



## **MEDIA BRIEFING**

**15 DECEMBER 2011 – FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**EDITORIAL NOTE: An official press release on this contract award has also been issued by Nottingham City Council today (15 December). For further information on the Council's release please contact Ioan Reed-Aspley, Communications and Marketing Manager on 0115 876 3383 or 07983 835113**

### **City tram extension contract awarded to Tramlink Nottingham**

Work is set to start in the New Year on the £570 million project to complete a major expansion of Nottingham's tram system.

Nottingham City Council has today (15 December) announced that the high-profile contract to provide two new lines and expand the existing network by 17.5 km has been awarded to the Tramlink Nottingham Consortium.

Comprising three major international companies, two leading equity investment partners and a top flight local bus company, Tramlink will immediately take over the operation of the existing Nottingham Express Transit (NET) Line One which has been open since 2004.

Chairman, Roger Harrison said: "We are delighted to be working with the City Council to help bring to fruition Nottingham's ambitious public transport plans.

"We have put together a world-class partnership and we are confident of being able to create a network which will not only be efficient and effective in terms of meeting the city's transport needs but which will also help to take Nottingham's international status to a new level."

The Consortium includes Alstom, Taylor Woodrow – the civil engineering division of VINCI Construction UK, Keolis and Wellglade (owners of local bus operator Trent Barton) as well as Meridiam Infrastructure and Infravia Fund as financial investors.

After an extensive tender period, Tramlink was selected as preferred bidder in March and since then work has been underway finalising details of the 23-year concession contract.

Mr Harrison explained: “Clearly it has been an extremely thorough process to reach this stage but the real work begins now and we are excited by the challenge. The project will be a major boost to the local economy and we are looking forward to working with the City Council, stakeholders and other agencies to ensure we maximise local job, training and business opportunities.”

When complete, the system will serve 20 of the 30 largest employers in Greater Nottingham and help to create a first class transport interchange at Nottingham Railway Station – itself the subject of a major £67 million redevelopment project. It is planned that passenger services across the whole of the expanded tram network will be fully operational by the end of 2014.

Mr Harrison added: “The construction phase will present significant technical challenges and our partnership with VINCI, means we are more than able to marshal all the resources necessary in order to provide a first class, dependable physical infrastructure.

“Alstom will draw on its expertise in infrastructure and turnkey projects for the construction of the new track, power, signalling and the supply and maintenance of 22 Citadis trams as well as the maintenance of the existing 15 Line One trams.

“Meanwhile in Keolis (UK) and Wellglade, we have partners with proven track records in operating efficient, effective and reliable transport systems.

“The contract is Keolis' first tram project in the UK and reinforces the group's position as the world's largest tram operator.

“We are joined by our two well-established financial equity partners - Meridiam Infrastructure, a leading long term infrastructure fund committed to investing in the project over its life and InfraVia Fund, an infrastructure fund whose main sponsors are mutual insurance companies.”

NET Phase Two is funded by Nottingham City Council, the Government, and through a combination of tram fare revenue and a Private Finance Initiative (PFI) arrangement over the life of the concession. The Government provides approximately 66% of the estimated £570m (net present value) cost (through the PFI) arrangement, and the remaining 34% coming from Nottingham City Council, mainly through the Workplace Parking Levy (WPL). The WPL is a charge on employers based in the city that provide 11 or more car parking places for employees.

## **Ends**

### **Contacts:**

**Roger Harrison can be contacted on 0115 988 6291**

**Alstom Transport UK: Helen Connolly - [Helen.connolly@transport.alstom.com](mailto:Helen.connolly@transport.alstom.com)**

**Tel: 01788 545602 or 07801 776884;**

**Keolis (UK): Marsid Greenidge – [marsid.greenidge@keolis.com](mailto:marsid.greenidge@keolis.com)**

**Tel: 07780 431424;**

**VINCI Construction UK: Melanie Mathews - [Melanie.Mathews@vinciconstruction.co.uk](mailto:Melanie.Mathews@vinciconstruction.co.uk)**

**Tel: 01923 470435;**

**Wellglade: Kevin Belfield – [kbelfield@wellglade.co.uk](mailto:kbelfield@wellglade.co.uk)**

**Tel: 01773 536309.**

## **NOTES TO EDITORS:**

- **NET Phase Two – the route**

### **Clifton**

Line Two is a 7.5km route serving residential areas including the Meadows, Wilford/Ruddington Lane and the Clifton Estate before terminating at a new park and ride site with 1,000 spaces, near the A453 close to junction 24 of the M1.

