



LEEDS DISTRICT CONSULTATION SUB-COMMITTEE

**MEETING TO BE HELD AT 5.00 PM ON MONDAY 9 OCTOBER 2017
IN COMMITTEE ROOM A, WELLINGTON HOUSE, LEEDS**

A G E N D A

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

2. MINUTES AND FEEDBACK FROM THE MEETING HELD ON 3 APRIL 2017

Copy Attached.

(Pages 1 - 8)

**3. INTRODUCTION TO THE WEST YORKSHIRE COMBINED AUTHORITY AND
THE DISTRICT CONSULTATIONS SUB-COMMITTEES**

This will be a presentation provided by a representative from the West Yorkshire Combined Authority.

4. INFORMATION REPORT

To consider the attached report.

(Pages 9 - 22)

5. OPEN FORUM

This will provide the opportunity for questions to be raised from the floor with a focus on matters of wider interest.

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**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE
LEEDS DISTRICT CONSULTATION SUB-COMMITTEE
HELD ON MONDAY 3 APRIL 2017 AT WELLINGTON HOUSE, LEEDS**

PRESENT: Michael Lyons (Chair)

**WYCA TRANSPORT
COMMITTEE**

Councillor Christine Towler

LEEDS COUNCIL

Councillor Colin Campbell

Councillor Paul Wadsworth

PUBLIC REPRESENTATIVES

David Brady

Paul Chadwick

David Hope

Catherine Keighley

Hazel Lee

Alan Oldroyd

Judith Rhodes

Eric Smith

Ann Stocks

Charles Stones

Bill Tymms

Peter Wood

ALSO IN ATTENDANCE

Kim Purcell

Paul Matthews

Will Pearson

Gwyn Owen

Pete Myers

Graham

Meiklejohn

Dave Pearson

Neale Wallace

Khaled Berroum

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Arriva

First

First

Leeds Council

Northern

TransPennine

Express

WYCA

WYCA

WYCA

38. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Councillor Neil Buckley, Councillor Keith Wakefield and Peter Taylor, Arriva.

39. MINUTES

RESOLVED - That the minutes of the meeting held on 16 January 2017 be noted.

40. QUESTION AND ANSWER SESSION

Members were invited to raise questions with a focus on matters of wider interest and a time limited question and answer session was held. The following issues were raised:

Text Replies

Members raised the issue of text replies for bus times taking too long, sometimes being several hours late. The committee heard that the text system should be instant and the problem will be looked at.

Cost of minor service changes

Members reported that many of the service changes in the Leeds area are minor tweaks which nonetheless cost thousands of pounds to change. Members asked if bus companies contribute financially. The committee was informed that costs are shared with bus companies.

Online timetables

Members asked if it was possible to put issue dates/numbers on website timetables so customers can see how current they are. The committee was told that this could be considered.

No. 5 Bus Service

Members asked when the currently diverted no 5 bus service would resume to normal route. The committee was informed that it was not possible to resume the normal route at the moment.

Evening and Night Services

Members drew attention to a Yorkshire Evening Post article highlighting the lack of evening and night bus services in Leeds when compared to other cities. The committee heard that some additional late evening services had been provided recently and the Combined Authority was conscious for demand for later services. Night services had been trialled in the past but there were issues with low take-up. Under these circumstances, funding night services with public money is questionable.

Timing Points

Members reported that it was difficult to know where timing points are. On the Arriva Dewsbury service, one timing point is defined as 'Beeston' or 'Beeston Hill' but there are 6 stops that could apply to. Members asked that timing points be made more specific to the stop. The committee heard that this would be considered.

Wheelchair provision on buses

Members requested information on what changes were being made in light of the Supreme Court ruling on wheelchair provision on buses. The committee heard that drivers were being briefed and trained accordingly.

Disability Services

Members asked what was currently planned for to improve services for disabled people. The committee heard that the Bus Services Bill had a requirement for audio and visual services on buses and that details of how this would be implemented were awaited.

Arriva App Issue

Members raised an issue with the Arriva app not working correctly. The committee was informed that Arriva are aware of the issue and the technical team are working to resolve it.

41. FEEDBACK REPORT

The Committee considered a report advising members of the feedback received at the meeting held on 11 January 2017 and to report the action taken.

