

WAKEFIELD DISTRICT CONSULTATION SUB- COMMITTEE

**MEETING TO BE HELD AT 2.00 PM ON THURSDAY, 18 MARCH 2021
DUE TO COVID-19, THIS MEETING WILL BE HELD REMOTELY AND
WILL BE LIVESTREAMED HERE:**

**<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCazjNSGpgZZT41Vibn2ZK9A/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. DECLARATIONS 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 15 OCTOBER 2020**
(Pages 1 - 4)
- 6. CHAIR'S UPDATE**
- 7. INFORMATION REPORT**
(Pages 5 - 10)
- 8. OPERATOR UPDATES**
- 9. WORKSHOP SESSION - CONNECTIVITY INFRASTRUCTURE PLAN**
(Pages 11 - 12)

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
WAKEFIELD DISTRICT CONSULTATION SUB-COMMITTEE
HELD ON THURSDAY, 15 OCTOBER 2020 AT 2 PM AS A REMOTE
MEETING**

Present:

Councillor Kevin Swift (Chair)	Transport Committee
Councillor Miss Jo Hepworth	Transport Committee
Usman Ali (Deputy Chair)	Public Representative
Cliff Baker (Public Representative)	Public Representative
Peter Daniels (Public Representative)	Public Representative
David Hogg (Public Representative)	Public Representative
David Young (Public Representative)	Public Representative

In attendance:

Pete Myers	Arriva Rail North Limited
Richard Isaac	Arriva Rail North Limited
Kim Purcell	Arriva Yorkshire
Dwayne Wells	Arriva Yorkshire
Helen Ellerton	West Yorkshire Combined Authority
Ruth Chaplin	West Yorkshire Combined Authority
Dominic Martin	West Yorkshire Combined Authority

11. Open Forum

There were no issues raised at the meeting which were not covered on the agenda.

12. Apologies for absence

Apologies for absence were received from John Churms, public representative.

13. Declarations 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 items which required the exemption of the press or public.

15. Minutes of the meeting held on 17 October 2019

Further to minute 4, Baghill Station, Pontefract, Northern Rail would provide the Sub-Committee with feedback in respect of the comments made regarding the need to upgrade the station and the level of service.

Resolved: That the minutes of the meeting held on 17 October 2019 be approved.

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

Further to minute 2, the Sub-Committee discussed the provision of toilets at Kirkgate Rail Station and also the lack of shelter for passengers on platforms 2 and 3. Northern Rail advised that both projects were being led by Grand Central and had not yet been progressed as many of their staff had been furloughed during the pandemic. However Northern Rail would seek an update and also investigate the possibility of providing some temporary shelter for the platforms.

Resolved: That the minutes of the joint meeting of the District Consultation Sub-Committees be noted.

17. Chair's Update

The Chair highlighted the concerns regarding the fragility and uncertainty of the Government continuing to fund the provision of bus services during the pandemic.

It was reported that Government had announced the continuation of the COVID-19 Bus Services Subsidy Grant (CBSSG) but this would be on a rolling eight week basis. Transport arrangements had been made to support the return to school/college which had needed approximately 60 additional buses and the Department for Education had awarded £1.9 million to the Combined Authority to meet the cost of the additional school transport provision over the first half term.

It was reported that the Combined Authority and bus operators were discussing proposals for an enhanced partnership which would be of benefit for all.

18. Information Report

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

It was noted that the Transport Committee receive updates on regional and national issues and the latest information provided was available on the Combined Authority's website.

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 since the start of the pandemic there have been 6 timetables which have been introduced as services are gradually being reinstated and passenger numbers increase. They had also introduced a new flexible season ticket. It was noted that during the summer months there had been an upsurge in patronage on leisure services to tourist and retail areas but this had now dropped following the reopening of schools and colleges in September.

It was reported that compliance with the wearing of face masks was generally good and had improved when it had been made compulsory to wear them in shops. Comment was made there had been concerns about social distancing on the Barnsley service, particularly at peak times, but it was hoped that the introduction of an additional service would help to alleviate this.

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.

The Sub-Committee was advised that the proposed plans to introduce a direct route from Wakefield to Bradford were still being considered. However if this were to go ahead, it would not be until after the work on Platform 0 at Leeds Station has been completed as there was no available pathway through the station at the present time.

