

GREATER MANCHESTER INTEGRATED TRANSPORT AUTHORITY
REPORT FOR INFORMATION

COMMITTEE: Capital Projects
DATE: 5th March 2010
SUBJECT: Rochdale Transport Interchange Update
REPORT OF: Bus and Rail Director, GMPTE

PURPOSE OF REPORT

To update Members of the Capital Projects Committee on progress in respect of the Rochdale Transport Interchange.

RECOMMENDATIONS

Members are requested to:-

- 1 note the contents of this report and the progress which has been made to date; and
- 2 request a further update report be submitted to a future meeting of this Committee in late Summer 2010, following the anticipated receipt of Conditional Approval.

BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS

Reports to GMPTA - 29th April 2004, 30th July 2004 and 23rd June 2006.
Report to Capital Projects Committee – 6th November 2009.

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1 Background

- 1.1 The existing Rochdale Bus Station was designed and constructed in the mid 1970's as part of a comprehensive development comprising municipal offices, a multi-storey car park and a town centre access via a high level walkway. The bus station now provides an unsatisfactory passenger waiting experience in Greater Manchester when compared to other facilities of a similar size.
- 1.2 As part of a wider redevelopment of Rochdale Town Centre, it is proposed to construct a new transport interchange on the Riverside site, on the opposite side of Smith Street to the current bus station facilities, adjacent to the planned Metrolink stop.
- 1.3 The new transport interchange in Rochdale town centre will deliver a significant improvement in the quality of waiting facilities provided for bus passengers in this location; including the provision of modern waiting facilities, a safe and secure passenger waiting environment, improved pedestrian access, improved passenger information and a sustainable design.
- 1.4 The scheme was prioritised in the NWRA's Regional Funding Allocation exercise, which was confirmed by Ministers in July 2006. This exercise has resulted in DfT resources, up to a maximum of £10 million, being allocated to this scheme with the confirmation in April 2008 of the approved Programme Entry.

2 Progress Update

- 2.1 As previously reported to this Committee, the advanced works (Enabling and Remediation of the proposed site) for the new interchange were completed during 2006/07 and 2007/08 respectively.
- 2.2 Since the progress update report submitted to this Committee on 6th November 2009, the detailed design has progressed and is proceeding in line with schedule.
- 2.3 The detailed planning application was submitted in October 2009 to Rochdale MBC and the Rochdale Planning Sub-Committee granted planning permission in December 2009.
- 2.4 An advertisement seeking expressions of interest from suitably experienced contractors was published in the Official Journal of the European Union (OJEU) on 9th December 2009. This process is currently ongoing and continued until 19th February 2010. Pre-qualification questionnaires will now be issued to shortlisted Contractors.

- 2.5 As previously reported to this Committee, a key risk associated with this project is that the scheme may not be in a position to progress if the proposed Rochdale Town Centre redevelopment scheme does not proceed. A letter has been received from Rochdale MBC indemnifying design costs up to DfT Conditional Approval Stage and regular discussions with Rochdale Development Agency and Rochdale MBC with regard to this matter are ongoing.
- 2.6 Negotiation and active dialogue between GMPTE and Rochdale MBC Officers is ongoing to conclude the legal and commercial arrangements in relation to land assembly and scheme development. Agreement in relation to the Key Principles has been reached and it is anticipated that the outstanding details will be concluded during April 2010.
- 2.7 The following are the outline delivery milestones for the scheme:-
- DfT Conditional Approval submission – Spring 2010
 - Issue Tender Document to Contractors – Spring 2010
 - Anticipated CA Confirmation – Summer 2010
 - Anticipated DfT Full Approval – Autumn 2010
 - Construction Site Start – Autumn 2010
 - Site Completion – Spring 2012
 - Handover to Operations – Spring 2012
- 2.8 A further report updating Members on progress will be submitted to a future meeting of this Committee in late Summer 2010, following the anticipated receipt of Conditional Approval.
- 2.9 Subsequent to this, Members will be kept apprised of progress on the scheme at regular intervals and approval will be sought from the Authority prior to award of the main construction contract.
- 3 Recommendations**
- 3.1 Refer to the front cover of this report.

Michael Renshaw
Interim Bus and Rail Director