At the last meeting members were consulted on Bus 18 and the future of the District Consultation Sub-Committees. The key points raised were outlined in the submitted report.

Bus 18

It was reported that the Bus 18 initiative was formally launched on Friday 24 March 2017 in Bradford. The initiative includes the introduction of the ECOStars scheme, which allocates a start rating for each bus depending on its environmental credentials. The aim of the ECOStars scheme is to help reduce fuel consumption and harmful emissions on commercial vehicle fleets.

The initiative also allows passengers who are not entirely happy with their journey to claim a free travel voucher from First West Yorkshire, Arriva Yorkshire or Transdev and claim the cost of a taxi if their last bus doesn't arrive within 20 minutes of the scheduled time.

Members were concerned that not enough people will know about the taxi reimbursement scheme and the committee was informed that publicity for the scheme was due to being shortly.

Members raised concerns about the X84 bus service and asked why people in Otley and Ilkley affected by the changes were not being adequately consulted in the current consultation undertaken by First. Representatives from First acknowledged

the issues with the service and apologised if the consultation failed to capture everyone's voices. They offered to speak to anyone concerned about the X84 service after the meeting.

Members asked if there were any plans for more 10 minute services and were told that this was not currently being looked at.

Some members asked that complaints numbers should be better advertised on bus company websites and were told that this would be considered.

Future of District Consultation Sub-Committees

Members were advised that the meeting was the last in the current meeting cycle and that WYCA are planning to expand the representation to include a wider range of interested parties and groups during the next recruitment phase. The meetings will also involve an open forum session where members of the public can raise issues from the floor.

Members raised concerns about the time and venue of meetings as not everyone can make the 11am time. The committee heard that times and venues would be kept under review, but the current plan was to stick to the current time and a city centre location as it seems to be convenient to most people.

RESOLVED - That the report be noted.

42. INFORMATION REPORT

Bus Services Bill

It was reported that the Bus Services Bill is continuing through the parliamentary process and that the Second Reading took place in the House of Commons in early March 2017. The second reading is an opportunity for MPs to talk about the principles of the legislation, and is a key opportunity to demonstrate that there is support for the Bill.

West Yorkshire Low Emissions Strategy

Members were advised that the West Yorkshire Low Emission Strategy (WYLES) was formally adopted by WYCA at the Transport Committee meeting that took place on Friday 24 February 2017. The strategy was jointly developed with the five West Yorkshire District Councils and Public Health England with the aim to reduce the harmful emissions from transport and other sources that impact on health and the environment.

Journey Planner

It was reported that a new customer journey planner was launched on 2 March which has a range of features designed to help customers plan their public transport journeys in West Yorkshire.

Supreme Court Ruling

It was reported that the Supreme Court's decision found that bus operators are under obligation to apply 'pressure' to non-wheelchair users to vacate the designated wheelchair space. Local bus operators are currently ensuring that their policies, procedures and guidance to their staff reflect the Supreme Court ruling.

Bus Station Development

Members wondered why the St Peter's Street Exit improvement was not included in the past bus station development. The committee heard that the project was only considered after the increase in traffic congestion after the Victoria Gate car park had opened.

Bus Stop Displays

Members were advised that following a review of how information is presented on bus stop displays, a redesign process had taken place and that the modifications will be rolled out in the September 2017 service change.

43. CONSULTATION REPORT

Bus Strategy

It was reported that following the public consultation that took place between July and October 2016, over 3300 responses were received on the draft Bus Strategy for West Yorkshire. An independent analysis of the responses has been completed and is available in a report on the WYCA website (www.westyorks-ca.gov.uk/ytys).

The presentation also gave an overview of consultation responses, proposals for amendments to the strategy and the next steps

Members commented that bus driver morale could be better improved with longer or more frequent breaks to alleviate the pressures of quick turnovers and traffic stress.

Rail Franchise

The Committee was given a short presentation which provided an overview of TransPennine Express franchise which started in April 2016. A video was also shown which can be found on YouTube (https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=6XQf7_Z1fMQ)

Members asked if there were any plans to increase the number of passenger seats and were informed that the plan was to operate 5 carriage trains.

Members enquired as to whether there were more stops planned on the routes. The committee heard that no additional stops were planned.

Members asked about staffing and were told that TransPennine plans on ending the franchise with more staff who are currently being recruited and trained.

