<b>Place:</b>	Teams meeting		
<b>Times:</b>	10:00 – 11:10		
<b>Attended:</b>	Simon Barnett	Suffolk CC	chair
	Alan Neville	Greater Anglia	
	Andrew Pursey	Border Bus	EP board
	Bill Hiron	Stephensons	EP board
	Calum Poole	Suffolk CC	
	Daniel Butterfield	Go East Anglia	EP board
	David Boden	Stagecoach	EP board
	Doug Gray	Halesworth area CT	CT group
	Douglas Cook	Suffolk Highways	
	Heath Williams	Ipswich Buses	EP board
	James Wright	Rushmere St Andrew cllr	Passenger group
	Justin Wythe	Ipswich Buses	EP board
	Katherine Davies	Babergh Mid Suffolk DC	
	Lewis Boudville	East Suffolk Council	
	Lynn Butler	CATS	CT group
	Martyn Simonds	Simonds	EP board
	Martyn Washbourne	Norfolk CC	
	Michael Newsham	Ipswich BC	
	Noonan, Sara	West Suffolk Council	
	Oliver Howarth	Cambs & Peterborough CA	
	Paul Horne	Suffolk CC	
	Paul Martin	First	EP board

	Samuel Guiver	Suffolk CC		
	Suzanne Buck	Transport East		
<b>Minute-taker:</b>	P Horne			

<b>Item No.</b>	<b>Item Description</b>	<b>Relevant business considered, facts noted, the decision taken and its rationale</b>
<b>1</b>	<b>Welcome</b>	Simon Barnett
<b>2</b>	<b>Highway Maintenance, Network Assurance &amp; Signals engagement</b>	
	Highways Maintenance	Mark Wedgwood, Highways Assessment and Claims Manager.  Mark unable to attend, no issues raised from meeting
	Network Assurance	Sam Guiver, Network Assurance Manager.  Working with DfT to help link data across platforms to improve coordination of information across network
	Traffic Signals	Douglas Cook, Senior Intelligent Transport Systems Engineer.  <b>Action 2/1</b> M Wedgwood – to seek clarification re Norwich Road corridor signal changes, for operators to comment on. – D Cook has confirmed Norwich Rd (Ips) signal configuration has been adjusted to improve bus running time on Norwich R corridor. DISCHARGED – J Wythe confirms successful implementation of bus priority on Norwich Rd corridor  <b>Action 2/2</b> M Wedgwood – S Bryce reported failure of bus priority at Norwich Rd signals on 1/7/22 at 18:00, no green light for three cycles, forcing bus to jump red light. This incident to be investigated and reported back to meeting – D Cook has suggested signal activation loop is a distance back from stop line to allow activation before bus reaches signals. It is suggested that buses may be entering bus lane after the activation loop, D Cook will also enable the loop at the stop line as a precaution. These details sent to S Bryce 21/7/22 for any additional comment DISCHARGED D Cook confirmed loops activated at stop lines on corridor  J Wythe reported delays at University/Hold pedestrian signalised crossing.  J Wright questioned the balance of priority in favour of pedestrians at the University/Hold location  B Hiron proposed the priority conversation taken to EP board meeting for further discussion.  Pedestrian crossing is prioritised in line with urban highway user hierarchy policy.  <b>Action 4/1</b> C Poole to provide J Wright with rationale for priorities at Univ/Hold location

