EAST OF ENGLAND REGIONAL TRANSPORT FORUM
Meeting held at 10:30 on Thursday 28th February 2013
Luton Borough Council

Present:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Organisation</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Councillor Tony Cox (chair)</td>
<td>Southend Borough Council</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Councillor Ian Bates</td>
<td>Cambridgeshire County Council</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Councillor Penny Channer</td>
<td>Essex County Council</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Councillor Dave Taylor</td>
<td>Luton Borough Council</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Paul Mathieson</td>
<td>Southend Borough Council</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Maria Chamberlin</td>
<td>Southend Borough Council</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Davinia Farthing</td>
<td>Southend Borough Council</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Peter Grimm</td>
<td>Suffolk County Council</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Alastair Southgate</td>
<td>Essex County Council</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Anthony Aldridge</td>
<td>Luton Borough Council</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>David Cumming</td>
<td>Norfolk County Council</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Glenn Barcham</td>
<td>Bedford Borough Council</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Esme Cushing</td>
<td>Northamptonshire County Council</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dearbhla Lawson</td>
<td>Cambridgeshire County Council</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Alan Kirkdale</td>
<td>Highways Agency</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lynne Stinson</td>
<td>Highways Agency</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>David Green</td>
<td>URS</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bruce Richards</td>
<td>CCJV</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Julie Trindade</td>
<td>EValu8 Transport Innovations Ltd</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Russell Fenner</td>
<td>EValu8 Transport Innovations Ltd</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

1 Apologies for Absence

1.1 Apologies were received from the following:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Organisation</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Councillor Peter Hiller</td>
<td>Peterborough Council</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Councillor Stuart Pile</td>
<td>Hertfordshire County Council</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Councillor Guy McGregor</td>
<td>Suffolk County Council</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Councillor Goldson</td>
<td>Suffolk County Council</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Councillor Graham Plant</td>
<td>Norfolk County Council</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mark Speed</td>
<td>Peterborough Council</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rob Smith</td>
<td>Hertfordshire County Council</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tony Ciaburro</td>
<td>Northamptonshire County Council</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Keith Dove</td>
<td>Luton Borough Council</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mat Kiely</td>
<td>Thurrock County Council</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lee Sambrook</td>
<td>DfT</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>David Bell</td>
<td>EEFQP</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jonathan Millins</td>
<td>East of England European Partnership</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
1.2 Councillor Tony Cox welcomed everyone. At the next RTF meeting a photocall shall be arranged for Portfolio Holders.

2 Minutes of RTF meeting on 12th October 2012 and matters arising

2.1 The minutes and actions were agreed.

ACTION

1. Arrange a photocall of Portfolio Holders for the next RTF; and
2. Add an A14 update item to the next RTF agenda.

3 HA update and Managed Motorways presentation

3.1 Lynne Stinson from the Highways Agency, David Green from URS and Bruce Richards from CCJV gave a presentation on the M1 Junction 10 to 13 improvements and hard shoulder running. The project encompasses 124 km.

3.2 The works included:

- Realignment of the motorway north of Luton
- Resurfacing of the hardshoulder
- Full new communications infrastructure for overhead gantries and signs
- Renewal of underbridge parapets
- Regional control centre upgrade
- Overhead high voltage electricity cable diversion
- 30 emergency refuge areas
- 22 maintenance access areas

3.3 Lynne Stinson said that throughout the project there was a lot of consultation that was undertaken. If the public are aware of what is happening and are kept informed then they are more amenable to change.

3.4 Peter Grimm agreed that all schemes need to involve consulting and informing the community as this project has done. The Highway’s Agency liaison on this project has been first class.

3.5 David Green said that many expeditions with the public were held. There were a number of objections for the designs of junctions 11 and 12, but the feedback was used to inform the final junction schemes.

3.6 Councillor Dave Taylor asked when does the hard shoulder running begin; are the traffic levels monitored before the managed motorway junctions or does the system wait for congestion to build up? David Green replied that loops detect traffic flows and thresholds have been established when hard shoulder running is to be used. Feedback from drivers is that they want to do a steady reliable 60mph instead of being able to travel at 70mph but having to slow down and speed up. The reduction in speed and improved reliability gives a decrease in risks and reduces accidents.

3.7 Lynne Stinson said that although the scheme is finished public liaison has not finished. Drivers are now being educated on how to use the hard shoulder running.

3.8 Paul Mathieson asked if hard shoulder running will be in the Highway Code and driving instructors will be informed? Lynne Stinson confirmed that it is already included in the Highway Code.
4 Funding Programmes/LTB updates

4.1 Paul Mathieson gave an overview of the paper. On 18th December 2012 the Department for Transport published funding allocations for local highway authorities’ (including London) share of a £215 million fund for local road maintenance. Included within the Autumn Statement the Highways Agency is to deliver 57 vital road improvements to boost the economy, reduce congestion and improve safety. Many of the improvements will be delivered in 2013 and 2014, and they will all be completed by March 2015.