Members asked about catering plans for the routes. The committee heard that the aim was to include catering on every train and only use locally sourced Northern food.

Members asked if new trains and refurbishments would be built in Britain. The committee was informed that some trains will be built in County Durham with the remaining to be built in Spain.

Members asked about disabled access and were told that disabled access is a priority.

Members enquired as to whether there were any plans to reduce ticket prices between Manchester and Leeds. The committee heard that TransPennine are very aware that fares must be affordable and had numerous plans for discounted ticket schemes to help reduce costs.

Members were thanked for their comments and suggestions and were asked to forward any further comments on the questionnaire provided at the meeting or by email to: erica.ward@westyorks-ca.gov.uk.

RESOLVED - That members' feedback be noted.

FEEDBACK FROM THE MEETING ON 3 APRIL 2017

Appendix to advise members of the feedback received at the last meeting of the Committee and to report actions taken.

Text Replies

Members raised the issue of text replies for bus times taking too long, sometimes being several hours late. The Committee heard that the text system should be instant and the problem will be looked at.

The large majority of texts are returned within 30 seconds. Delays in texts are usually a result of problems with the mobile network. Problems with delayed texts can be reported by emailing the details to yournextbus@westyorks-ca.gov.uk.

Online Timetables

Members asked if it was possible to put issue dates/numbers on website timetables so customers can see how current they are.

Online timetables and PDFs show the date that the timetable is valid from.

Bus 18 Journey Pledge

Members were concerned that not enough people will know about the taxi reimbursement scheme and the Committee was informed that publicity for the scheme was due to begin shortly. Some members asked that complaints numbers should be better advertised on bus company websites and were told that this would be considered.

Contact details for complaints to bus companies are available on the wymetro web site: www.wymetro.com/bustravel/localbusoperators/ Contact details are also available on most bus operator web sites, usually in the 'contact us' section.

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Director: Dave Pearson, Director of Transport Services



Report to: Leeds District Consultation Sub-Committee

Date: 9 October 2017

Subject: Information Report

1 Purpose

1.1 Matters of information relating to the Leeds District.

2 Information

Introduction to West Yorkshire Combined Authority

2.1 The West Yorkshire Combined Authority (WYCA) is the statutory transport authority for Bradford, Calderdale, Kirklees, Leeds and Wakefield. WYCA combines its transport function with a wider economic development role working with the business sector through the Leeds City Region Enterprise Partnership (LEP). WYCA is a governing board of nine political leaders, plus the chair of the LEP. The Chair of WYCA is Cllr Hinchcliffe, Leader of Bradford Council. It is supported by an officer organisation that undertakes their Boards' policies and actions led by Ben Still, Managing Director.

2.2 In the transport field, WYCA works very closely with the District Councils who are the statutory highway authorities for their respective areas. WYCA has specific responsibilities with regard to bus services, concessionary travel and public transport information across all of West Yorkshire and provides day-to-day services under the Metro brand name such as bus stations and travel centres, the Metroline call centre, the Metro websites and the yournextbus real-time service. It works closely with bus and rail operators together with Government and national agencies including Highways England and Network Rail. WYCA manages a number of public funds aimed at investing in the transport infrastructure, most notably the £1bn West Yorkshire plus Transport Fund aimed at reducing congestion, improving the flow of freight and making it easier for people to commute to and from expected major growth areas.

2.3 Transport for the North is being established as a regional transport body developing and implementing a co-ordinated strategy for investment in transport across the North. Rail North is the rail franchising function within Transport for the North. WYCA is represented by elected members on the governing boards of Transport for the North and Rail North.

Bus Services Act

2.4 The Bus Services Act received Royal Assent in April 2017. It enables Mayoral Combined Authorities to adopt powers to award franchises for the operation of

buses in their area. Franchising enables a Combined Authority to specify how bus services are delivered, and would make it responsible for the financial performance of the bus service including the setting of fares. As WYCA is not a mayoral authority, the Secretary of State would need to issue regulations to enable franchising in West Yorkshire. The Act also sets out a number of options for formal partnerships between Transport Authorities and bus operators; these powers are available to WYCA. Draft regulations and secondary legislation have been issued by government for consultation, and WYCA is making input into the consultation. Firm decisions regarding the use of these new powers will be taken by WYCA when these regulations are in place.

