

KIRKLEES DISTRICT CONSULTATION SUB-COMMITTEE

**MEETING TO BE HELD AT 2.00 PM ON WEDNESDAY, 24 MARCH 2021
IN DUE TO COVID-19, THIS MEETING WILL BE HELD REMOTELY AND
WILL BE LIVESTREAMED HERE:**

**[HTTPS://WWW.YOUTUBE.COM/CHANNEL/UCAZJNSGPQZZT41VIBN2
ZK9A/LIVE](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCAZJNSGPQZZT41VIBN2ZK9A/LIVE) (COPY AND PASTE THE LINK IN YOUR BROWSER)**

A G E N D A

- 1. OPEN FORUM**
Open session for members of the public to ask a question, raise a concern or provide feedback.
- 2. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**
- 3. DECLARATION OF DISCLOSABLE PECUNIARY INTERESTS**
Transport Committee members only.
- 4. EXEMPT INFORMATION - POSSIBLE EXCLUSION OF THE PRESS AND PUBLIC**
- 5. MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 21 OCTOBER 2020**
(Pages 1 - 6)
- 6. CHAIRS UPDATE**
- 7. INFORMATION REPORT**
(Pages 7 - 12)
- 8. OPERATOR UPDATES**
- 9. WORKSHOP SESSION - CONNECTIVITY INFRASTRUCTURE PLAN**
(Pages 13 - 14)

Signed:

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'S. Khan', written in a cursive style.

**Director Transport Services
West Yorkshire Combined Authority**



MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE KIRKLEES DISTRICT CONSULTATION SUB-COMMITTEE HELD ON AS A REMOTE MEETING

Present:

Councillor James Homewood (Chair)	Transport Committee
Mark Denton (Deputy Chair)	Public Representative
Councillor Martyn Bolt	Transport Committee
Councillor Manisha Kaushik	Transport Committee
Christopher Jones (Public Representative)	Public Representative
Shaun Jordan (Public Representative)	Public Representative
David Quarmby (Public Representative)	Public Representative
Kelvyn Waites (Public Representative)	Public Representative
Mark Wylie (Public Representative)	Public Representative

In attendance:

Jean Margetts	Marsden Group
Brandon Jones	First Group
Tim Lawrence	Kirklees Council
Chris Burton	First Group
Graham Meiklejohn	Transpennine Express
Pete Myers	Arriva Rail North Limited
Councillor Rob Walker	Kirklees Council
Dwayne Wells	Arriva Yorkshire
Dave Pearson	West Yorkshire Combined Authority
Dominic Martin	West Yorkshire Combined Authority
Janette Woodcock	West Yorkshire Combined Authority
Aaliyah Younis	West Yorkshire Combined Authority

11. Open Forum

The Chair welcomed to the Open Forum representatives from Slaithwaite & Marsden Action for Rail Transport (SMART) who attended to seek assurances that connectivity would be maintained during TRU work and that station accessibility works were within scope.

The representatives from TransPennine Express and Northern responded to say that they had asked the same question to Network Rail and are still waiting for final sign off from the Secretary of State relating to the Kirklees district.

Jean Margetts highlighted ventilation on buses and trains and Operators said they were looking at messaging the importance of ventilation, with drivers actively involved especially in the cold winter months.

No other questions or concerns had been raised from members of the public prior to the meeting.

12. Apologies for absence

Apologies for absence were received from Ann Baldwin, public representative.

13. Declaration of Disclosable Pecuniary Interests

There were no pecuniary interests declared by Members at the meeting.

14. Exempt Information - Possible exclusion of the press and public

There were no pecuniary interests declared by Members at the meeting.

15. Minutes of the meeting held on 23 October 2019

Resolved: That the minutes of the meeting held on 23 October 2020 be approved.

16. Minutes of the joint DCSC meeting held on 17 July 2020.

Subject to Councillor Kaushik being added to the attendance list it was agreed to note the minutes.

Resolved: That the minutes of the meeting held on 17 July 2020 be noted.

17. Chair's Update

The Chair reported that the Information Report had taken into consideration information specific to Kirklees which had been discussed at the last meeting DCSC held on 23 October 2019.

