

Report to: **Partnership Board –Transport for the South East**

Date of meeting: **13 May 2024**

By: **Chair of the Transport Forum**

Title of report: **Transport Forum Update**

Purpose of report: **To update the Partnership Board on the Transport Forum and Advisory Panel.**

RECOMMENDATIONS:

The members of the Partnership Board are recommended to:

(1) Note the recent work of the Transport Forum and Advisory Panel.

1. Introduction

1.1 The Transport Forum review took place in October 2023 which resulted in the establishment of the Advisory Panel and bi-annual face to face meetings of the Transport Forum.

1.2 The first Transport Forum meeting took place on Thursday 11 April 2024 and the first Advisory Panel meeting on Tuesday 30 April 2024.

1.3 Following the first Transport Forum meeting a survey was sent to attendees.

2. Transport Forum – 11 April 2024

2.1 The first face to face Transport Forum took place on Thursday 11 April at ICE, London.

2.2 The event was attended by 32 stakeholders. The theme of the day was “Where should we focus transport investment in tough financial times?”. There were two sessions held with attendees. The first session focused on the Refresh to our Transport Strategy. Attendees were tasked with set themes to work through, reviewing evidence and developing challenge statements. The challenge statements were collated and will be reviewed under the ongoing refresh. The second session was on where to focus transport investment. Attendees were given the task to focus on a priority whilst being tasked to spend their allocated coins on schemes that fitted with their priority. The session encouraged a healthy discussion on prioritisation and highlighted the need to look for smaller versions of schemes and how to attract private sector investment into public infrastructure.

2.3 Following the event, a survey was shared with attendees. Of the 32 attendees, 14 completed the survey which provided a response rate of 43.8%. Overall, 85.7% of respondents said that they were either satisfied or very satisfied with the event. 92.9% of respondents said they would be very likely or somewhat likely to attend a future Transport Forum event. The feedback survey report is attached as Appendix 1 for

further review.

3. Advisory Panel

3.1 As part of the Transport Forum review, the Board agreed that an Advisory Panel would be established, to provide advice to the Board and represent the views of Transport for the South East's thematic groups. The first Advisory Panel meeting took place on Tuesday 30 April.

3.2 The Advisory Panel is formed of one representative from each of TfSE's thematic working groups (Funding and Finance, Universities, Decarbonisation, Freight, Active Travel, Future Mobility, Bus, Electric Vehicles).

3.3 In the meeting, the Advisory Panel agreed that officers would undertake work to draft a forward programme of focus for future meetings, which Advisory Panel members would agree in advance of the next meeting.

3.4 The Advisory Panel had a good discussion around the focus and approach of the Transport Strategy Refresh and agreed to provide further feedback on the Transport Strategy Refresh, as it is developed.

3.5 The Advisory Panel reflected on the Transport Forum and agreed that it was helpful to have future meetings in-person, and that future meetings would continue to focus on how to prioritise investment, building on April's event.

4. Conclusions and recommendations

4.1 It is recommended that the Board note the work of the Transport Forum and Advisory Panel.

GEOFF FRENCH
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Transport Forum April 11 2024 - Feedback Survey Report

Introduction

An in-person meeting of Transport for the South East's Transport Forum was held in person in central London on April 11 2024. This in person event was the first to take place following the review of the Transport Forum in 2023.

Outputs of the review have included two in person events per year, supplemented by digital engagement with members. Membership was also expanded to include invitations to all members across Transport for the South East's thematic groups.

Invitations were sent to over 300 stakeholders from across the region and sectors. 32 stakeholders were present on the day along with TfSE and the Transport Forum chair.

Following the event, attendees were sent a feedback survey to give their views on the forum, covering the content and the organisation of the event.

Of the 32 attendees, 14 completed the survey: a response rate of 43.8%.

