

## Joint Bus and Innovation Working Group Meeting

Thursday 24<sup>th</sup> April 2018, 10:00-13:00

Transport for West Midlands, 16 Summers Lane, Birmingham

*“What innovations will shape the future of the bus industry and help meet the challenges of the next decade 2020-2030”*

### Actions

1. Members to feedback to DfT ULEB team on dashboard and useful metrics for LEB/ULEB reporting from TRL: [ULEBS@dft.gsi.gov.uk](mailto:ULEBS@dft.gsi.gov.uk). [[Example of Dashboard](#)]
2. TRL to present updates on LEB & ULEB monitoring programme at BWG meetings and share quarterly reports on aggregated monitoring data with LowCVP BWG
3. Secretariat to share TfWM LEB strategy. [[LINK TO TfWM STRATEGY PAGE](#)]
4. Secretariat to share presentation from TfL’s B20 trails from FWG [[Available to download here](#)]
5. Members to submit comments and suggestions on the BWG work programme 2018-2020 [[Work Programme Presentation](#)]
6. Members to save the date for LowCVP’s Annual Conference 12<sup>th</sup> July 2018 [[link to event page](#)]
7. Bus & Coach manufacturers and technology suppliers to register interest to run shuttlebus service at LCV2018. Contact [daniel.hayes@lowcvc.org.uk](mailto:daniel.hayes@lowcvc.org.uk)

### Attendees & Apologies

| Name       |          | Organisation       |                  |               |                       |
|------------|----------|--------------------|------------------|---------------|-----------------------|
| Adam       | Goves    | Flexi-Solar        | Neil             | Fulton        | TS Catapult           |
| Alastair   | Willis   | Abellio            | Nigel            | Addison-Evans | Flexi-Solar           |
| Alec       | Thomson  | LowCVP             | Nigel            | Stanley       | GreenUrban Technology |
| Amy-Nadine | Duffy    | Flexi-Solar        | Patrick          | Smith         | Portland Fuel         |
| Andy       | Page     | TfWM               | Patrick          | Warner        | Brighton & Hove Bus   |
| Asiya      | Jelani   | Arriva             | Phil             | Stones        | Millbrook             |
| Bill       | Pearce   | Cummins            | Philip           | Thiessen      | DfT                   |
| Bob        | Austin   | SunAmp             | Rebecca          | Green         | Optare                |
| Colin      | Matthews | Joulevert          | Richard          | Barski        | Road Gas              |
| Celine     | Cluzel   | Element Energy     | Rob              | Wood          | GasRec                |
| Daniel     | Foley    | DfT                | Ross             | Hughes        | VCA                   |
| Daniel     | Hayes    | LowCVP             | Sophie           | Osborn        | DfT                   |
| Daniel     | Page     | TfWM               | Stewart          | Pooley        | Michelin              |
| Danny      | Jones    | Off-Grid Energy    | Stewart          | Greenshields  | TRL                   |
| David      | Hobbs    | Baumot UK          | Tanya            | Neech         | Scania                |
| Edmund     | Salt     | TfWM               | Thom             | Koller        | ADBIOResources        |
| Glenn      | Saint    | Arrival Ltd        | Toby             | Schulz        | Vantage Power         |
| Gradyn     | Thompson | Irizar UK          | Tony             | Griffiths     | Gas Bus Alliance Ltd  |
| James      | Thorpe   | Eminox             | Wayne            | Hare          | Cummins               |
| Jim        | Collins  | Go-Ahead           | <b>APOLOGIES</b> |               |                       |
| Jon        | Eardley  | Abellio            |                  |               |                       |
| Jonathan   | Murray   | LowCVP             | Darren           | Roe           | Stagecoach            |
| Karl       | Grimston | Excalibre Tech Ltd | John             | Taylor        | CPT                   |
| Lisa       | Fritsch  | Portland Fuel      | Andrew           | Jones         | Notts County Council  |
| Matt       | Freeman  | BAE Systems        | Mike             | Weston        | Irizar UK             |
| Matthew    | Hateley  | Graysons           | Ian              | Downie        | Yutong                |
| Mike       | Aguirre  | Datik              | Dickon           | Posnett       | Argent Energy         |
| Mike       | Keane    | SunAmp             | Ashley           | Watton        | Cummins               |
| Natalie    | Burrows  | NGV                | Hugh             | Tucker        | UKPIA                 |
|            |          |                    | Mike             | Dickison      | Coventry Uni          |
|            |          |                    | Darren           | Carter        | Intertek              |
|            |          |                    | Robert           | Palmer        | Palmer PR             |

## Minutes

### 1. Welcome and apologies – Chair

BWG Chair, Mike Weston (MW) was unable to attend the meeting and sent apologies. Jonathan Murray (JM) was Chair in MW's absence and welcomed the members of the Bus and Innovation working groups to Birmingham in his absence and a note was made of the apologies.