It was noted that the West Yorkshire Combined Authority had been awarded a single payment of £1,086 million revenue funding to support bus services in the region. The pandemic had delayed a number of initiatives intended to utilise this fund but three had been completed.

- A Keighley to Halifax via Denholm service.
- New links between east Leeds and five local towns.
- A Barnsley/Doncaster to southeast Wakefield service.

The rest of this fund had been put in a contingency plan pot with the agreement of the Department of Transport.

18. Information Report

The Sub-Committee noted a report which provided an update on matters relating to the Kirklees district.

The information report included an update on The Huddersfield Better Connected Stations project, being delivered by Kirklees Council through the West Yorkshire Combined Authority's CityConnect programme improving the route between Huddersfield Bus Station and Rail Station, for people to travel by foot, as well as better access around bus stops on Westgate. Work has started on a £1.88 million scheme to make it easier for people to cross Huddersfield town centre by foot, or by bike, which will provide a further boost for West Yorkshire's growing walking and cycling network.

Members felt that more information on live projects, TCF and Transport Fund should be included in the Kirklees update report and Councillor Bolt gave the Cooper Bridge project as an example.

Cllr Bolt also raised concerns about student ticket prices - no discounted day ticket offer for students who attend lectures periodically. This led to a suggestion for cheaper Kirklees only bus only MCard products.

Members Discussed the age of buses in Kirklees and how there is a need to "level up" the bus age profile over the region. Cllr Homewood was keen for another phase of retrofit.

There were concerns about the closure of Dewsbury Travel Centre resulting in travel to Leeds or Huddersfield for Travel passes. It was explained that there is no advantage in going to the Travel Centre and passengers were being encouraged to apply online, or have someone to do it for them,

Resolved: That the information report and Sub-Committee's comments be noted.

19. Operator Updates

The meeting was attended by representatives from the rail and bus operators who provided the Sub-Committee with updates.

Northern

Northern advised that many changes had been made to services in a short period of time, with six timetables introduced since the start of the pandemic as services were gradually reinstated. They had also introduced a new flexible season ticket which would allow people only working for part of the week to take the advantage of a season ticket discount. This was in operation

throughout West Yorkshire and proving popular.

It was noted that during the summer months there had been an upsurge on leisure services to tourist and retail areas, but this had now dropped following the re-opening of schools and colleges in September. Northern thanked the Combined Authority for their help in providing standby buses during the first week of the reopening of schools.

It was reported that compliance with mask guidance had been improving, with well over 90% compliance, particularly since masks had become compulsory in retail premises.

In respect of local lockdowns, Northern advised that they were liaising closely with local authorities to ensure that their communications and messaging were in harmony.

TransPennine

TransPennine informed the Sub-committee they were maintaining a high level of performance and increasing services. There was a low level of customer demand although higher than at the beginning of the pandemic. As with Northern It was noted that during the summer months there had been an upsurge on leisure services to tourist and retail areas, but this had now dropped following the re-opening of schools and colleges in September.

ASLEF Train Drivers Union had re-instated driver training which is an important step as drivers have to be reassessed.

Funding has been secured with Kirklees and West Yorkshire Combined Authority from Transform Cities Fund to enable work to commence on the toilets at Dewsbury Station which should be completed late winter/early spring.

Arriva

Arriva informed the sub-committee it had been a busy two months with many timetable changes, extra journeys and capacity restrictions across Kirklees. Arriva have been working with the Combined Authority to enable bespoke services to ensure students are able to get to schools.

The Sub-Committee was advised that as part of the West Yorkshire Bus Alliance, Arriva was currently in the process of retrofitting exhausts to a Euro 6 emissions standard, and that this programme had been made possible by the Combined Authority's successful bid to the Clean Bus Technology fund.

The 229 Huddersfield to Leeds Buses now have premium software standards so are equipped with access to USB charges and display screens.

The Sub-Committee was informed of the sad news that Phil Carlton, known as Mr Bus, had passed away following a road traffic accident. The last bus driven by Phil, number 1933, has now been renamed to remember Phil and the bus has a name plate Phil (Mr Bus) Carlton.

First

First Group informed the Sub-Committee of the measures they had implemented to prevent the spread of Covid-19 and have been working with the Combined Authority to enable bespoke services to ensure students are able to get to schools.

