

Notes of the Transport Innovation Task and Finish Group meeting held on Tuesday 8 December 2015 in the Emily Bronte Meeting Room, Civic Offices, Milton Keynes at 5.00pm.

Present: Councillors Buckley (AB), Coventry (SC), Eastman (DE) (Chair), R Gifford (RG) McPake (VP) and Walker (AW)

Officer: S Heap (Committee Services and Scrutiny Manager) (SH)

Also Present: Councillor Clifton (Cabinet member for Economic Growth and Inward Investment) and Mr A Francis

Disclosures of Interest

The previous disclosure by Councillor Gifford as having a personal interest as Interim Chief Executive of the Road Safety Trust, a body which funds research and good practice in road safety, was noted.

Notes of Previous Meeting on 24 November 2015

The notes of the meeting of the Task and Finish Group held on 24 November 2015 were agreed.

Terms of Reference

The Group reviewed its Terms of Reference in order to ensure that they still reflected the direction the Group wished to take, now that it had held a number of meetings.

Future Direction of the Group

The Group, taking into consideration a paper prepared by the Head of Transport Innovation, considered the future direction of the Group in order to inform its work programme.

The Group identified the following potential additional lines of enquiry:

(a)	A review of the success of the electric bus service and the potential expansion of the scheme including, if appropriate, through the Intu shopping building;
(b)	Identification of innovations that the Group is not currently aware of and their applicability to addressing the problems in Milton Keynes and what innovations can Milton Keynes be at the forefront of introducing;
(c)	Road Charging / Congestion Charges / Work Place Parking Levy;
(d)	An understanding of the difficulties experienced in installing innovative transport schemes, such as new tram networks;
(e)	The potential for establishing a regional body to oversee transport issues;
(f)	Existing research, including the identification of social factors, on what influences changes in the modes of transport;
(g)	The removal of bus lay-bys on grid roads to speed up bus journey times and reduce vehicle speeds;
(h)	The views of surrounding local authorities, such as Aylesbury Vale District Council, on what innovations they believe should be introduced in Milton Keynes;

Future Direction of the Group (cont)

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| (i) | The possibility of a 'Hire Car' Scheme which allows vehicles to be used while the owners are not using them; |
| (j) | Evidence of current vehicle speeds and the appropriateness of speed limiting technology; and |
| (k) | Variable speed limits to match road conditions. |

The Group also referred to:

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| (a) | the recent introduction by Arriva of announcements of approaching bus stops, although, while welcoming the initiative, suggested that it would be more helpful to passengers if the announcements gave recognisable names to the stops; and |
| (b) | the forthcoming introduction of the Santander Bicycle rental scheme. |

Work Programme

It was suggested that the Group should perhaps, in light of the additional evidence requested, consider reviewing the themes and witnesses identified for each meeting.

The Group also identified the Chamber of Commerce and the Large employers' Group as potential witnesses.

The Group requested that it received statistics on the use of car-share parking.

Transport Catapult

It was noted that the Catapult had cancelled the visit scheduled for 10 December 2015.

The Group identified 5 January 2016 at 2.00 pm as its preferred time for the visit to now take place.