4.2 Advice for local authorities wanting to apply for a share of a Local Pinch Point Fund for £170 million fund to remove bottlenecks on the local highway network and support growth-enhancing development was published on 3rd January 2013.

4.3 On 23rd January 2013 the Department for Transport announced that, in recognition of the key role envisaged for LEPs in transport, the Department for Transport will be providing LEPs with funding which totals £5 million for 2012/2013.

4.4 From 2015, each Local Transport Body will be allocated funding according to its population.

4.5 Paul Mathieson asked all local authorities round the table to give an update on the schemes they put forward to DfT for a portion of the local pinch point fund and to provide an update on their LTBs. £400m worth of schemes were put forward to DfT but there is only £170m available. Southend Borough Council put a bid in for £7m for a junction near to the London Southend Airport and Business Park.

4.6 Glenn Barcham said Luton, Central Bedfordshire, Bedford and Milton Keynes are forming a four Authority LTB. This sub-set of the existing LEP makes government arrangements quite complicated. The LTB has submitted a bid of less than £5m for a contribution towards a major scheme for a share of the local pinch point fund.

4.7 Dearbhla Lawson said Cambridgeshire LTB had an initial meeting which included Cambridgeshire, Peterborough and Rutland, where Assurance Framework was agreed. There are issues of resources which are trying to be resolved with the LEP. More technical guidance is required on LTBs. £21m is the indicative sum for the major schemes. For the local pinch point fund the scheme has to be ready to go in the ground when the funds are received so it was quite hard to find a scheme that was shovel ready, have submitted a bid for under £5m for the Ely Crossing scheme.

4.8 Cllr Penny Channer said that Essex are looking for £150m for M25 junction 30. Alastair Southgate said Essex have bid for four schemes all under £5m, which include: Harlow Clock Tower roundabout and a junction on the A414, Army & Navy roundabout, widening of the A176 in Basildon and park and ride bus priority in Colchester.

4.9 Esme Cushing said that Northamptonshire submitted two bids one on widening of the dual carriageway on the A43 and another on the northside enterprise zone inner ring road.

4.10 David Cumming said that the LTB will submit their Assurance Framework. A bid has been put forward for a share of the local pinch point fund for the access roads into Yarmouth and Kings Lynn, which will free up housing and jobs.

4.11 Peter Grimm said that the local pinch point fund has enabled schemes of around £5m to be considered which would not have been considered previously. Suffolk thanked Cambridgeshire for considering the Ely route.

4.12 Paul Mathieson said there had been a meeting with the SELEPs Strategic Transport Group where the consultants gave an update on the prioritisation process of the schemes. The
SELEP has given the LTB £80k for the process. It would be good for the RTF to work jointly on the next LTB stage.

4.13 Peter Grimm said that RTF used to prioritise major schemes, which proved to be a hard task.

4.14 David Cumming said the New Anglia LEP has received its funds and the money is being put into a feasibility study by the Local Authority or the partners. There is an issue of prioritisation where there is a need for a qualitative approach to the appraisal. There needs to be a program at the end instead of a list of schemes.

4.15 Dearbhla Lawson said feedback from DfT has highlighted that they do not want a full appraisal. Cambridgeshire are working with consultants on some Prioritisation Process Guidance and Cambridgeshire will share this guidance with RTF. David Cumming said that DfT have a rigid criteria.

4.16 Dearbhla Lawson and Peter Grimm said RTF could respond on the LTB prioritisation process and pinch point fund. Paul Mathieson said a collective view point could be sent to DfT from RTF.

4.17 Paul Mathieson said there is a need for collaboration on these processes. RTF could take a co-ordinating role to arrange the meetings between LEPs in order for them to share best practice and resources.

**ACTION**

3. The report was noted;

4. All gave an update of the developments of their LEP areas and LTBs;

5. If they wish to, Local Authorities are to respond to the DfT consultation on the Integrated Transport Block Fund by 6th March 2013; and

6. Cambridgeshire to share Prioritisation Process Guidance with RTF.

**5 TEN-T**

5.1 The TEN-T item was deferred to the next RTF meeting.

**6 East of England Freight Quality Partnership**

6.1 The East of England Freight Quality Partnership item was deferred to the next meeting, but Paul Mathieson gave an overview. The EEFQP requests that the RTF considers mandating the Partnership to develop a briefing note for the region in response to the recommendations made in the National Lorry Parking Study and to provide this to the next RTF meeting for further consideration.

