

## **INFORMAL MEETING OF MEMBERS OF THE WAKEFIELD DISTRICT CONSULTATION SUB- COMMITTEE**

**MEETING TO BE HELD AT 2.00 PM ON THURSDAY, 24 MARCH 2022  
THIS MEETING WILL BE HELD REMOTELY AND WILL BE  
LIVESTREAMED HERE:**

**<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCazjNSGpgZZT41Vibn2ZK9A/live>**

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### **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. NOTES OF THE INFORMAL MEETING HELD ON 14 OCTOBER  
2021**  
(Pages 1 - 4)
- 6. TRANSPORT COMMITTEE REVIEW**  
(subject to approval by the Combined Authority)
- 7. CHAIR'S UPDATE**
- 8. INFORMATION REPORT**  
(Pages 5 - 8)
- 9. OPERATOR UPDATES**
- 10. TRANSPORT PROGRAMMES: A LOOK AHEAD**

## 11. PUBLIC TRANSPORT AFTER THE PANDEMIC

**Signed:**

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

**Director of Transport and Property  
Services  
West Yorkshire Combined Authority**



## NOTES OF THE MEETING OF THE WAKEFIELD DISTRICT CONSULTATION SUB-COMMITTEE HELD REMOTELY ON THURSDAY, 14 OCTOBER 2021

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### **Present:**

Councillor Alan Garbutt (Chair)	Transport Committee
Councillor Charlie Keith	Transport Committee
Councillor Mathew Morley	Portfolio Holder
Usman Ali (Deputy Chair)	Public Representative
Nigel Ashton (Public Representative)	Public Representative
Cliff Baker (Public Representative)	Public Representative
Peter Daniels (Public Representative)	Public Representative
David Hogg (Public Representative)	Public Representative

### **In attendance:**

Andrew Bradley	West Yorkshire Combined Authority
Janette Woodcock	West Yorkshire Combined Authority

### **1. Open Forum**

Members questioned when the toilets would be completed at Wakefield Kirkgate and re-instatement of late trains which had been suspended temporarily from Leeds to Pontefract as it was difficult to return to Pontefract from Leeds late at night.

In response the representative from Northern said that work has now restarted on the toilets at Kirkgate station but there have been challenges including work access to the site. This was a Grand Central Project, and the build was in conjunction with the Department of Transport.

Re-instatement of the late trains from Leeds to Pontefract had not been confirmed so he was unable to give a further update at this time.

### **2. Apologies for absence**

Apologies for absence were received from John Chums

**3. Declarations of Disclosable Pecuniary Interests**

There were no items of disclosable Pecuniary Interest declared at the meeting.

**4. Exempt Information - Possible exclusion of the press and public**

There were no items on the Agenda which required the exemption of the press and public.

**5. Minutes of the meeting held on 18 March 2021**

**Resolved:** That the minutes of the meeting held on 18 March 2021 be noted.

**6. Notes of the informal joint DCSC meeting held on 26 August 2021**

The notes of the informal joint DCSC held on 26 August 2021 were presented to the Committee for information and the contents noted.

**7. Introductions**

Councillor Alan Garbutt has been appointed as Chair of the Committee and he introduced himself and welcomed Public Representatives, Councillors and officers to the Committee.

**8. Chair's Update and Transport Review**

There were no comments on the Transport Review or other updates from the Chair

**9. Information Report**

The Sub-Committee received an update on transport schemes within the Wakefield area.

**10. Operator Updates**

Arriva

Arriva reported that passenger numbers were continuing to slowly improve. The punctuality of many services had been affected by roadworks. Recruitment was noted as being a challenge due to the national driver shortage, and it was felt that this was being exacerbated by the Government's focus on the impact of this issue on the HGV industry rather than on the bus services.

Northern

Northern performance measures were currently generally strong. Passenger levels were at approximately 75% of what would be expected at this time of year pre-pandemic. However, it was noted that this recovery had primarily been in leisure travel, such as to the coast or to retail centres, with the traditional commute remaining low at close to 35% of pre-pandemic levels due

to the shift toward working at home. Initiatives were in place to aim to raise patronage for the commute, such as a new flexible season ticket, though take-up had been limited. More general initiatives encouraging travel were also being used, such as a recent £1 ticket flash sale.

It was noted that although the driver shortages described by bus operators were not affecting the rail industry, pipeline issues had been caused by a period where training was unable to take place due to social distancing restrictions. However, work to address this such as the implementation of training bubbles had lessened the impact and these restrictions were now lifted, and it was expected that the availability of trained drivers would have fully caught up to standard levels by the end of Spring 2022.

Members further questioned a lack of consultation between Crigglestone Parish Council and Arriva. In response the representative from Arriva said they are happy to engage and will contact the Parish Council to ensure they receive communications in future.