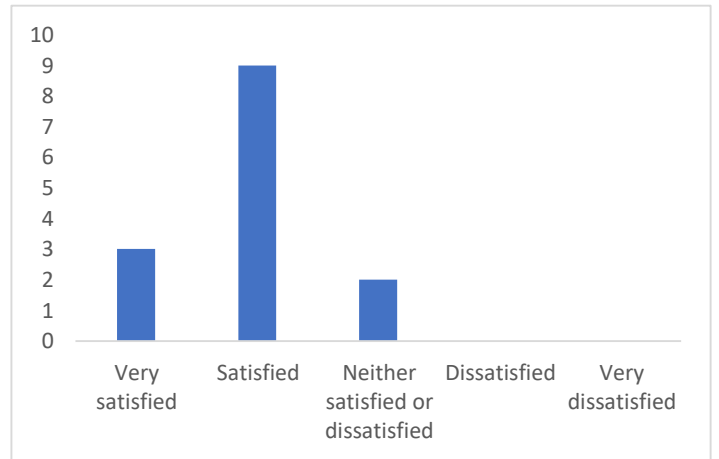
Headline Results

- 12 of the 14 respondents (85.7%) said that overall, they were either satisfied or very satisfied with the event.
- 11 respondents (78.6%) said they found the first session on the Transport Strategy Refresh very or moderately useful, and 10 (71.4%) said they found it enjoyable.
- 8 respondents (57.1%) said they found the first session on the Transport Strategy Refresh very or moderately useful, and 10 (71.4%) said they found it enjoyable.
- 13 respondents (92.9%) said they would be very likely or somewhat likely to attend a future Transport Forum event.

Results

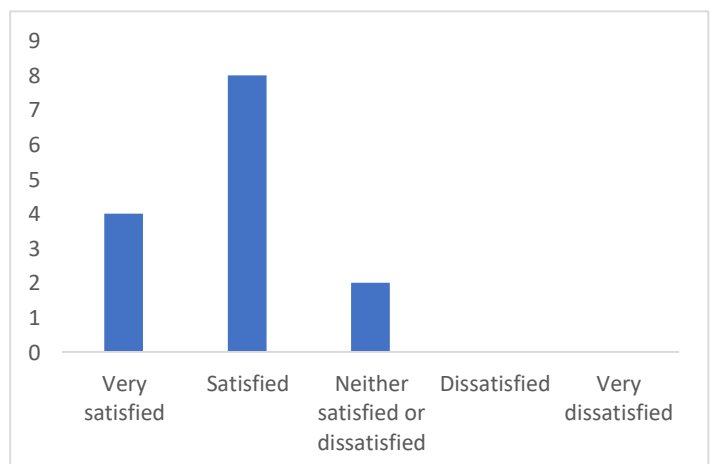
Q1 How satisfied were you with the Transport Forum event overall?

Response	Number
Very satisfied	3
Satisfied	9
Neither satisfied or dissatisfied	2
Dissatisfied	0
Very dissatisfied	0



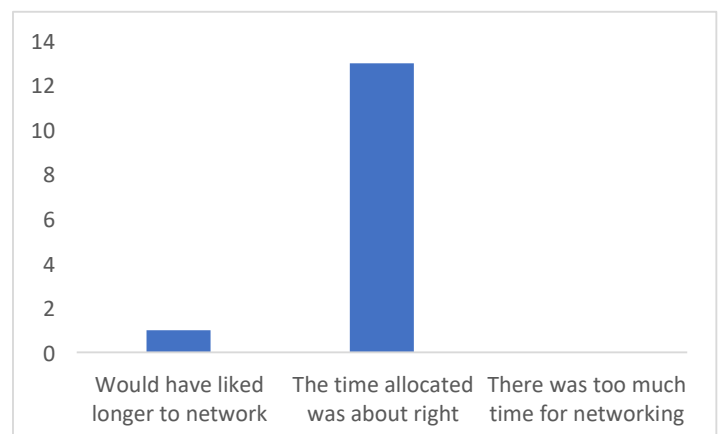
Q2 How satisfied were you with the opportunities to network and connect with other attendees?

