

The Regional Transport Partnership

Terms of Reference, Modus Operandi and Membership Criteria.

Overarching Key Objectives.

The Transport Partnership will hold a policy lead responsibility for transport, to support and advise the Regional Assembly in achieving its role as the 'regional lead for partnership working to proactively drive forward the implementation of key policy areas'.

Within this role the Transport Partnership will:

- Working into and at the direction of the Regional Planning Partnership, lead on the Regional Transport Strategy and broker a consensus around key regional transport issues.
- Take responsibility to proactively drive forward the facilitation and monitoring of the implementation of the regions strategic transport priorities, ensuring wider partner engagement in the process.
- Provide a coherent regional voice and 'champion' for the transport policy agenda, including where necessary lobbying for the interests of the Region in debates on National and European policy;
- Ensure close co-operation and effective communication primarily with the work of the Planning Partnership and Planning Executive but also with the other Partnership groups. Also work closely with the Regional Observatory (including through contributions to the RA work plan) and maintain effective communications with the wider region to ensure a transparency of working;
- Provide a 'meeting place' where issues and concerns can be raised by all parties/partners in an open, transparent and inclusive way;
- Develop positive relationships with sub-regional groupings of partners.
- As appropriate contribute to the strategic review function.

Modus Operandi.

- To be chaired by a Regional Assembly Member
- Members of the Core Group will be Regional Assembly members or suitably skilled and experienced designated Assembly representatives.
- All Core Group members will be subject to the Regional Assembly Members Code of Conduct.
- To meet bimonthly with additional meetings as and when required.
- Progress and activity to be reported to the full assembly meetings on a quarterly basis and to the Regional Planning Partnership as appropriate.
- Secretariat to be provided by appropriate regional partners linking into WMRA secretariat.
- To be advised by the Regional Transport Officers Group and other appropriate officer level groups.
- To form task and finish groups with specific work areas and timescales.
- Notes of meetings to be public documents posted on the Website and reported to WMRA and other partners where appropriate.
- Meetings to be held in open session with a facility to move to closed session if required.
- The work of the partnership to be open and transparent.
- Partnership to proceed on the basis of consensus.
- Membership to be kept under review.

Membership.

Core Group

Members of the Core Group will be Regional Assembly members or designated Assembly representatives. As such they will be the voting members of the Partnership.

The Core Group will reflect the membership arrangements of the Regional Assembly i.e. a ratio of 4 Local Government: 1 business: 1 other.

There should be a minimum of 6 Assembly members/designated Assembly representatives on the Core Group but this may expand in line with the Regional Assembly Ratio if required.

The 4 Local Government Representatives should be 2 from rural (non-met) LTP authorities and 2 met LTP authorities to be nominated by WM Joint Committee Planning & Transport Sub-Committee one of which could be a WM Passenger Transport Authority representative.

The Business Sector and Other Stakeholder groups have the facility to nominate one voting (plus one non-voting) member to the core group in the ratio 4:1(+1):1(+1).

Partnership Membership

The wider partnership will have an advisory role and will be non voting with the exception of the Core group members.

Membership will consist of

- Core group
- 1 bus/metro operator
- 1 rail industry – to be sought through Rail Working Party
- 1 airport/services
- 1 Highways Agency
- 1 Strategic Rail Authority
- 1 Government Office West Midlands
- 1 Advantage West Midlands
- 1 Sustainability West Midlands
- 1 Commercial Transport – to be sought through RHA and FTA
- 2 Public Transport Users Grouping
- 1 Planning Partnership
- 1 Social Inclusion Partnership (Once established)
- 1 Centro
- 1 Environmental Interest

Criteria for Membership.

- Member candidates should be nominated by their organisation, sector or constituent group following invitation from the Partnership (or its core group or the RA).
- Where an organisation has a member/officer structure, then board members should be the representatives on the Partnership.
- Members should be senior representatives from organisations or constituent groups who have a broad and deep knowledge of their sector.
- Members will be expected to represent their sector or area of interest and express the views of their organisation or constituent group.
- Members will be expected to communicate information and decisions made by the Partnership to others in the sector, organisation or group.
- Members should have the capacity to think strategically.
- Membership will be specific to the named individuals with a nominated alternate if required.
- Where possible membership to reflect the diversity of the region's population.