- 2.5 WYCA adopted a Bus Strategy earlier in 2017 following extensive consultation during 2016, including the involvement of this Committee. This sets out what is required from the bus service to deliver inclusive growth across our region. WYCA will determine the most appropriate way of using the new powers in the Bus Services Act to deliver its Bus Strategy.

Leeds Public Transport Investment Programme

- 2.6 Leeds City Council and WYCA have approved a £270.5m package of improvements to public transport in the Leeds District. The package includes £173.5m of government funding previously identified for the NGT trolleybus project, together with investment in new vehicles by bus operators. Planned improvements include:

Transformation of the bus network

- A high frequency bus network across the city, with enhanced frequencies in the early evening
- A fleet of new buses, offering enhanced comfort, free Wi-Fi, audio visual information systems and device charging facilities. All buses travelling through the city centre will meet the latest ultra-low emissions standards by 2020
- New bus park & ride facilities to the north and south of the city and a further expansion at Elland Road
- Investment to reduce bus journey times and improve bus service reliability in a number of key corridors including:
 - A61/A639 South
 - A61 North
 - A660
 - A58 North East
 - A647
- Real time passenger information displays at bus stops in communities throughout Leeds together with up to the minute travel information on mobile devices and new ways to pay for travel
- Improvements to transport interchanges in local centres

- Funds available for community led transport projects

Rail stations at key economic growth, housing and employment locations

- A parkway station serving Leeds Bradford Airport providing a rail link for airport passengers, supporting employment growth surrounding the airport and providing strategic park & ride for the city and surrounding districts
- A new station at Millshaw to improve connectivity to the employment area around the White Rose retail centre
- A new station at Thorpe Park, linked to employment and housing growth areas with a park & ride facility
- Access improvements at Cross Gates, Morley and Horsforth rail stations so all users can access all platforms
- Car park expansion at New Pudsey

A world class city centre gateway, being HS2 ready and high quality transport hubs

2.7 Key public transport arrival points in Leeds should link to Leeds Station, enhance the public realm and improve the customer experience. Simplifying the road layouts to reduce congestion, upgrading the pedestrian environment, improving signage and legibility and redesigning stop infrastructure is proposed at the following key gateway locations:

- The Headrow
- Infirmary Street / Park Row
- Vicar Lane (Corn Exchange) / Boar Lane / Lower Briggate

2.8 In the coming years, as delivery of this project proceeds, work will continue on longer term enhancements including the Yorkshire Hub HS2 rail interchange and the role of mass transit in the City.

2.9 Details of the programme and further public involvement in the plans will be available to residents attending Leeds City Council Community Committees in November/ December.

Bus Service Changes

2.10 In line with the current financial position for local authorities, West Yorkshire Combined Authority (WYCA) set a budget for supported bus services in 2017/18 which was reduced from the previous year, necessitating a reduction in services. To facilitate this, the WYCA Transport Committee approved a set of actions at its meeting in July which will result changes to the bus network which will take effect from the weekend of the 22nd and 23rd October. These changes will involve withdrawal of journeys which currently carry small numbers of passengers and fall below the subsidy per passenger criteria set by WYCA. Whilst some communities may experience a loss or reduction in evening and weekend services, no community will lose access to a bus service during the daytime Monday to Friday.

2.11 As well as changes to supported services, there are a number of changes to commercial services on 22nd October. Of note are:

- Service 9 will be revised to operate between Pudsey and the White Rose only on an increased half hourly frequency. The section between the White Rose and Seacroft will be operated by Square Peg on a revised timetable.
- First are extending Service 19A beyond Tinshill to Yeadon via Horsforth and Rawdon
- Transdev are increasing the frequency of service 36 to every 10 minutes daytimes.
- Stagecoach are introducing a new hourly X10 express bus service between Leeds and Barnsley
- There will be a number of service changes in the Otley area. Services 962/963/964 will have minor timetable tweaks to improve punctuality and reliability, and due to access issues service 967 will no longer serve West Chevin Lane.
- Service 965 will now be operated by both Keighley and District and Connexions Buses rather than First.
- First will also be rerouting one X84 journey per hour (Monday – Saturday daytime) via Pool (re-numbering it X85). This will provide residents of Pool with a direct service to Leeds.