Response	Number
Very satisfied	4
Satisfied	8
Neither satisfied or dissatisfied	2
Dissatisfied	0
Very dissatisfied	0



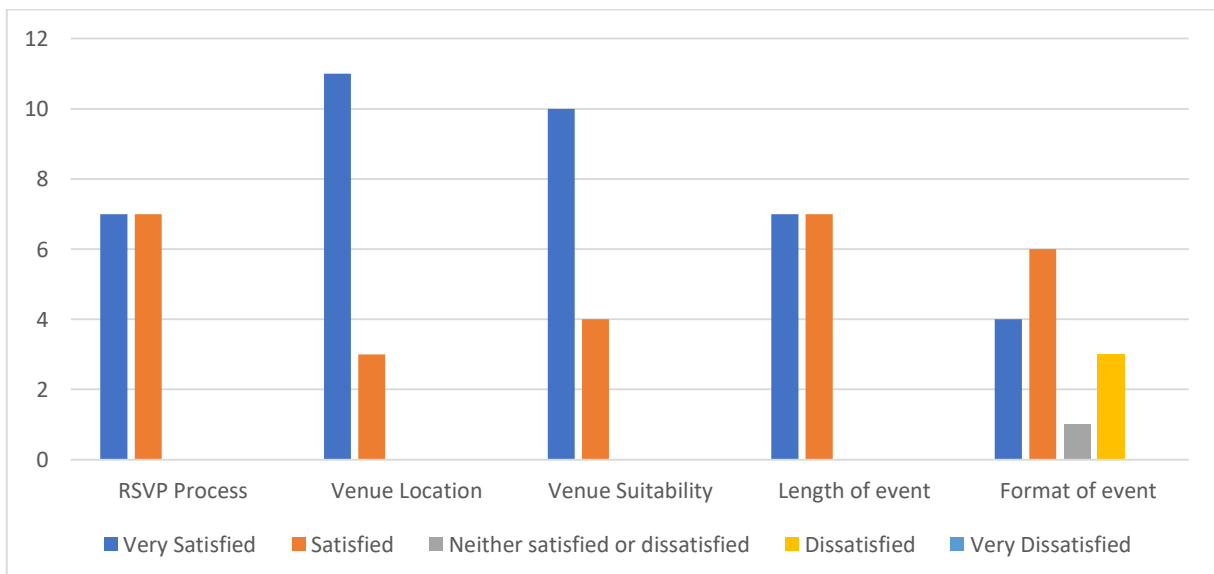
Q3 Did you feel there was an appropriate amount of time dedicated to networking?

Response	Number
Would have liked longer to network	1
The time allocated was about right	13
There was too much time for networking	0



Q4 How satisfied were you with the following aspects of the event?

	Very Satisfied	Satisfied	Neither satisfied or dissatisfied	Dissatisfied	Very Dissatisfied
RSVP Process	7	7	0	0	0
Venue Location	11	3	0	0	0
Venue Suitability	10	4	0	0	0
Length of event	7	7	0	0	0
Format of event	4	6	1	3	0



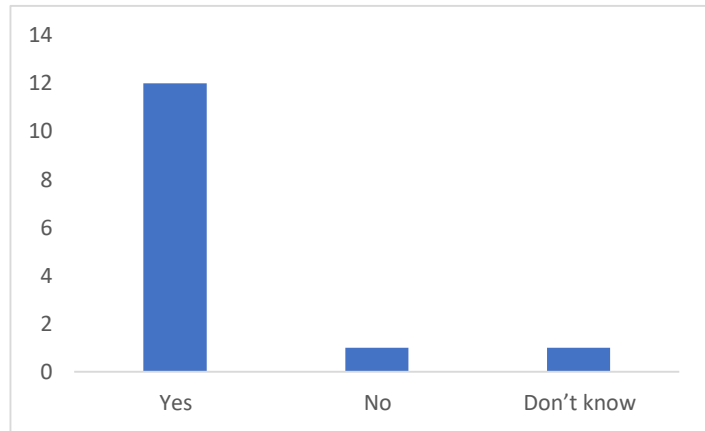
Q5 Are there any improvement we could make to the logistics and organisation of future forum events?

5 participants answered this question. Comments from these participants varied, and no common themes amongst the respondents were clear. Comments are summarised as follows:

- Catering could have been improved
- Dedicated time for reflection and discussion after the sessions
- Changes to room layout
- Include more reflection from the attendees rather than priorities pre determined by TfSE

Q6 Did you feel you were able to actively participate and engage in the sessions?

