

**South East Wales Transport Commission**

**South Wales Traffic Management Centre, M4 Junction 32**

**12:30 – 17:00 Thursday 7 November 2019**

**Attendees:**

Lord Burns (Chair)  
Beverly Owen  
Lynn Sloman  
James Davies  
Stephen Gifford  
Elaine Seagriff  
Peter Jones  
Peter McDonald (Secretariat)  
Matt Jones (Secretariat)  
Sam Thomas (Secretariat)  
Karen Fulford (Secretariat)  
Mari Williams (Secretariat)  
Alex Theophilus (Secretariat)  
Jason Collins (Technical Team)  
Gareth Potter (Transport for Wales)

**Apologies**

Jen Heal

**Introductions and update from Secretariat**

Discussion focused on the timings of meetings and the dates of future meetings. A fast track update will be published by the end of the year, but not before the general election on 12 December 2019.

**Current Performance of M4**

All attendees were given a tour of the South Wales Traffic Management Centre. The discussion focused on the current performance of the M4 around Newport and the impact of other social, economic and environmental issues. A discussion focused around the current incident response rate.

The Commission also discussed detailed traffic data for morning and evening peak flows in eastbound and westbound directions, especially for weekdays (Monday – Thursday). The westbound evening flow approaching J25A is particularly problematic.

### **Fast-track measures**

A series of potential fast-track measures were discussed. A short-list for recommendation was provisionally agreed. These will be reported in the December update.

### **Current transport provision**

The discussion focused around an analysis of “top” origins and destinations of M4 users. This highlighted a number of important patterns, in particular issues around West Newport and Bristol. The potential growth of these regions is relevant.

The discussion continued around the current alternatives to travel on the M4 focusing on rail, bus, active travel and non-motorway road travel.

Finally, the Commission reviewed an initial exploratory assessment of the current provision of rail, bus and active travel infrastructure in the area. Significant further work will be required.

### **Stakeholder engagement**

Introductory letters to the key stakeholder groups have been sent. Three stakeholder workshops in Newport, Chepstow and Cardiff have been arranged. Specialist Stakeholder Consultants, Cogitamus, have been commissioned to assist with stakeholder engagement and run planned events. The Secretariat will commission destination surveys for use at locations such as large organisations and service stations. An online survey will also be used for the general public to make a contribution on their experience of travel in South East Wales.

### **Next Meeting**

The Commission will meet again in early January.