2.12 Details of all October services changes are available on the web site: www.wymetro.com

Christmas Bus Services

2.13 Bus Operators will adopt the usual operational pattern over the Christmas period;

Date	Service Pattern
Sunday 24th December - Christmas Eve	Sunday service until 6pm
Monday 25th December - Christmas Day	No service
Tuesday 26th December - Boxing Day	Service 757 plus Boxing Day services
Wednesday 27th - Friday 29th December	Saturday service
Saturday 30th December	Saturday service
Sunday 31st December - New Year's Eve	Sunday service until 6pm
Monday 1st January - New Year's Day	No service except limited 757 service
Tuesday 2nd January	Normal service resume

- 2.14 A limited number of bus services will be operating on Boxing Day. This will be broadly similar to 2016, which was hugely successful with over 65,000 passenger journeys made. Details of services will be available from late November/ early December.

Park and Ride

- 2.15 Both Elland Road and Temple Green Park and Rides are performing well. Elland Road is at capacity (800 cars) with the over flow car park (200 cars) being used on occasions. The hours of operation have also been extended and Sunday operation introduced. Temple Green is already averaging around 450 cars per day on weekdays having been only launched in June. Additional capacity is planned at Elland Road.
- 2.16 A new Park and Ride at is planned at Stourton, and is expected to open in winter 2019, catering for trips south-east of the city with access via Junction 7 of M621, A61 and A639. The park and ride bus service will provide a transport link along A61 Low Road / Hunslet Road, past the education quarter, through the Leeds South Bank when travelling between the City Centre and Stourton P&R. Further information is available at: www.wymetro.com/stourton

New CCTV contracts

- 2.17 WYCA has let a new contract to manage and replace all its CCTV installations across West Yorkshire. The new system will be digital and fibre (rather than analogue) and will provide higher quality live camera feeds and improved evidence gathering facilities. The system will also allow WYCA to provide WIFI for customers in the bus stations.

Leeds City Bus Station Exit Works

- 2.18 Highway improvement works have been undertaken along St Peter Street and to the existing bus station exit. The completed works provide improved exit arrangements for buses, better journey times for passengers and an improved controlled pedestrian crossing and route to the bus station and city centre. Improved access arrangements is also provided for coaches using the coach station.

Timetable Displays

- 2.19 Bus 18 is a programme of short term initiatives being developed jointly by WYCA and the bus operators to benefit bus passengers. As part of Bus 18, and following feedback from customers, WYCA has changed the layout of timetable displays at bus stops and shelters. The new displays include clearer information, bus operator branding and, on larger displays, schematic maps.

Real Time Information

- 2.20 The current Yorkshire-wide "YourNextBus" real-time system has been in operation since October 2005. The original contract for the operation and development of the system was for a ten year period. Following a procurement process, two new

suppliers will now deliver different aspects of the on-going system, including the introduction of a new back-office system and the upgrade of real time information screens.

- 2.21 There are currently 1050 real time information screens across West Yorkshire, of which 310 are the larger LED displays and 740 are the smaller displays.
- 2.22 The screen upgrade project will replace the 740 smaller units with clearer 4-line LED screens, improving the visibility and accessibility of the displays. All screens will be fitted with the 'REACT talking sign' system which uses Bluetooth or a fob system to activate audio announcements of the real time information displayed in the screen. The upgrade and installation of the new screens is planned to start later this year.

Senior Travel Passes

- 2.23 Under the English National Concessionary Transport Scheme Senior Pass-holders can enjoy free, off-peak bus travel throughout England as well as half-fare, off-peak train travel in West Yorkshire. Senior Passes are available to all those of pensionable age and there are currently over 355,000 passes being used in West Yorkshire.
- 2.24 Over the next few months, 300,000 Senior Passes across West Yorkshire will come up for renewal. To make it easier for people to order new Passes or renew their existing ones, West Yorkshire Combined Authority has introduced online applications. Online Pass renewals can be carried out up to three months before the expiry date. People can still apply for Senior Passes at Bus Station Travel Centres and can renew existing ones up to one month before their current Pass's expiry date.