Response	Number
Yes	12
No	1
Don't know	1

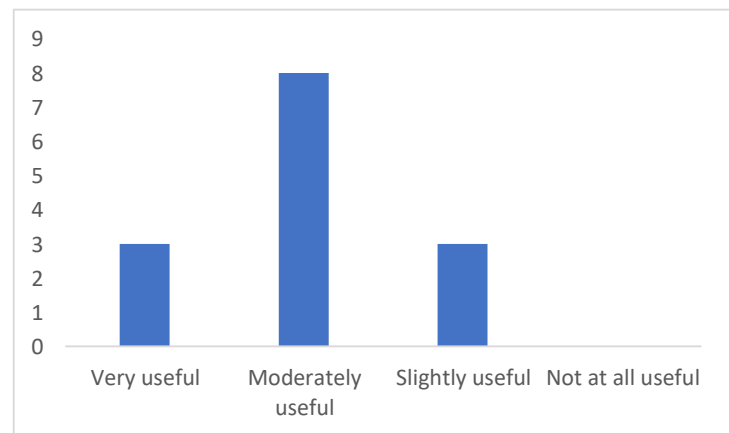


Q7 Those who answered 'No' above were asked what could be done to improve participant engagement

Only two participants responded with individual issues around accessibility and difficulties with group dynamic.

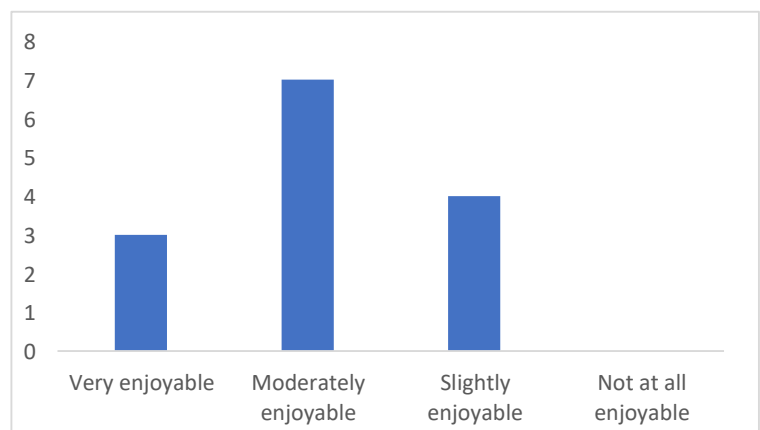
Q8 How useful did you find the first session creating challenge statements for our Transport Strategy Refresh?

Response	Number
Very useful	3
Moderately useful	8
Slightly useful	3
Not at all useful	0



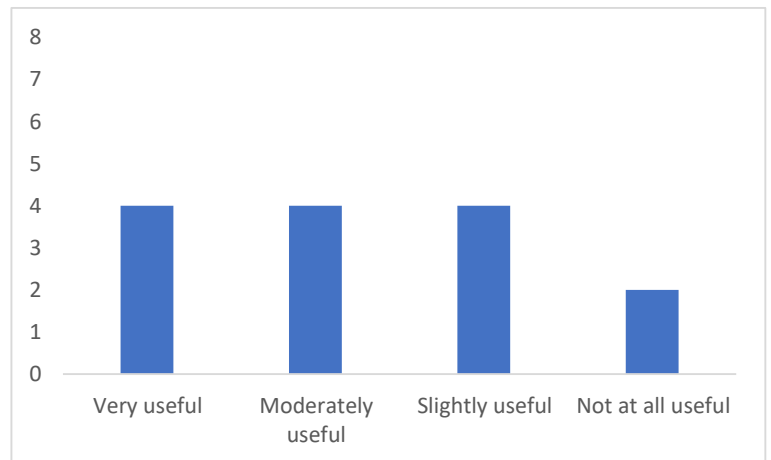
Q9 How enjoyable did you find the first session creating challenge statements for our Transport Strategy Refresh?