### 2. Minutes and Matters Arising – Chair

The minutes of the previous meeting were approved without amendment and the actions noted as completed or to be covered under the day's agenda or highlighted below:

- The reason for the poor uptake of the Transport Scotland bus fund is primarily believed to be due to no infrastructure support provided amid concerns around state aid rules. TS are looking into reform for the SGBF 9 funding later in 2019.
- DfT do not believe that infrastructure upgrades for electric buses conflict with state aid rules, due to the nature of DNOs (regulated regional monopolies).
- Members Council Results: Darren Roe appointed to the MC as BWG representative.

### 3. Updates

#### 3.1. Department for Transport, Sophie Osborn

*Verbal Update*

Sophie Osborn introduced herself as the new bus contact at DfT following Lotte Free's departure. Sophie will be overseeing the Ultra-Low Emission Bus Scheme and BSOG reform.  
[Sophie.Osborn@dft.gov.uk](mailto:Sophie.Osborn@dft.gov.uk)

- **The Ultra-Low Emission Bus Scheme** was launched on 28<sup>th</sup> March, with bids due by closing date of 30<sup>th</sup> June. Winning bids are expected to be announced in September 2018 with DfT hosting a ULEB Workshop being held on the 14<sup>th</sup> May at the SMMT, supported by the LowCVP. DfT have opened discussions with the European Commission regarding approval for the ULEB scheme in relation to State Aid. Initial messaging indicates that there will be no major issues, Germany has run a similar scheme and received approval which sets a precedent for the ULEB scheme.
- Daniel Foley, economist at the DfT presented slides on what a statistics dashboard that TRL would present as part of LEB Monitoring Programme. Members are invited to provide feedback to [ULEBS@dft.gsi.gov.uk](mailto:ULEBS@dft.gsi.gov.uk)

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| <b>Action:</b> Members to feedback comments to DfT on design of LEB dashboard. |
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Members asked if the monitoring dashboard will be published on the DfT website. This is unlikely as it would be a lengthy process to upload regularly to the DfT site. Instead, information will be shared with the BWG on a quarterly basis.

Members asked if the performance averages presented would be for technologies and vehicles. Initially, data will be aggregated for each technology, with more granularity given in annual report.

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| <b>Action:</b> Secretariat to circulate TRL Dashboard and contact details for members to provide feedback. |
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**3.2. Transport for West Midlands, Edmund Salt, TfWM**

[BWG-P-18-09](#)

ES welcomed the group to the West Midlands Combined Authority and gave a short presentation to the background of the area and to Transport for West Midlands.

Members asked about the Hydrogen Fuel Cell buses in Birmingham. This will be handled through the bus alliance; an operator has been identified and are currently in discussions with city council. It is hoped that 20 vehicles will be running routes within Birmingham city by the end of the year (route planning will be tied to the location of Hydrogen refuelling location(s)).

**Action:** Secretariat to disseminate TfWM Low Emission Bus Strategy

**3.3. National LCEB Monitoring, Dan Hayes, LowCVP**

[BWG-P-18-10](#)

DH presented an overview of the bus market in the UK and an update to the LCEB/LEB Monitoring statistics, see presentation for details.

Members asked if there were any ideas to why there had been a decline in bus patronage. It is suggested that a combination of funding cuts, increased car ownership, and changes in consumer behaviour leading to increased congestion (smaller supermarket outlets/ the rise in internet shopping) etc are possible explanations.

Members also asked if efficient diesels would meet the new ULEB definition. DH stated it is highly unlikely that efficient diesels will meet the ULEB criteria. The use of biofuel was mentioned by members and DH qualified that biofuels cannot be used to certify a bus as a ULEB.