MCard

- 2.25 MCard ticket machines were launched at Leeds, Bradford, Huddersfield, Pontefract and Castleford bus stations in April. The machines enable smartcard MCard users to purchase a range of MCard tickets such as weekly and monthly tickets whenever the bus station is open, including evenings and Sundays when Travel Centres are closed. Further ticket machines are planned for Dewsbury, Keighley, Halifax and Wakefield bus stations with an additional one at Bradford Interchange.
- 2.26 A MCard app has been launched for android phones. The app is available on the Google play store and enables MCard users to buy, and then load tickets direct to their MCard from their android phone. Further information on MCard is available at: www.m-card.co.uk

Transport for the North Integrated and Smart Travel

- 2.27 Transport for the North (TfN) is working in partnership with operators, transport authorities and the Department for Transport to deliver a scheme that will make it easier for passengers to travel seamlessly using their preferred payment method, confident that they have paid the cheapest possible on the day fare for their journey. TfN plans to set up a scheme whereby customers use contactless cards and devices

each time they travel and will be charged the cheapest price for the combination of journeys they make in the day. The programme is in three phases; enabling smart ticketing on rail, improving information about the cost of travel and creating an account based ticketing scheme using contactless devices.

- 2.28 In West Yorkshire, MCard is the most extensive smart travel scheme in the North. The MCard team will be working closely with TfN and with bus operators to advance smart ticketing. During 2018, it is anticipated that most major bus operators will enable their ticket machines to accept payment using contactless bank cards. This will be a major step towards the TfN vision for smart travel.

HS2

- 2.29 In July 2017 the Department for Transport reaffirmed its support for HS2 Phase 2b and confirmed the preferred route for the full Y network – the Eastern Leg to Leeds and the Western Leg to Manchester. This enables preparations for the third HS2 hybrid Bill, which is intended to go to Parliament in autumn 2019 and will enable construction to commence in 2023 with train services to Leeds and Manchester commencing in 2033.

Northern Powerhouse Rail (NPR)

- 2.30 Northern Powerhouse Rail (NPR) is a new east-west rail link being developed by Transport for the North (TfN). NPR is designed to transform the northern economy and meet the needs of people and business through improved connectivity between the key economic centres of the North. The programme promises radical changes in service patterns, and target journey times.
- 2.31 NPR work is currently focused on “HS2 touchpoints”, which aims to ensure that the design of HS2 makes provision for the physical infrastructure necessary for NPR to use sections of the HS2 route where appropriate.
- 2.32 The next phase of NPR work will focus on the overall NPR network, with a preferred network “shape” expected to emerge in around February 2018.

Leeds Integrated Masterplan (LISM)

- 2.33 A multi-agency team incorporating HS2 Ltd, London Continental Railways, Leeds City Council, WYCA and DfT have been jointly overseeing initial development work to create a ‘blueprint’ for the redevelopment of Leeds rail station into the ‘Yorkshire hub’. The blueprint aims to guide all improvements in the short, medium and longer term. This includes how to incorporate high speed rail services from HS2 and the proposed Northern Powerhouse Rail together with national, regional and local transport services in a user-friendly single hub station promoting all forms of connectivity within the city region.

TransPennine Route Upgrade

- 2.34 The Trans-Pennine Route Upgrade (TRU) is a Department for Transport project being developed by the rail industry and led by Network Rail. It is part of the 'Great North Rail Project' and aims deliver faster, longer, more frequent and more reliable services across the north of England.
- 2.35 Network Rail is currently working on the development of potential infrastructure options for the TransPennine Route Upgrade and will submit these options to the Department for Transport (DfT) for consideration in December 2017, for a decision in spring 2018.

East Midlands Rail Franchise

- 2.36 The East Midlands (EM) rail franchise is currently operated by East Midlands Trains (EMT), a subsidiary of the Stagecoach Group. It provides intercity services along the Midland Mainline out of London St Pancras, plus regional services in the East Midlands.
- 2.37 The current East Midlands franchise ends in 2019, and will be re-let with the new operator to take charge from August 2019. The DfT ran a consultation from 20 July 2017 to 11 October 2017 seeking views on priorities for the next East Midlands franchise. WYCA has responded to the consultation.

May 2018 Northern and TransPennine Timetable

- 2.38 The first significant timetable change for the Northern (NT) and Trans-Pennine Express (TP) franchises is to be introduced in May 2018. Most of the May 2018 changes were delayed from December 2017 as a result of delays to Network Rail works (especially electrification) elsewhere leading to a nationwide shortage of suitable diesel trains to run the extra services.