### **Chilwell/Beeston**

Line Three is a 10km route serving parts of the Meadows, the ng2 site, the Queens Medical Centre, the University of Nottingham, Highfields Science Park, Beeston town centre and Chilwell. It will terminate at a new park and ride site with 1,300 spaces near the A52 close to junction 25 of the M1.

- **NET Line One**

NET Line One opened for service in March 2004 and carries approximately 10 million passengers a year, boasting an excellent consistent customer satisfaction rate of 92%.

The 14.5 km route runs from Hucknall, through Bulwell, Hyson Green and The Forest (site of the annual Goose Fair) and into the city centre, passing the Lace Market and Nottingham Trent University and terminating at Nottingham Railway Station. There is a spur to Phoenix Park, just off the M1 motorway at junction 26. NET Line One has 24 tram stops and over 3,000 car parking spaces at five Park & Ride sites.

- **Tramlink Nottingham**

### **Taylor Woodrow, the Civil Engineering division of VINCI Construction UK Limited**

VINCI Construction UK is part of VINCI, a world leader in concessions and construction.

Taylor Woodrow has particular expertise in station infrastructure. Recent contracts include the upgrade of Docklands Light Railway with the final stages of the redevelopment of King's Cross main line station due to be completed early in 2012, In joint venture with BAM Nuttall, Taylor Woodrow is undertaking two major contracts with London Underground to redevelop Tottenham Court Road and Victoria Stations.

As part of a consortium with VINCI Construction Grands Projets, Taylor Woodrow has been successful in securing the new Whitechapel Station contract and is bidding for the remaining central London station contract at Liverpool Street as part of the Crossrail scheme. Outside the joint

venture, Taylor Woodrow has secured two Crossrail contracts and is tendering for further packages on this major programme of work.

More locally, Taylor Woodrow is undertaking the design, temporary and permanent works associated with the renewal of the Nottingham Hub Station, including refurbishment of the main concourse, resurfacing of platforms, replacement canopies as well as renovation of platform buildings. The Building division of VINCI Construction UK is undertaking work in the education sector as part of the Sheffield Building Schools for the Future programme as well as the construction of student accommodation at Nottingham Trent University Clifton campus.

### **Alstom (Alstom UK Holdings Ltd, Alstom Transport)**

A promoter of sustainable mobility, Alstom Transport develops and offers the most comprehensive range of systems, equipment and services in the rail sector. Alstom Transport manages all aspects of transport systems, including rolling stock, signalling and infrastructure, as well as offering its clients turnkey solutions. In 2010-2011, Alstom Transport posted sales of €5.6 billion. Alstom Transport is present in over 60 countries and employs some 25,500 people.

Alstom Transport's expertise in infrastructure solutions includes the electrification of railway lines, track laying, modernisation of existing lines and electromechanical systems for new railway lines, tramways and metros. Worldwide, Alstom has already electrified more than 10,000 kilometres of railway and has laid more than 2,000 kilometres of track. To date, 1,527 Alstom Citadis have been ordered by nearly 40 cities.

### **Keolis (Keolis (UK) Limited)**

With operations in 12 countries worldwide and 47,200 employees, Keolis is responsible for an extensive range of multi-modal public transport systems handling some 2.2 billion passenger journeys per year. Keolis is a partner in four train operating companies in the UK and is also the world's leading tram operator.

### **Wellglade Limited**

Wellglade owns Trent Barton which is the UK's largest independent bus operator. The award winning company operates a network of routes in Nottinghamshire, Derbyshire and Leicestershire.

### **Meridiam Infrastructure**

Meridiam is a specialized investment management company focused primarily on investing in Public Private Partnership assets within OECD member countries with a strategic focus on Greenfield assets in Europe and North America. Meridiam currently has €2bn under management and a team of 30 investment professionals spread across Paris, New York and Toronto.

### **InfraVia Fund**

InfraVia Fund is an infrastructure investment fund. Its core business involves long term investments on infrastructure and renewable energy assets in partnership with industrial partners across Europe. InfraVia Fund is managed by OFI InfraVia, subsidiary of the OFI Group.