A question was asked about the number of diesel hybrids that have been fitted back to regular diesel. There is known to be around 60 buses that have had their hybrid systems taken out and replaced with a diesel powertrain. These are hybrids of the first generation which are now 5/7 years old and a number of components are failing. It is unknown if they were left as Euro V or were upgraded to Euro VI in this process.

**4. Innovation in Buses: The Passenger Experience, Autonomy, Infrastructure and Fuels**

See Working Papers for details

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| 4.1. <i>Mobility as a Service in West Midlands</i> , Andy Page, TfWM           | <a href="#">BWG-P-18-11a</a> |
| 4.2. <i>Real Journey Time</i> Daniel Pass, TfWM                                | <a href="#">BWG-P-18-11b</a> |
| 4.3. <i>Demand Response Travel: Arriva Click</i> Asiya Jelani, Arriva          | <a href="#">BWG-P-18-12</a>  |
| 4.4. <i>Integration of Connectivity &amp; Automation into public transport</i> |                              |
| Neil Fulton, TS Catapult   | <a href="#">BWG-P-18-13</a>  |
| 4.5. <i>Smart Urban Electric Logistics</i> Danny Jones, Off-Grid Energy        | <a href="#">BWG-P-18-14</a>  |
| 4.6. <i>Future of Biofuels</i> Patrick Lynch, Greenergy                        | <a href="#">BWG-P-18-15</a>  |
| 4.7. <i>Driver Telematics</i> Mikel Aguirre, Datik                             | <a href="#">BWG-P-18-16</a>  |
| 4.8. <i>Zero Emission Heat Batteries</i> Bob Austin, SunAmp                    | <a href="#">BWG-P-18-17</a>  |
| 4.9. <i>Transport Innovation Labs</i>  |                              |
| 4.10. Patrick Warner, Brighton & Hove Buses                                    | <a href="#">BWG-P-18-18</a>  |

**5. BWG Work Programme 2017/18 \* 2018/19**

**5.1. Bus & Innovation Future Work Programmes**

Dan Hayes & Alec Thomson [BWG-P-18-19](#)

Dan Hayes presented the future work programme of the bus working group with a look towards 2020 and the challenges beyond.

The key areas of focus for the BWG could be:

- **The successful introduction of the Ultra-Low Emission Bus Scheme:** supporting members and wider industry understand new definition, support DfT and members in grant application and certification process, potential to update Low Emission Bus Guide
- **BSOG reform:** Secretariat will begin discussions with members pre-emptively ahead of a public consultation on reforming BSOG. Secretariat to understand potential for reform to LCEB BSOG to update inline with LEB and ULEB definitions, to move away from a flat rate and to support GHG saving technologies with greater financial rewards.
- **Uptake of high-blend biofuels:** Changes to the Renewable Transport Fuel Obligation require an increased level of biofuels to be sold in the UK. Bus and Coach fleets could play a crucial role in the uptake of high-blend biofuels. The BWG will work closely with fuel suppliers to establish the opportunities for increased uptake. Establishing the potential for second generation biofuels such as HVO will also be included.
- **Clean Vehicle Retrofit Accreditation Scheme:** Secretariat will continue to work with members and EST to ensure the success of the CVRAS scheme and encourage the growth of the market in line with the introduction of CAZ and LEZ in the UK.
- **Information provision:** Continue to update the Low Emission Bus Guide and Low Emission Bus Hub with the latest case studies and presentations. Link to European

**Action:** Members to submit comments and suggestions on the BWG work programme 2018-2020.  
**Action:** Members to save the date for LowCVP's Annual Conference 12<sup>th</sup> July 2018.  
**Action:** Bus & Coach manufacturers and technology suppliers to register interest to run shuttlebus service at LCV2018.

## 5.2. BWG Work programme update 2017/18

[BWG-P-18-20](#)

Due to time constraints, the BWG work programme update was taken as read. Members were directed to review the work programme update and feedback comments to the secretariat.

## 6. A.O.B.

There was no other business and the meeting was closed.

**Next Bus Working Group meeting:**

**October 11<sup>th</sup>, 2018, 10:00-13:00**

***Venue tbc, open to members' offers and suggestions.***

**Next Innovation Working Group Meeting:**

**Joint Meeting with the Fuels Working Group**

**October 4<sup>th</sup>, 10:00- 13:00**

***Venue tbc, but open to offers***