



TfW Rail Ltd Board Minutes

13 September 2024

0900 – 1230

Venue: Llys Cadwyn

Attendees

James Price (Chair), Alexia Course, Jan Chaudhry Van der Velde, Heather Clash, Marie Daly and Peter Strachan.

In attendance

Julian Edwards (Associate NED) and Jeremy Morgan.

The Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting.

1a. Apologies for Absence

None.

1b. Notice of Quorum

A quorum being present, the Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting and declared it open.

1c. Declarations of Interest

Members confirmed that their published declarations of interests were up to date and there were no additional interests to declare specifically relating to agenda items. Heather Clash, Alexia Course and James Price are directors of TfW Fibre Ltd. Julian Edwards is the interim managing director of Cross Country Trains Ltd.

2. Safety moment.

[REDACTED]

3. Customer moment

The Board welcomed the overall positive performance and experience during the recent Eisteddfod in Pontypridd.

4. Minutes and Actions

Minutes of the meeting 16 August 2024 were approved. The Actions Log was noted.

5. Chief Operations Officer report

Board received and noted an overview of the COO's report.

The COO review focussed on:

- Demand and period farebox revenue was above target and exceeded budget by £0.4m. Scan rates were also positive with on-board rates up 61% on the same period last year.



- Service delivery was mixed during the period but with increasingly better performance on the CVL which experienced reduced cancellations. Performance issues generally resulted from rolling stock shortages, particularly more fundamental issues with Cl197 units and temporary Cl158 problems.
- [REDACTED]
- Technical issues on the Cl158 units are currently being investigated, but there are issues with the supply of materials. . Three of the four sets have been repaired but repairs on the fourth set are likely to take several weeks while parts are sourced, and further cases of master driver / slave drive problems may come to light with monitoring. This is a causing a temporary shortage of Cl158s.
- The improved availability of locomotives has been fundamental in the turnaround of the MKIV service. The Board discussed the feasibility of extending the life of the MKIVs past 2030 and agreed to start exploring the merits of doing so [**Action Jan Chaudhry Van-der-Velde**].
- The Board also discussed Network Rail performance, enhanced rail replacement services to supplement existing rail services for the Abergavenny Food Festival, and on-going discussions with the ORR around access rights for the December 2024 WCB timetable changes.

5.1 Strategic KPI Report

Board noted the report.

5.2 Safety Assurance Report

Leyton Powell joined the meeting.

The Board welcomed the additional insight provided in the report.

The Board were updated on recent safety performance around occupational and operational safety and welcomed the positive performance.

Updates were also provided on wellbeing, meetings with Natural Resources Wales regarding waste management, and on-going work around winter preparedness.

The Grenfell Tower Inquiry report is being reviewed to identify any relevant findings and/or recommendations for TfW.

Board noted the report.

6. Rail Risk Dashboard

Board noted the dashboard.

Leyton Powell left the meeting.

7. Financial review

Stephanie Raymond joined the meeting.



The Board discussed financial performance for rail period 5. [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Stephanie Raymond left the meeting.

8. Commercial update

Rob Paige joined the meeting.

The Board considered the commercial update contained in the pack. [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED] The Board welcomed the P5 revenue result being the highest ever achieved on the Wales & Borders network.

[REDACTED]

Rob Paige left the meeting.

9. Future of Multiflex

Mesha Sutherland joined the meeting.

The Board considered a paper requested by Rail Board members in July 2024, to follow up on the current performance of the Multiflex product and how this varies across the network. [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]



10. MKIV HD08 business case

The Board considered a recommendation to rejuvenate the decommissioned Mark 4 rake (HD08) to make it the eighth operational rake to act as a ‘hot spare’ to de-risk the ability of operating the required Cardiff-Holyhead and Cardiff Manchester Services and considered a recommendation to bring into operational use a spare Driving Van Trailer (DVT) in case of damage to the operational fleet. [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] The Board agreed that the business case was sound and approved the recommendations.

11. Class 170s

The Board gave careful consideration to a recommendation to dispose of the leased Class 170 rolling stock that are currently subleased to Transport UK East Midlands Limited trading as (EMR).

[REDACTED]

AOB

There being no other business, the Chair thanked everyone for their contributions and closed the meeting.