

CALDERDALE DISTRICT CONSULTATION SUB- COMMITTEE

**MEETING TO BE HELD AT 2.00 PM ON TUESDAY, 17 MARCH 2020
IN KING'S CENTRE, HALIFAX**

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 - 8)
- 8. OPERATOR UPDATES**
- 9. WORKSHOP SESSION - ENCOURAGING UNDER 25S TO SUSTAINABLE TRAVEL**
(Pages 9 - 10)

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 CALDERDALE DISTRICT CONSULTATION SUB-COMMITTEE HELD ON TUESDAY, 15 OCTOBER 2019 AT KING'S CENTRE, HALIFAX

Present:

Councillor Daniel Sutherland (Chair)	Transport Committee
John Sheppard (Deputy Chair)	Public Representative
Councillor Peter Caffrey	Transport Committee
Myra James (Public Representative)	Public Representative
Peter Melling (Public Representative)	Public Representative
Richard Potter (Public Representative)	Public Representative
John Whiteley (Public Representative)	Public Representative
Geoff Wood (Public Representative)	Public Representative

In attendance

Edwin Swaris	West Yorkshire Combined Authority
Chris Harmour	First
Brandon Jones	First
Paul Atkins	First
Pete Myers	Arriva Rail North Limited
Ben Kearns	West Yorkshire Combined Authority

1. Open Forum

The Sub-Committee was given the opportunity to raise any issues which were not covered on the agenda and the following comments were made:

- Members raised an issue around the extent to which consultations were advertised and whether they could be promoted further to reach a wider audience.
- Members expressed concern regarding the timetabling of the 681 and 508 services which were clustered together with long intervals in between the services particularly in the evenings. First committed to take the coordination of the two services away and look at ways to improve the timetable spacing.
- Frustration that there can be two 503 services leaving at the same time.
- The need for a drastic step-change in public transport use following the declaration of a climate emergency.
- The importance of improving the attractiveness of public transport infrastructure to increase patronage.

- It was noted that bus and rail patronage data could be provided to members of the DCSC.

2. Apologies for absence

Apologies for absence were received from Kate Smyth and Reid Anderson.

3. Declarations of Disclosable Pecuniary Interests

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

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

There were no items which required the exemption of the press or public.

5. Appointment of Deputy Chair

Resolved: That John Shepherd continue to act as deputy chair of the Sub-Committee.

6. Minutes of the meeting held on 12 February 2019

Resolved: That the minutes of the last meeting be approved.

7. Operator Updates

The Sub-Committee was provided with the following bus operator updates:

First

- Provided an update on services struggling for reliability due to congestion; particularly those services affected by the works on the Headrow in Leeds.
- The training scheme for bus drivers was ongoing and First reported that they had put a lot of resources into training.
- Progress on mobile ticketing was now at 35%.
- First reported that the service in Calderdale was not fully staffed which made timetabling difficult.

Arriva

- Arriva were in the process of rolling out disability awareness training which focussed on hidden disabilities.
- A small cascade of buses was forthcoming from Arriva's Leeds operation.
- Arriva provided an update on specific services including the 228 service as well as discussing their October timetable changes.

Following the bus operator updates members of the Sub-Committee had the following questions and comments:

- A member wished to observe the driver session training and provide feedback. First stated that they would be happy with this in principle, but would need to check with the individual trainers.
- Members raised the issue around the bus fleet in Calderdale with newer buses consistently being distributed in Leeds. Operators responded that the funding for new buses was tied to Leeds which made it difficult to distribute them more evenly.
- Members wished to raise questions regarding Yorkshire Tiger. Arriva committed to passing the queries onto Yorkshire Tiger and it was noted that in future it would be helpful if a representative from Yorkshire Tiger attended the meeting.
- Representatives from the Combined Authority informed members of the Sub Committee that they had held meeting with Yorkshire Tiger regarding concerns over the standard of service and had discussed plans to improve.
- Members queried the process around real time updates as they were often unreliable.

Northern

- Northern outlined their performance from the last period with 83% of trains running to time. It was acknowledged that this was not good enough.
- Northern detailed their upcoming timetable changes which included an express service to Blackpool and a train from Halifax to Hull.
- Northern explained that some of their franchise commitments on the Calder Valley line would not be met due problems with capacity around the Manchester stations which would require infrastructure investment to resolve.
- Northern announced that new diesel trains would be operating from the 21 November.
- Pacers would be retained into the New Year as Northern's new trains were late from their suppliers.
- All new trains would be delivered by May 2020 and the pacers would be removed from service by that date.