Members felt It was essential that buses are reinstated as soon as possible to outlying areas of Wakefield to maintain connectivity.

**Resolved:** That the Operators be thanked for their updates

#### **11. Workshop Session - Travel and Transport post pandemic**

Members received a presentation on the impact of the pandemic on travel and transport in the region, and on plans for recovery and on the long-term impact on travel behaviours, and were asked to consider three key questions:

- How has Covid changed your travel habits and perception of safety?
- What needs to happen to enable transport to support an economically sustainable recovery?
- How do we ensure transport options enable the widest range of people to be included in society?

**Resolved:** That the report be noted.

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**Report to:** Wakefield District Consultation Sub Committee

**Date:** 24 March 2022

**Subject:** Information Report

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**Director(s):** Dave Pearson, Director of Transport & Property Services

**Author(s):** Various

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## 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; [WYCA - Modern Gov](#)
- 1.3 A list of current projects in Wakefield District where there is current activity is provided at Appendix 1.

## 2. Information

### Bus Service Changes

- 2.1 Following a recent bus service change to services in the Wakefield and North Kirklees areas from Sunday 27 February, the Combined Authority has stepped in to fund vital bus links to two communities most affected by the proposals.
  - Ossett's direct link to White Rose Centre and Leeds will be maintained by new hourly service 116 operated by Station Coaches. It will run from Horbury and Ossett to Shaw Cross, White Rose and Leeds Bus Station from Monday 28 February, replacing service Arriva service 117. New service 116 will initially run Monday to Friday only, with a Saturday service to be introduced at a later date once sufficient drivers have been recruited.
  - The changes also meant that passengers in Knottingley would no longer be able to catch a bus direct to nearby Castleford. Ross Travel will now operate service 157, hourly, from Windermere Drive in Knottingley to Castleford Bus Station, again starting on Monday 28 February.

- 2.2 Both services are financially supported by the Combined Authority on a short-term basis to assess if there is passenger demand to support the services on a longer term basis.

#### Horsefair Streets for People Scheme

- 2.3 Wakefield Council and the West Yorkshire Combined Authority 'streets for people' scheme aims to help create safe and healthy street environments, which work well for all people and help them live active, healthy lives in areas of good air quality. The scheme will reconnect Pontefract town centre with the castle and make it easier for people to walk, cycle and use public transport.
- 2.4 Views are now being sought on the proposals, and further details are available at: [www.wakefield.gov.uk/have-your-say](http://www.wakefield.gov.uk/have-your-say) The consultation is open for contributions until Monday 15 March 2022.

### **3. Recommendations**

- 3.1 That the information report be noted.

### **4. Background Documents**

None.

### **5. Appendices**

Appendix 1 – Wakefield Current Project Activity



## Wakefield – Current project activity (March 2022)

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	Works substantially complete December 2020. Minor construction items still ongoing, with expected completion spring 22.
Wakefield City Centre Cycle and Walking Improvements	Bus, cycle and walking infrastructure improvements, increasing active travel to bus and rail stations.	Consultation on concept designs complete. Consultation on further developed designs expected Spring 22.
Urban Traffic Management Control	Integration of five District Urban Traffic Control Centres to a single cloud system  Establishing a partnership approach to UTC across the 4 teams, and provision of a central control room.	Phase 1 is substantially complete, with Phase 2 getting underway.  Due to complete March 2022
ULEV Taxi Scheme	88 rapid chargers for electric vehicles across the whole of West Yorkshire	Completion March 2022
Castleford Growth Corridor	Highway and active travel improvements along Aire Street and Wheldon Road	Currently in development. FBC expected July 22
Wakefield City Centre Phase 2 – Ings Road	Highway and active travel improvements along A642 Ings Road between Charlesworth Way and Chantry Bridge	Looking at options to improve the Active Travels, Sustainable Travel and Carbon Reduction offering
Newton Bar	Junction improvement to reduce congestion, improve reliability as part of the Corridor Improvement Programme	Start on site January 22 and complete Spring 22
A639 Park Road Pontefract	Corridor improvement to reduce congestion, improve reliability as part of the Corridor Improvement Programme	OBC in progress
A638 Doncaster Road	Corridor improvement to reduce congestion, improve reliability as part of the Corridor Improvement Programme	Due at CA March 22 for approval (OBC)

<b>Project</b>	<b>Scheme Description</b>	<b>Key Information</b>
Safety, Accessibility, Environment Programme	Provision of security, safety and carbon saving improvement works to bus stations within the West Yorkshire	On site in 2022 – Pontefract, Castleford, Ossett
Rail Park & Ride – Outwood	New car park at Outwood Rail Station to reduce carbon emissions and enhance connectivity to local areas.	Outline Business Case approved 25/11/21. Planning application progressing