3	<b>Transport East update</b>	<p><b>Action 3/1</b> D Johnson to provide brief agenda item at the next meeting – DISCHARGED now an agenda item for this meeting</p> <p>In D Johnson’s absence S Buck provided a presentation describing Transport East’s role and strategy objectives. Strategy currently awaiting Local Transport Authority endorsement prior to submission to Sec of State for end 2022.</p> <p>Transport East have engaged consultants to undertake review of the operator and local authority issues re Bus Back Better. To help frame assistance on the issues identified.</p> <p>Transport East to survey all Parishes on their view of the transport issues being faced.</p> <p>A Pursey asked if any funding available to pump prime service changes eg Halesworth to James Paget hospital. No funding currently identified.</p> <p>Discussion of national planning policy and trigger points, limiting the opportunity to fund bus services for new development.</p> <p><b>Action 4/2</b> Transport East presentation slides to be circulated with notes (P Horne)</p>
4	<b>Working Groups feedback</b>	<p><u>Community Transport Group</u> not met since last forum, next meeting 7 Nov</p> <p>D Gray raised concern at lack of visibility of EP activity. S Barnett highlighted the <a href="#">EP web page</a> containing links to meeting notes and would investigate options to give these links greater profile.</p> <p><u>Councillor Group</u> met 4 Oct</p> <p>Cllr Nicoll unable to attend the forum. S Barnett confirmed recent meeting focussed on developer funding for transport improvements.</p> <p><u>Passenger Group</u> not met since last forum, next meeting 18/10</p> <p>J Wright noted some repainting of bus bays which has improved access to stops</p>
5	<b>EP Schemes details</b>	
	Infrastructure	<p>Initially an audit of the 6800 bus stops</p> <p><b>Action 1 / 1</b> Simon Barnett to provide pro forma for bus stop asset audit, for distribution. Awaiting the means to populate the data into the pro forma to allow ease of recording/update. Remains ONGOING</p>

	Bus priority	<p>Discussion with operators and officers re potential priority measures ongoing. Ipswich bus trip for site visits scheduled for 14 Oct. Happy to continue to accept reports of locations where buses are delayed – would appreciate detail on location and whether the issue is one needing parking enforcement or if the location needs to be considered for parking restriction or if it relates to other issues.</p> <p>Moving traffic enforcement business case to be presented to cabinet in November, recognising significant financial risk of ongoing revenue costs. Cabinet decision required prior to progressing to DfT to request formal powers.</p> <p>Alongside MTE business case, consideration is being given to using bus lane enforcement using existing powers. Initial Ipswich bus lane enforcement evaluation, easier to implement at those locations without loading considerations.</p>
	Bus Rapid Transit	A piece of work being discussed with consultants to provide an initial high level evaluation of potential BRT routes, to consider potential passenger numbers and viability of a dedicated BRT solution. Initial meeting scheduled for 21 Oct.
	Passenger Charter	Charter launched 12/8/22. Charter targets to be part of newly appointed compliance officer Phil Enderby's remit.
	Socially Necessary Services	Work ongoing to make best use of all available funding sources
	Network Review	Following the DfT July review, the review is to be revisited by S Barnett who will be in contact with operators to discuss the future of the network.
	Engagement	Continuing engagement via EP meetings and feedback via <a href="mailto:bus.strategy@suffolk.gov.uk">bus.strategy@suffolk.gov.uk</a>
	Branding & Marketing subgroup	Branding & Marketing sub-group to be reconvened, S Barnett invited operators to put forward names of those who would wish to be involved, in EP promotional activity.
	Ticketing	Second draft of J Birtwistle's agreement to be circulated by S Barnett by 21 Oct.
<b>6</b>	<b>Opportunities</b>	
	Funding	<p>Bus recovery grant extended to March 2023</p> <p>Details of government plans for a fare cap awaited</p>
	Sudbury bus station	D Butterfield asked for latest news. C Poole advised a bid was submitted to the Levelling Up Fund in July. The proposal is available to <a href="#">view</a> on Mid Suffolk web site
	Roadside info	B Hiron asked of plans for consolidated roadside timetables. S Barnett to include review of the current situation in the infrastructure audit for further consideration of options.
<b>7</b>	<b>Schedule of future meetings</b>	
		Future meetings to be arranged at 2 monthly intervals
<b>8</b>	<b>Any other business</b>	

		J Wright requested attendance on Ipswich site visit 14 Oct. Invited extended.
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