Calder Valley Line

- 2.39 The Calder Valley line is a two-track railway line running from Manchester Victoria to Leeds, connecting Preston, Blackburn, Accrington and Burnley with Halifax, Bradford and Leeds via Hebden Bridge. Over the coming years a series of improvements will be delivered on the Calder Valley line to reduce journey times and improve connectivity and commuter travel services between the key towns and cities. Improvements include upgrades to the tracks and signalling system of the line and the new station at Low Moor, which opened in April 2017.

Kirkstall Forge and Apperley Bridge Rail Stations

- 2.40 Monitoring and evaluation work is being carried out to assess the performance of Kirkstall Forge and Apperley Bridge rail stations. The work includes household surveys to determine if commuters have changed their travel behaviour and rail

platform surveys to gather information on reasons for travel, and how the journey was made prior to the stations opening.

Northern Stations Improvement Fund

2.41 Within the Northern Franchise there is a Stations Improvement Fund of £38m. The majority of money is aimed at middle and smaller sized stations and is focussed on bringing facilities and standards up to a consistent level, looking at areas such as seating, information, lighting and security. Station investment will also include additional ticket machines and improved accessibility. The project is progressing well with 36 stations due to be completed by the end of 2017 as part of phase one, with the remainder phased for implementation up until March 2020. The following stations in the Leeds district are included in the programme:

Phase 1

- Bramley
- Micklefield

Phase 2

- Burley Park
- Cottingley
- Cross Gates
- East Garforth
- Garforth
- Guiseley
- Headingley
- Horsforth
- Morley
- Woodlesford

Rail Station Car Park Expansions

2.42 Work has started on a £32m programme of car park extensions at a number of rail stations throughout West Yorkshire, using land owned by Network Rail or local authorities. Increased car parking capacity will enhance accessibility to the rail network and support sustainable employment growth in the main urban centres. The car parks will provide: additional standard and blue badge parking bays, CCTV, lighting, drainage and future proofing for Electric Vehicle (EV) charging points.

2.43 Stations included in the programme are as follows:

- South Elmsall – completed
- Fitzwilliam - construction has started

2.44 Work should start on the following stations within the next 12-18 months, subject to approvals:

- Hebden Bridge
- Normanton
- Mirfield
- Mytholmroyd
- Shipley
- Steeton & Silsden
- Apperley Bridge

2.45 The following stations are at initial feasibility stage:

- Ben Rhydding
- Guiseley
- Morley
- Moorthorpe
- Outwood

New and Refurbished Trains

2.46 Northern recently launched their tenth refurbished train as part of an ongoing refurbishment programme. Refurbished trains have a new interior including new floor coverings, repainted carriages and new seating; they are fully accessible and have free Wi-Fi. New LED lighting has also been fitted, and refurbished toilets include improved baby changing facilities.

2.47 TransPennine Express (TPE) have also launched a phased refurbishment programme, with two newly refurbished 185 trains now operating on the network, with further refurbished trains to be added to the network on average every ten days. The upgrades include new seats throughout, leather seats in first class, standard plug and USB sockets at every pair of seats in standard and first class, as well as bigger tables to allow more space for laptops and other devices. Free high speed Wi-Fi will also be available.

2.48 Between 2018 and 2020, TPE will introduce three new train fleets, comprising of 13 five carriage Mark 5A coaches and 12 five carriage Class 397 'Civity' electric trains, and 19 five carriage Class 802 bi-mode trains. Each train will feature comfortable seating, free Wi-Fi, plug sockets at every pair of seats, real-time travel information and an on-board media server, allowing the streaming of the latest TV shows and films. The first of the Mark 5A five carriage trains will enter service in around nine months' time, enabling existing class 185 trains to be increased from three to six carriages incrementally.

DfT Accessibility Action Plan

- 2.49 The Department for Transport is seeking feedback on a draft accessibility action plan which sets out proposals to improve the travel experience for people with disabilities. The action plan covers a range of transport modes including planes, trains, buses and taxis. The plan also considers ways public spaces could be improved to make them more accessible for people with disabilities.
- 2.50 Consultation on the Accessibility Action Plan closes on 15 November 2017, and a final version of the Accessibility Action Plan will be published in 2018. WYCA will be responding to the consultation.
- 2.51 Individuals and groups who would like to respond to the consultation can find more information online: www.gov.uk/government/consultations/draft-transport-accessibility-action-plan

AccessBus

- 2.52 Grant funding from the Department for Transport is being used to fit the older AccessBus vehicles in Bradford, Leeds and Wakefield with catalytic convertors to bring their emissions down to the equivalent of Euro 6 standards. Later this year the buses will also be refurbished inside and out, with improvements including electronic destination blinds and CCTV.

