

EAST MIDLANDS AIRPORT

INDEPENDENT CONSULTATIVE COMMITTEE

Transport, Economic Development and Passenger Services (TEP) Sub Committee

**APPROVED Minutes of the Meeting
held at East Midlands Airport**

13 February 2009

Present:

Independent Facilitator/Meeting Chair
ICC Deputy Chair

Mr B Whyman MBE, Ch, JP
Mrs C Barker

Organisation:

Leicestershire and Rutland Association of Local Councils
PAIN
Derbyshire County Council
Nottinghamshire Chamber of Commerce

Cllr J Pike
Mrs P Beddoe
Cllr G Carlile
Mr A Morris-Richardson

East Midlands Airport:

Planning and Development Director
Head of Customer Experience RAD
Employment Network Manager
Minute Secretary

Mr J Froggatt
Mr J Doherty
Ms Dawn Price
Ms A Lamin

09/01T APOLOGIES AND DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Apologies were received from Cllr D Slater and his substitute Professor M Preston.

There were no Declarations of Interest.

a. Minutes of the TEP meeting held on 10 October 2008:

These were accepted as a true record.

b. Points for action arising from the minutes:

08/16T a. Skylink serving Kegworth

Passenger figures for Kegworth would be requested and figures for Long Whatton and Diseworth would be circulated with the meeting minutes. Cllr Pike advised of requests received to extend the Skylink service times. It was agreed to retain the Public Transport Update item on future meeting agendas and to review the services to Kegworth.

ACTION: EMA

08/17T Employment Report 2007

EMA advised difficulty in determining how many employees are UK residents or transient migrant workers as most employees were EU citizens and recorded as such.

08/19T Customer services

EMA confirmed that the layout and labelling of the Short Stay car park was under

review.

EMA would combine a future TEP meeting with an “arrival experience” at the airport and if possible a presentation by the UK Border Agency.

ACTION: EMA

09/02T CHAIRMAN’S COMMENTS:

The Chairman confirmed that the ICC response on the proposed Designation of the Airport had been submitted and limited press coverage had been received.

09/03T PRM – THE AIRLINE’S VIEW BY DERICK KEEGAN OF RYANAIR:

This item was carried forward to a future meeting.

ACTION: EMA

09/04T PUBLIC TRANSPORT UPDATE

Nottingham Skylink

This 24 hour service was exceeding targets.

Derby and Loughborough Skylink

Passenger numbers had increased dramatically on this 24 hour service. Consideration was being given to conducting a survey to determine EMA passenger users and numbers of workers using the service. The service, including the routes through Kegworth, Diseworth and Long Whatton, was under continual review. As Skylink must not compete with commercial services the cost would typically be slightly more than alternatives on some sections of the journey.

Leicester Skylink

This hourly service was operating at approximately one tenth of the other services. Some of the route was along the motorway with therefore no pick ups on this part of the route. The current contract expired shortly and the routes and services were under review as was normal. EMA said that catchment areas for airports tended to be north of the airports but EMA was very keen to retain links to all 3 Cities.

Airlink 155 – Coalville

This service ran from 04.00hours to midnight and was growing slowly.

Airlink 9 – Ashby-Burton

This rebranded service operated hourly during the daytime, Monday to Saturday, without support from EMA or the bus partnership and was welcomed as a sign of the growing attractions of serving the Airport as part of a wider network. A member said these services were valuable links for the community.

Members said that the situation remained where people parked in the villages for access to the airport via public transport. Skylink services were attracting 1.3m passengers per annum overall but not all were travelling to the airport.

East Midlands Parkway Station

The station opened on 26 January 2009 and a shuttle bus service to the airport was in operation every 30 minutes. EMA was liaising with East Midlands Trains and Network Rail over timetables and transport links and were hopeful that the timetabling would be improved.

A member suggested airline departure boards in Sheffield, Derby and Nottingham to market EMA and the airlines. This would create marketing and business opportunities and also highlight the strategic links between the areas. EMA would consider the proposals.

ACTION: EMA

The proposed dualling and improvement work on the A453 was highlighted. Consultations would commence in the next two weeks and work started in 2011 for three years. Rerouting bus services would be necessary. EMA were liaising with the appropriate bodies.

09/05T EMPLOYMENT AND TRAINING UPDATE:

The EMA Employee Survey Report 2008 was tabled and reviewed. Copies of the report would be circulated to all ICC members and made available on the EMA website.

ACTION: EMA

The Report had been compiled from information provided by employers and provided a snapshot of employment on and near EMA site. It was recognised that some employers would not reply to all the questions because of confidentiality and/or providing commercially sensitive information.

Key points included: - Employment

- Employment showed an overall minor growth following growth in traffic level early in 2008 followed by a decline later in the year;
- Over 1,000 vacancies were filled in 2008;
- A Jobs Fair on 8 February 2009 attracted 300 applicants – a list of current Job Fairs was tabled;
- EMA was now inundated with cv's from people who had been made redundant or were on redundancy warning – EMA were forwarding cv's to employers in anticipation of vacancies;
- The general employment situation outside the airport was now grim with qualified and skilled people available. On this site some employers retained employees but on reduced hours over the winter, resulting in fewer jobs potentially being available next summer;
- Vacancies and employer lists were available on www.emarecruitment.com
- The percentage of Non-EU employees was felt to be minimal. EMA would consider including a question on "first language" in future surveys.

ACTION; EMA

Training:

- NVQ Analysis – The Airport's aim was to train employees to Level 2, including English and Maths;
- Skills for Life provided a wider area of education and interest;
- Learning at Work events were planned;
- There are no age restrictions on training;
- Supervisory training is only part funded and there is no direct evidence that training results in pay increases or promotion. However training improves retention rates and achieves a more skilled workforce;
- ESOL courses have now commenced (English for Speakers of Other Languages) – these are funded by the ESF (European Social Fund);
- EMA works as a facilitator with training providers and colleges.

A member asked how the reduced employment and passenger figures would impact on the Master Plan. EMA said the impact would be high in the short-term, however once the recession was over there may be a sharp upward correction as has occurred in the past.

It was confirmed that EMA does not provide crèche facilities. However, EMA had links with local nurseries which could be recommended to appropriate employees.

Sub group members thanked Dawn Price and John Froggatt for the information provided and for an excellent report.

09/06T AIRPORT REPORT:

a. Statistics

The statistics for the period to December 2008 were reviewed as circulated.

A member queried the progress on the development of new services and stressed the need for EMA to achieve a service into the eastern seaboard of the United States, and services to both USA and European Hubs for connecting flights. Competition included US Airways operating this summer from Birmingham to Philadelphia. The impending completion of Lufthansa's purchase of BMI was also discussed. It was recommended that EMA publicise the drive-time and rail-time from various locations to EMA more widely. EMA would consider the proposals.

ACTION: EMA

b. Customer Services

The Customer Services report for October to December 2008 was tabled and reviewed. John Doherty confirmed that the "Journey through the Airport" was under constant review and appropriate improvements implemented.

c. Employment and Training update

Included in 09/05T.

Date of next meeting: Friday 22 May 2009 at 10.00am

PLEASENOTE

The date of the October TEP meeting has been brought forward from 16 October to **9 October.**

.....