6.2 David Bell has offered a venue for the next RTF meeting at DP World London Gateway Port.

6.3 Cllr Tony Cox said that there are also improvements on the A13 that can be seen while we are in Thurrock.

6.4 Peter Grimm suggested inviting Paul Davey from Felixstowe Port to the next RTF meeting.
ACTION

7. RTF mandates the Partnership to develop a briefing note for the region in response to the recommendations made in the National Lorry Parking Study and to provide this to the next RTF meeting for further consideration;

8. Action to be deferred to the next meeting - RTF to discuss the relationship with the LEPs and the emergent Local Transport Bodies as they develop, and how the EEFQP can contribute to discussions relating to economic growth, management of the increased requirement for freight transport and the welfare of the East of England;

9. SBC to arrange with David Bell the next RTF meeting at DP World London Gateway Port; and

10. Invite Paul Davey from Felixstowe Port to the next RTF meeting.

7 EValu8 Update

7.1 Russell Fenner advised that local authorities will receive a letter from EValu8 regarding the future of electricity use. A bid for future funding schemes has been submitted. EValu8 still have match funds available and have 50% funds for 8 rapid chargers for the Eastern region. There is an E-Mobility hub which provides a selection of charging posts for car clubs. There are also funds for railways and EValu8 are working with First Group on this.

7.2 Cllr Tony Cox said that there are charging posts on the ground but no one knows they are there. They need to be advertised. As a region through RTF, local authorities can put information on their own websites in order to advertise the posts. This project needs a wider approach to show the links between the posts within the region.

7.3 Peter Grimm agrees that people will not use the posts as they do not know about them and agrees there is a role for RTF to advertise EVs.

7.4 Paul Mathieson said the purpose of the RTF funding is for advertising the posts and the conference and there is a need to get this work underway. In Southend 4 posts have been installed which have taken away 8 parking spaces and it’s only time until there is some criticism from the public as they do not see the electric post parking spaces being used.

7.5 Russell Fenner advised that EValu8 are putting steps in place to advertise the posts and increase usage. EValu8 can provide the advertising that RTF wants.

7.6 Dearbhla Lawson suggested EValu8 should send round some maps and information for LAs to put on their websites.

7.7 Peter Grimm asked what information does the car manufacturing industry give to electric vehicle customers? Russell Fenner replied that the industry is new.

7.8 Peter Grimm said that the EV charging posts need to be on maps and also on Satnavs.

7.9 Julie Trindade advised that the EValu8 conference will be on 12th June at Wyboston Lakes, Bedfordshire. Speakers include Norman Baker, Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State for Transport, Dr Keith Bevis from EValu8 Transport Innovations, Ian Allen from GM and Ian McDonald from Future Transport Systems.
ACTION

11. The report was noted and a verbal update was also given at the meeting; and

12. SBC to co-ordinate a list of advertising material and information that RTF needs from EValu8. Local authorities to upload this information onto their own websites.

8 Luton Guided Busway presentation

8.1 Anthony Aldridge gave a presentation on the Luton Guided Busway. The Guided Busway is a linear segregated bus route with access points. The journey from Luton to Dunstable by car takes 45 minutes and by the Busway it takes 22 minutes. The Busway offers a reliable service. There was a £1m over-spend and overall the scheme cost £90m, of which £57m was the construction contract. After the meeting a number of attendees travelled on the Luton Guided Busway during a site visit on the Busway.

8.2 RTF congratulated Luton Borough Council on the new Busway.

8.3 Cllr Ian Bates said the Busway has been very successful and has enabled developments to come forwards.

9 Reports for Information

a) Budget Statement - Rob Smith (Hertfordshire CC)

10 A.O.B

Future of RTF

10.1 Peter Grimm said that Suffolk support RTF and its continuation.

10.2 Cllr Ian Bates asked what does the Regional Transport Forum do? Paul Mathieson said that the next year of RTF is to ensure LEPs and LTBs are up and running. The RTF terms of reference will be sent out to all along with the RTF paper that was discussed previously at the EEDET Board. A paper on the future of RTF shall be discussed at EEDET Board.

10.3 Paul Mathieson said that RTF wrote to Norman Baker and received full support from the Government. Also, Lee Sambrook from DfT supports the forum, as DfT usually attend and take back information from the RTF discussions.

10.4 Peter Grimm said that RTF was initially set up to prioritise works. The forum brings together a collective view for transport. Various schemes, such as the Luton Guided Busway have been able to come on-board from the support of RTF.

10.5 Dearbhla Lawson said that the A14 summit had a number of Members attending and was successful. Government prefer to fund locations which have a lot of support. Further work is underway with DfT and soon the funding package for the A14 will be sent to Government. Government will only support the scheme if it includes tolling and also has wide strategic support. The A14 scheme recognises a number of needs and also includes other LAs.

10.6 Cllr Ian Bates said the summit was a success and there will be another in the future.

10.7 Peter Grimm said that following the Cambridgeshire A14 summit there is potentially a lot of work that LAs will need to work together on. Cllr Tony Cox said that the RTF could provide support to A14, which will demonstrate the wider support.
ACTION

13. Cllr Tony Cox asked that Members attend RTF;

14. The EEDET Board report from the STSG is to include discussions on the future of RTF;

15. Re-circulate RTF Terms of Reference and the previous paper on the future of RTF that was discussed previously at both RTF and EEDET Board.

10.8 Since the RTF meeting the EEDET Board met on 22nd March 2013 and discussed the future of RTF. The EEDET Board supported and agreed the continuation of RTF.

10.9 The next RTF meeting will be on 21st June 2013 at DP World London Gateway Port.