Response	Number
Very enjoyable	3
Moderately enjoyable	7
Slightly enjoyable	4
Not at all enjoyable	0



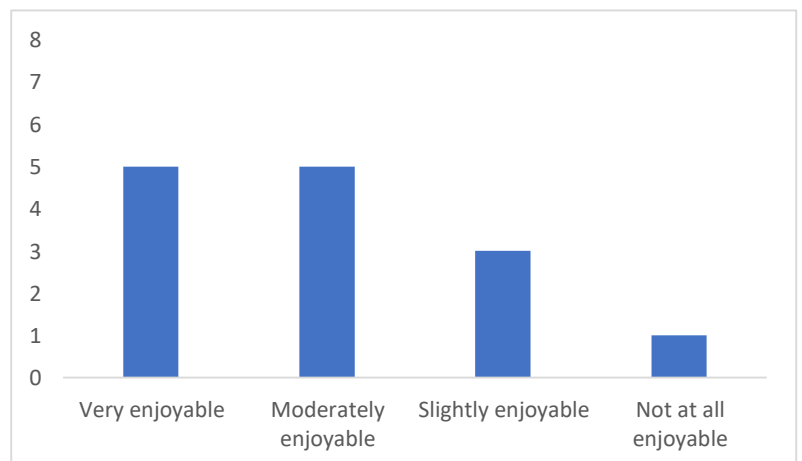
Q10 How useful did you find the second session exploring where to prioritise investment?

Response	Number
Very useful	4
Moderately useful	4
Slightly useful	4
Not at all useful	2



Q11 How enjoyable did you find the second session exploring where to prioritise investment?

Response	Number
Very enjoyable	5
Moderately enjoyable	5
Slightly enjoyable	3
Not at all enjoyable	1



Q12 Are there any topics or areas that you would like to see covered at future forum meetings?

7 respondents answered this question and the suggestions put forward were varied. They are summarised as follows:

- Issues in rural areas
- How to reduce private vehicle use
- Reducing the impact of freight
- Green travel planning
- Resilient networks
- External speakers
- Value for money of investments
- Government funding

Q13 Please tell us which aspects of the Transport Forum you found most valuable

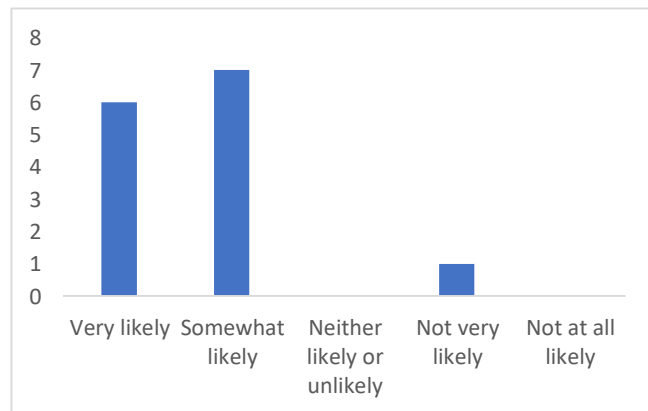
6 respondents made specific reference to the second session, mostly stating it was an interesting way to bring together different opinions and to frame the underlying challenges being faced. 4 respondents identified the networking and face-to-face format as valuable.

Q14 Please tell us which aspects we could improve for future events

3 respondents to this questions identified they would like more opportunity to input or put forward ideas rather than pre-prescribed prompts or over input from the TfSE team. Other views included focussing on different modes, and different pots of funding as well as not over simplifying transport funding. 1 participant also reflected on needing a more diverse range of stakeholders.

Q15 How likely are you to attend or participate in future transport forums based on your experience?

Response	Number
Very likely	6
Somewhat likely	7
Neither likely or unlikely	0
Not very likely	1
Not at all likely	0



Q16 Have you watched our Transport Digital Engagement Question and Answer session?

Response	Number
Yes	5
No	9

Q17 If you answered 'Yes' above, how useful did you find the video?

Response	Number
Very useful	0
Moderately useful	1
Slightly useful	2
Not at all useful	2

Q18 Are there any questions you would like to submit for our next digital event?

1 participant submitted a question which we will take forward for the next digital event.