CityConnect

- 2.53 The second phase of the CityConnect cycle superhighway project in Leeds includes the delivery of works within the City Centre which comprise of extensions of the superhighway routes into the city from the west and east, links to the emerging education quarter in the south of the city and the first sections of a cycle loop around the city at Wellington /Northern Street. It is expected works will commence in late October with completion by the end of 2018.
- 2.54 CityConnect is currently working on the following projects across West Yorkshire which aim to help people get to work, or access employment opportunities and apprenticeships by bike or on foot.
- CityConnect Cycles is a project delivered in partnership with Sustrans and Bike Right!, and is a programme of free adult cycle training available across West Yorkshire, for people in or seeking work.
 - CityConnect is working with businesses across West Yorkshire to help them become Bike Friendly. Fifty businesses have already taken part, with activities including bike maintenance courses and improved bike parking, funded through the Cycling and Walking to Work Fund, a £1.5m grant awarded to WYCA in April 2017.
 - CityConnect Walking, in partnership with Living Streets, aims to promote walking and active travel to employers, job centres and apprentices, as well as working with colleges and higher education providers. The project was launched in

August 2017 with a walk that covered the South Bank regeneration site in Leeds. Further walks across the districts are planned, and a Walk Friendly Work places initiative was launched in September.

- 2.55 City Connect also promoted a number of cycling campaigns during September, with people across the region encouraged to get back on their bikes. The campaign 'Simpler/Speedier than you think' aimed at people who don't currently cycle for work and addressed perceived barriers to cycling. The 'Love to Ride' cycle challenge has also ran throughout September and incentivised employees to cycle more.
- 2.56 Further information is available at: www.cyclecityconnect.co.uk

Road Network Management

- 2.57 Bradford, Calderdale, Kirklees, Leeds and Wakefield Councils have signed a Memorandum of Understanding that will see them increase their partnership working and collaboration on the routes that make up West Yorkshire's Key Route Network. The Key Route Network is made up of more than 410 miles of mainly A-roads in West Yorkshire that are among the most important – and most congested – in the county. Representing just 7% of West Yorkshire's local authority roads, they carry 60% of all vehicles.
- 2.58 The Understanding aims to adopt a consistent, collaborative and strategic approach to improve road network management and performance. This will boost economic growth in the long term and help support the county's low emissions strategy as well as getting travel information to road users as quickly as possible.
- 2.59 Behind this is a Key Network Group, made up of representatives from all five councils and the West Yorkshire Combined Authority, which will develop investment and priorities across the road network. This will include making use of smart technology to more proactively manage traffic; providing improved up-to-date traffic information to road users and making improvements to congestion hotspots.

Clean Air

- 2.60 On 26 July 2017 the Department for Environment, Farming and Rural Affairs (DEFRA) published it's 'UK Plan for Tackling Roadside Nitrogen Dioxide Concentrations' which sets out a series of actions and funding streams to help reduce concentrations of Nitrogen Dioxide (NO_x) from older, polluting vehicles on UK roads. The Plan names 29 local authorities required to take action due to having roads which are forecast to exceed European legal limits for Nitrogen Dioxide (NO_x) emissions by 2020.
- 2.61 Leeds City Council is the only West Yorkshire authority named in the DEFRA Plan and is required to take action due to forecast NO_x exceedances on some of their central roads. DEFRA requires the 29 authorities to develop a local 'Air Quality Plan' by 2018, setting out how they intend to use government and local funding to reduce NO_x levels on their identified roads. Leeds City Council is developing its Action Plan, which

is likely to include measures that impact on older and more polluting vehicles entering the air quality hotspots.

- 2.62 In parallel, the West Yorkshire authorities and WYCA adopted the West Yorkshire Low Emission Strategy in 2017. The strategy supports the Leeds City Region Strategic Economic Plan for delivering 'quality places' and sets recommendations and actions for West Yorkshire local authorities to significantly improve air quality across a range of sectors including transport.

3 Recommendations

- 3.1 That this report is noted.

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