It was highlighted that First Group had committed to operate as a zero-emissions bus company nationally by 2035 and did not plan to purchase any new diesel buses after 2022.

Resolved: That the operator updates and Sub-Committee's feedback be noted.

20. Workshop - Carbon Reduction Pathways

The Sub-Committee was invited to participate in a workshop on carbon reduction pathways which was one of the significant areas of activity being undertaken by the Combined Authority to tackle the Climate Emergency and provide feedback.

It was reported that a study to identify potential carbon emission reduction pathways and the interventions that need to be implemented if the net zero carbon 2038 target is to be achieved had been undertaken.

It was noted that the current situation relating to COVID 19 had had a significant impact on plans to engage and consult with stakeholders on the findings of this work. However, the planned work and emerging results was now being tested with partners and stakeholders and the Sub-Committee was given the opportunity to contribute to the findings of the pathways work.

The presentation led to a discussion on Active Travel and Cllr Bolt said that canal towpaths are not adequate cycle infrastructure.

There was also an observation that we shouldn't waste time in the beginning looking for the big solutions (eg hydrogen) and we should focus on behavioural change.

Resolved: That the presentation and the Sub-Committee's feedback be noted.

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Report to: Kirklees District Consultation Sub Committee

Date: 24 March 2021

Subject: **Information Report**

Director(s): Dave Pearson, Director of Transport Services

Author(s): Various

1. Purpose of this report

- 1.1 To update the sub-committee on matters of information relating to the Kirklees District.
- 1.2 Updates on regional and national issues are covered in the papers for Transport Committee, the latest set are available on the following link;
[Transport Committee Meeting 12 March 2021](#)
- 1.3 A list of current projects in Kirklees District where there is current activity is provided at Appendix 1

2. Information

Bus Services

- 2.1 In line with government guidance, bus service levels have been constantly adapted throughout this pandemic.
- 2.2 Services are currently temporarily reduced, however bus operators started to reinstate service levels from 8th March. This initially focused on bringing Monday-Friday timetables back to normal levels so that all school journeys can be made. Some weekend services will remain reduced.
- 2.3 There will then be a further ramp up of services from 12 April when non-essential retail opens. This should then bring service levels back to normal.
- 2.4 It is recognised that the impact of COVID will have a longer term effect on patronage levels and therefore there is a risk to the viability of some services when COVID government funding is reduced/withdrawn. The Combined Authority is liaising with the Department for Transport to understand what

funding will be available to help support the recovery of the bus network going forward.

Active Travel - Emergency Active Travel Fund

- 2.5 West Yorkshire Combined Authority and our Partner Councils are working to deliver a wide ranging programme of proposals to create more space for cycling and walking, funded through the Department for Transport's Active Travel Fund.
- 2.6 The Combined Authority received notification in November 2020 that it had been awarded the full amount requested for Active Travel Fund – Tranche 2 schemes from DfT. Our Tranche 2 proposals set out a programme of temporary and permanent infrastructure delivery across West Yorkshire, supported by accompanying behaviour change activities to enable more people to make use of the new infrastructure.
- 2.7 A list of the proposed schemes is available on the Combined authority website: [emergency-active-travel-fund-programmes.pdf \(westyorks-ca.gov.uk\)](#)
- 2.8 A consultation plan has been developed in partnership with the districts and has been published on the Combined Authority website [active-travel-tranche-2-west-yorkshire-consultation-plan.pdf \(westyorks-ca.gov.uk\)](#)
- 2.9 Consultation activity will be undertaken over the next few months and feedback will be considered before construction work commences on a scheme. Details of the consultations will be added to [Your Voice](#).

Major Transport Schemes

- 2.10 The transportation teams within the Major Project Service of Kirklees Council are working on a significant number of transportation plans, programmes and projects concerning active travel, public transport investment, supporting planned growth in the Local Plan, planning for economic growth and recovery, improving air quality, reducing congestion. The total capital value of these schemes currently stands at approximately £200 Million. This excludes the capital investment by DfT/Network Rail into the TransPennine Route Upgrade, the Council's Highways Capital Plan and local investment set out in the Local Transport Plan
- 2.11 Four projects are being delivered this year and ten are scheduled for the next financial year as the full business cases and costs are finalised. Further information can be found here: [Major Transport Schemes Update](#)

3. Recommendations

- 3.1 That the information report be noted.

