

## MCA - TRANSPORT AND THE ENVIRONMENT BOARD

### MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON:

THURSDAY, 30 MARCH 2023 AT 2.00 PM

### VIRTUAL



### PRESENT:

Councillor Chris Read (Co-Chair)  
Peter Kennan (Co-Chair)  
Councillor Robert Frost  
Councillor Mazher Iqbal  
John Dowie

Rotherham MBC  
Private Sector LEP Board Member  
Barnsley MBC  
Sheffield City Council  
SYMCA Executive Team

### IN ATTENDANCE:

Tim Taylor	Director of Public Transport Operations	SYMCA Executive Team
Ellen Hinsley	Minute Taker	SYMCA Executive Team

### APOLOGIES:

Councillor Joe Blackham	City of Doncaster Council
Sarah Norman	Barnsley MBC
Councillor Mark Houlbrook (Reserve)	City of Doncaster Council

### 88 Welcome and Apologies

The Chair welcomed all to the virtual meeting and noted apologies as above.

### 89 Declarations of Interest by individual Members in relation to any item of business on the agenda.

There were no declarations of interest by Members.

### 90 Urgent items / Announcements

None.

### 91 Public Questions of Key Decisions

None.

### 92 Extension to the £2 Fare Cap on Tram

The Board was asked to consider an extension of the £2 fare cap on tram to align with Government's extension to the £2 fare on bus.

The Director of Public Transport Operations advised Members that initial findings from an evaluation of the first two months of the fare cap scheme on tram had indicated positive signs of growth. It was felt that applying a fare cap only to bus could risk disadvantaging tram with possible implications for tram recovery which was due to revert to public ownership in March 2024.

Members were supportive of the proposal to extend the fare cap to tram to 30 June.

**RESOLVED** that the Board:

1. Approve the extension of the £2 fare cap on tram consistent with the timescales of the national bus scheme to 30 June 2023.
2. Acknowledge the benefits to passengers in reducing their expenditure during a cost-of-living crisis and the wider attractiveness of tram as a choice of travel with reduced fares.
3. Recognise that applying the £2 fare cap to bus only would risk distorting passenger choice and disadvantaging tram with respect to bus with possible knock on implications for tram recovery which will become an SYMCA issue from March 2024.
4. Request that a further evaluation of the success of the scheme on bus and tram be conducted once the scheme ends.

93      **Any Other Business**

None.

In accordance with Combined Authority's Constitution/Terms of Reference for the Board, Board decisions need to be ratified by the Head of Paid Services (or their nominee) in consultation with the Chair of the Board. Accordingly, the undersigned has consulted with the Chair and hereby ratifies the decisions set out in the above minutes.

Signed .....

Name .....

Position .....

Date .....