

Officer Non Key Executive Decision

Relevant Chief Officer (Decision Maker):	Neil Jack, Chief Executive
Relevant Cabinet Member (for consultation purposes):	Councillor Simon Blackburn, Leader of the Council
Report Author (Officer name and title):	Lennox Beattie, Executive and Regulatory Manager
Implementation Date of Decision:	11 December 2017

APPOINTMENT TO TRANSPORT FOR THE NORTH

1.0 Purpose of the report:

1.1 To consider which Councillor should represent the Council on the newly created Transport for the North.

2.0 Recommendation(s):

2.1 To appoint the Leader of the Council, Councillor Simon Blackburn, to be the Council's representative on Transport for the North.

3.0 Reasons for recommendation(s):

3.1 Having consulted a number of Councillors and considered the remit of the new body, the Chief Executive considers the Leader of the Council the most suitable representative given the important role of Transport for the North.

3.2a Is the recommendation contrary to a plan or strategy adopted or approved by the Council? No

3.2b Is the recommendation in accordance with the Council's approved budget? Yes

3.3 Other alternative options to be considered:

To appoint a different Councillor

To not appoint a representative to Transport for the North which would result in the Council's views not being represented.

4.0 Council Priority:

4.1 The relevant Council Priority is:

“The economy: Maximising growth and opportunity across Blackpool”

5.0 Background Information

5.1 The purpose of Transport for the North is to transform the transport system of the North of England and the aim of Transport for the North is to plan and deliver the improvements needed to truly connect the region with fast, frequent and reliable transport links, driving economic growth and creating a Northern Powerhouse.

5.2 The Executive at its meeting on 17 July gave consent to the making of Regulations by the Secretary of State to establish Transport for the North as a sub-National Transport Body under section 102E of the Local Transport Act 2008. The consent of each Constituent Authority is required to the making of Regulations by the Secretary of State.

5.3 The Secretary of State has now approved the Regulations and invited the Chief Executive of constituent authorities to nominate their Council’s representative. Having considered the extensive remit of Transport for the North and the significant impact that transport will have on the Council’s ability its priorities it is considered essential that a Councillor with significant influence is appointed. Therefore the Council’s nominee will be the Leader of the Council.

5.4 Does the information submitted include any exempt information? No

5.5 List of Appendices:

None.

6.0 Legal considerations:

6.1 None.

7.0 Human Resources considerations:

7.1 None.

8.0 Equalities considerations:

8.1 None.

9.0 Financial considerations:

9.1 None.

10.0 Risk management considerations:

10.1 None.

11.0 Ethical considerations:

11.1 None.

12.0 Internal/ External Consultation undertaken:

12.1 Internally with Councillors and senior officers, Externally with the Transport for the North officers.

13.0 Decision of Chief Officer

13.1 To appoint the Leader of the Council, Councillor Simon Blackburn, to be the Council's representative on Transport for the North.

14.0 Reasons for the Decision of the Chief Officer

14.1 Having consulted a number of Councillors and considered the remit of the new body, the Chief Executive considers the Leader of the Council the most suitable representative given the important role of Transport for the North.