4. Background Documents

- 4.1 None.

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Kirklees – Current project activity (March 2021)

Project	Scheme Description	Key Information
Urban Traffic Management Control	Integration of five District Urban Traffic Control Centres to a single cloud system Integration of the five traffic management systems.	Started March 2020 Due to complete March 2021 Due to start March 2021 Due to complete March 2022
ULEV Taxi Scheme	88 rapid chargers for electric vehicles across the whole of West Yorkshire	Completion July 2021
Cross Church Street (CityConnect)	Delivery of a cycle route through Cross Church Street and Queen Street in Huddersfield	Currently addressing public feedback. Due on site during 2021
Bradley to Brighouse (CityConnect)	Off highway active travel route linking Bradley and Brighouse	Currently in development. Due on site early 2022.
Huddersfield Narrow Canal Ph2 (CityConnect)	Improvements to the canal towpath between Milnsbridge and Slaithwaite to deliver a better quality active travel route	Consultation completed and supportive. Due on site Autumn 2021
A62 to Cooper Bridge Corridor Improvement Scheme	The primary objectives of this scheme are to relieve traffic footways on the A62 to Cooper Bridge and looking at ways to improve cycling and walking within the area.	Public consultation is due to take place June 2021 regarding the options which will then feed into the OBC.
Dewsbury Bus Station	Comprehensive refurbishment of the bus station building, bus circulatory area, and pedestrian linkages.	Concept designs currently being produced, with a view to consulting on these with the public late spring / early summer and with an OBC due to be submitted in Summer 2021. Anticipated start on site late 2022, anticipated completion late 2023.

Project	Scheme Description	Key Information
Huddersfield Bus Station	Refurbishment of the bus station, apron & approach + new entrance canopy with public realm beneath.	Concept designs currently being produced, with a view to consulting on these with the public late spring / early summer and with an OBC due to be submitted in Summer 2021. Anticipated start on site late 2022, anticipated completion late 2023.
A62 smart corridor	Corridor improvements to reduce congestion, improve reliability as part of the Corridor Improvement Programme	Due to start on site Autumn 21 and complete Autumn/ Winter 22/23
Huddersfield Southern Corridors	Corridor improvements to reduce congestion, improve reliability as part of the Corridor Improvement Programme	Summer 21 complete Summer 23



Report to: Kirklees District Consultation Sub Committee

Date: 24 March 2021

Subject: **Workshop Session – Connectivity Infrastructure Plan**

Director(s): Dave Pearson Director Transport Services

Author(s): Tom Gifford, Policy Manager, Head of Mass Transit

1. Information

- 1.1 The [Connectivity Infrastructure Plan](#) sets out a long-term transport infrastructure investment programme for the next 20 years, providing a picture of where improvements are most needed to enhance people’s quality of life and bring investment to the area.
- 1.2 It is built on detailed evidence on the role different types of transport can play:
- [Mass Transit 2040 Vision](#) - a bold and ambitious plan for a new form of transport for West Yorkshire.
 - [West Yorkshire Strategic Bus Network Review](#) – a review of the region’s core bus network and proposals for increasing the number of people travelling by bus
 - [West Yorkshire Rail Vision](#)– Setting out how better rail services can support our ambitions for the region
 - [Local Cycling and Walking Infrastructure Plans](#) – Proposals to improve infrastructure and remove barriers to people walking and cycling for more journeys
 - [Future Mobility Strategy](#) – a review of how transport technology and innovation can improve lives and reduce carbon emissions
- 1.3 Engagement on the West Yorkshire Connectivity Infrastructure Plan is now underway: www.yourvoice.westyorks-ca.gov.uk/connectivity
- 1.4 A presentation on the Connectivity Infrastructure Plan will be given at the meeting and member’s views will be sought on how we develop these proposals further.

2. **Recommendations**

2.1 That the Sub-Committee's feedback be noted.

3. **Background Documents**

None

4. **Appendices**

None