Meeting	North Lincolnshire Enhanced Bus Partnership
Date	27 <sup>th</sup> July 2023
Venue	Church Square House
Time	1300-1500hrs
Attendance	Cllr Tim Mitchell (Chair) Cllr Carol Ross (Deputy) Lesley Potts – Board Member, North Lincolnshire Council Kate Robinson – Board Member, North Lincolnshire Council Nick Hornsby – Board Member, Hornsby's Travel Dave Skepper – Board Member, Stagecoach Heather Barratt – Board Advisor, North Lincolnshire Council Abigail Burridge – Board Advisor, North Lincolnshire Council Amy Knapper – Board Secretariat, North Lincolnshire Council Apologies were noted from Ben Gilligan, Board Member, East Yorkshire Buses.

## Notes

Item	Subject
1.	<ul> <li>Ollr Mitchell welcomed members to the inaugural meeting of the North Lincolnshire Enhanced Bus Partnership. Meeting members introduced themselves and their purpose on the Board.</li> <li>Ollr Mitchell confirmed the purpose of the Board is to oversee the delivery of the North Lincolnshire Bus Service Improvement Plan. The plan will be a living document and updated regularly. The importance of a strong partnership between the Local Authority and bus operators was acknowledged, as well as future members as the Board evolves.</li> <li>The Board's aim is to develop a thriving public transport offer to the communities of North Lincolnshire and provide residents access to services, shopping, workplaces as well as being integrated with rail services ensuring the best value for money.</li> </ul>
2.	<ul> <li>Terms of Reference</li> <li>The Board discussed the ToR, including the statutory protections for operators, the equal votes of board members, and noted that the Board will consider recommendations from the two sub-groups going forwards. This Board will report to the North Lincolnshire Council Cabinet.</li> <li>Cllr Mitchell motioned to accept the Terms of Reference for the North Lincolnshire Enhanced Bus Partnership, all Board members were in agreement and the result in favour was unanimous.</li> </ul>

- Kate Robinson presented the draft North Lincolnshire Council Bus Passenger Charter. The meeting discussed the contents, and some changes were made following discussion with the Operators. This document will be submitted to DfT. It was agreed that a form will be produced for residents to provide compliments, comments or feedback on the services, and this data will be discussed at this meeting to enable the Board to reflect on comments and shape the service.
- Cllr Mitchell motioned to accept the Charter once the agreed changes have been made to the document. All Board members were in agreement and the result in favour was unanimous.
- Action: Kate Robinson to provide Board members with a final draft of the Charter following the changes agreed.
- Action: Lesley Potts to approve an ODN for the Charter and progress to Cabinet with a recommendation for approval.

## 3. Proposals for BSIP

- Lesley Potts presented the proposals for the Bus Service Improvement Plan. The DfT
  are required to agree the BSIP and will allocate the funding envelope. Heather Barratt
  & Abigail Burridge will lead working groups with both operators and passengers. North
  Lincolnshire Council to submit a refreshed BSIP to the DfT. This Board will consider
  how the BSIP+ monies are allocated, ensuring best value for residents.
- Dave Skepper stated we need to clearly demonstrate the results of monies used and
  ensure these are measurable. He also noted that there is very little within the BSIP in
  relation to bus-priority on the road network, and highlighted the importance of ensuring
  that public transport is attractive to residents. It was agreed the working groups would
  compile a list of hotspots for consideration by the Board. It was agreed that future
  planning proposals would be brought to this meeting for awareness and consideration
  of a request for a public transport contribution from developers.
- Cllr Mitchell expressed the importance of the plan for both social and economic reasons, including economic growth.
- Nick Hornsby questioned how we would be able to measure the wellbeing/loneliness impact.
- It was agreed we also need to consider if a route is not commercially viable and is funded through the plan, how we would carefully manage this when the funding is removed. The importance of encouraging young people to use public transport was discussed as this will likely lead to them using it for life. Concession schemes were discussed including those in other areas, and possible pilot schemes during school holidays. The meeting also discussed including representation on the Board from the Youth Council or Young Mayor or similar, this was agreed to be considered as the Board evolves. It was agreed that fares should be good value for money rather than lower.
- The meeting discussed the number of commercial miles against the number of support funded miles and the Operators confirmed this is very small in comparison. It was agreed the detail of this will be needed to be shared with the Cabinet to enable them to make informed decisions. It was agreed there will be a requirement at some point in the future to review fares with a mindful eye on the increased public transport offer.

## 4. Any Other Business

- Cllr Mitchell confirmed he is eager for work to commence with the working groups and happy for proposals for the BSIP+ funding to be produced. Heather Barratt confirmed the templates for the proposals had been sent out for completion. North Lincolnshire Council have the deadline of end of September 2023 to submit the proposals to DfT.
- It was agreed that the meeting scheduled for the 6<sup>th</sup> September 2023 will change in format and North Lincolnshire Council will meet individually with Operators. The next Board meeting will be scheduled for week commencing 11/09/23, where a summary of proposals will be brought for discussion and decision. This will then allow time for the paperwork to be compiled in time for the submission deadline.

The NDA sent to Operators was discussed as a previous NDA has been signed.

- Action: Lesley Potts will review the NDA with Heather Barratt and consider whether the current NDA covers all areas required.
- Cllr Mitchell and Cllr Ross expressed their thanks to Officers for their hard work in preparation for this Board and their work over the past few weeks pulling everything together, as well as Operators for their continued support and participation on the Board.

## Date and Time of Next Meeting

Amy Knapper will arrange the next meeting for w/c 11/09/23.