

Thursday 18 January – Session 6 – 15:00hrs**Tackling the big challenges – working in partnership**

The scale of the economic, ecological and social challenges we face across the country is overwhelming many industries. We cannot solve these challenges alone, but bus and coach operators have always worked in partnership, and will continue to do so for the benefit of our customers. This session will explore some examples where our industry has brought a diverse range of partners together to tackle big challenges, ask how we can apply these lessons elsewhere in our businesses.

**Chair: Paul Sainthouse, Managing Director, DawsonGroup**

Paul is Managing Director of Dawsongroup bus and coach limited, a position that he has held since 2002, is a member of the Dawsongroup plc Advisory Board and has a career in transport spanning almost 40 years. From an operational background in distribution and logistics Paul joined Dawsongroup Truck and Trailer as a management trainee in 1987, was appointed a director in 1997 and held a variety of leadership positions with the company, finally moving permanently into passenger vehicles in 1998. He is a Fellow of the Chartered Institute of Logistics and Transport and a member of the Institute of Directors.

**Darren Roe, Managing Director, Stagecoach East**

Darren is a bus man to the core. After launching into his career as a PSV Engineering Apprentice in Wakefield, Darren has spent time understanding how a bus company can influence and support communities across the UK and works tirelessly to ensure Stagecoach is fit for the future. With over 20 years' experience with Stagecoach Bus, Darren is passionate about developing the right people and structures across his business to deliver vital bus services to local communities. Darren has helped inform and influence transport policy with key stakeholders across County Councils and the UK. In his spare time, Darren enjoys running and is a percussionist with a brass band.



Tom Cunnington, Transport For London

TBC



Matt Clayson, Readybus Group

Matt is a vastly experienced coach and bus executive, having worked in the industry for almost 20 years.

He currently owns one of the biggest SME coach operators in the UK, Readybus Group, providing transport for schools, days out, holidays, sport clubs and adhoc support to business for staff transportation.

Matt began his career in the bus and coach industry after graduating, working in management roles for First Group, before joining Arriva, first as a bus driver, then moving into planning routes and route management.

His experience then took him into the world of airport bus management, which he still operates contacts for today.

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