Arriva

It was reported that due to the pandemic, additional capacity had been arranged for the school network and funding had been awarded by the Department for Education to support the return to school/college in September.

The Sub-Committee discussed the social distancing arrangements at Wakefield Bus Station. Arriva advised of the safety measures which had been introduced at all their bus stations which also included Wakefield.

Resolved: That the operators be thanked for their updates.

20. Workshop Session - Carbon Reduction Pathways

The Sub-Committee was given a presentation on West Yorkshire carbon emission reduction pathways which was one of the significant areas of activity being undertaken by the Combined Authority to tackle the climate emergency.

It was reported that the Combined Authority had commissioned 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.

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 discussed the key messages resulting from the pathways work. The following comments and observations were made:

- Essential that young people are made aware of the challenges and the role they have to play in forward thinking.
- It was considered that the recent announcement by Leeds City Council regarding abandoning their clean air zone project could send the wrong message to the public.
- Need to recognise that the increase in people working from home is due to the pandemic and not because of the climate emergency and reducing carbon emissions.

A copy of the presentation would be circulated and the Sub-Committee was thanked for their feedback. They were asked to forward any further comments to the Combined Authority.

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



Report to: Wakefield District Consultation Sub Committee

Date: 18 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 Wakefield 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](#)

2. A list of current projects in Wakefield District where there is current activity is provided at Appendix 1.

Information

Castleford Rail Station

2.1 Improvements to the station building and car park have been completed and the new facilities opened to the public in December 2020. Improvements include:

- A modern, high quality passenger waiting facility including a ticket vending machine, seating and a disabled toilet.
- Sheltered cycle parking.
- Significant public realm improvements both to the area around the station and on key walking routes between the rail station, the town centre and the bus station. This includes footway treatments, landscaping and signage.
- Changes to the car park layout to allow for easier pedestrian and non-motorised access.

- Significant refurbishment of the underpass to create a more attractive link between the rail station and residential areas in the south of Castleford town centre. This included resurfacing the footway and adding new wall cladding and lighting.

Bus Services

- 2.2 In line with government guidance, bus service levels have been constantly adapted throughout this pandemic.
- 2.3 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.
- 2.4 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.
- 2.5 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

- 2.6 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.
- 2.7 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.
- 2.8 A list of the proposed schemes is available on the Combined authority website: [emergency-active-travel-fund-programmes.pdf \(westyorks-ca.gov.uk\)](https://www.westyorks-ca.gov.uk/emergency-active-travel-fund-programmes.pdf)
- 2.9 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 \(westyorks-ca.gov.uk\)](https://www.westyorks-ca.gov.uk/active-travel-tranche-2-west-yorkshire-consultation-plan.pdf)
- 2.10 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](#).

3. Recommendations

3.1 That the information report be noted.

4. Background Documents

None.

5. Appendices

Appendix 1 – Current Project Activity March 2021

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Wakefield – Current project activity (March 2021)

Project	Scheme Description	Key Information
Castleford Rail Station Gateway	Provision of a new passenger station building, remodelling of the existing car park and improvements to the underpass	Due to complete summer 2021
Wakefield City Centre Active & Sustainable Travel	Cycle and walking infrastructure improvements, increasing active travel to bus and rail stations	Public consultation launch early March 21
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
Castleford Growth Corridor	Highway and active travel improvements along Aire Street and Wheldon Road	Currently in development. Due on site Early 2022.
Wakefield City Centre Phase 2 – Ings Road	Highway and active travel improvements along A642 Ings Road between Charlesworth Way and Chantry Bridge	Currently in development. Due on site Early 2023.
Newton Bar	Junction improvement to reduce congestion, improve reliability as part of the Corridor Improvement Programme	Start on site Summer 21 and complete Spring 22
A639 Park Road Pontefract	Corridor improvement to reduce congestion, improve reliability as part of the Corridor Improvement Programme	Consultation on scheme proposals proposed to take place in June 21
A638 Doncaster Road	Corridor improvement to reduce congestion, improve reliability as part of the Corridor Improvement Programme	Consultation on scheme proposals proposed to take place in June 21

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Report to: Wakefield District Consultation Sub Committee

Date: 15 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