Following Northern's operator update members of the Sub-Committee had the following questions and comments:

- Members questions centred on Sowerby Bridge station regarding ease of access and connectivity as well as the traffic congestion in the area.
- Members also raised an issue with the reduction in services which call at Sowerby Bridge and Mytholmroyd. Services calling at those station was due to decrease from 3 trains an hour to 2 trains an hour.

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

8. Consultation Report- West Yorkshire Bus Alliance

The Sub-Committee was provided with a presentation regarding the Bus Alliance and made the following comments:

- The importance that audio and visual technology was included in the bus alliance for disabled bus users.
- A member asked if there were plans to extend the bus alliance to smaller operators such as Yorkshire Tiger and TJ Walsh.
- The need for timetables to be clearer and easier to interpret for non-regular bus users.
- Members discussed the need for better bus stop infrastructure and this was suggested as a consultation topic for a future joint DCSC meeting.
- The importance of multi-modal ticketing and the need for the bus alliance to build on this.

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

9. Information Report

Member considered an information report which provided an update on matter relating to the Calderdale district. Members of the Sub-Committee raised the following points:

- Members noted that the zero-carbon emission working group had held its first meeting.
- It was noted that a phase one draft of the Calderdale LCWIPS had been formulated and sent out to officers and select interest groups for initial feedback.
- Members asked about the upcoming tendering processes for bus services in the district.
- Members requested more information regarding the renovation of Halifax bus station especially with a view to providing feedback around the design from a disability standpoint. Disability Partnership Calderdale was suggested as a good group to consult.

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



Report to: Calderdale District Consultation Sub Committee

Date: 17 March 2020

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 Calderdale District.

2. Information

Consultation and Engagement

2.1 Details of consultation and engagement activity is available via the Combined Authority's digital engagement Hub, Your Voice: www.yourvoice.westyorks-ca.gov.uk/

2.2 The following engagement activities have recently closed:

- Halifax Bus Station: Public feedback was sought regarding plans to redevelop Halifax bus station from 13 January to 12 February. Further information is available at: www.yourvoice.westyorks-ca.gov.uk/hbs
- Calderdale Corridor Improvement Programmes: Calderdale Council and the West Yorkshire Combined Authority are developing a series of improvements to the road network along the A58 / A672 from Junction 22 of the M62 to King Cross in Halifax and the A646 / A6033 from Todmorden to Skircoat Moor. The second phase of engagement took place from 2 January to 14 February. Further information is available at: www.yourvoice.westyorks-ca.gov.uk/ccip2

Halifax Bus Station

2.3 The Outline Business Case for this project was approved by the Combined Authority in October 2019. Following public engagement during January and February 2020, feedback is now being collated and used to inform the planning application. Submission of a Full Planning Application will take place in spring 2020.

- 2.4 Funding is being sought to develop and deliver the Halifax bus station project as part of the West Yorkshire Transforming Cities Fund (TCF), which is a competitive bid to the Department for Transport (DfT). A funding decision is expected from the DfT in March 2020.

Bus Service Changes

- 2.5 Supported bus services have been reviewed in Calderdale, with changes being introduced from May 2020. Tenders for these services are currently being evaluated, and a verbal update will be given at the meeting.
- 2.6 In December 2019, First withdrew its Rochdale, Todmorden, Burnley service reducing the frequency of services between Todmorden, Portsmouth and Burnley to hourly. Following concerns expressed by local residents, First restored some peak journeys. A public meeting was held on 17 February attended by First and the Combined Authority and filmed by BBC Panorama. Consideration is underway of options to further restore frequency of services.

Weather Conditions and Disruption to Services

- 2.7 Public transport services in the district were affected by recent storms, with some delays and cancellations. An update will be provided at the meeting.

Better Deal for Bus Users

- 2.8 On 6 February 2020 the Department for Transport (DfT) announced a competitive £220m package of improvements for bus. [A Better Deal for Bus Users](#) includes the following packages of investment:
- **Super Bus Funding** – to increase bus patronage in a defined urban area through a package of measures including bus priority, reducing bus fares and increasing service frequencies.
 - **All-Electric Bus Towns Funding** – the aim of the fund is to tackle poor air quality, DfT is seeking bids from towns that have an air quality problem to convert 100% of buses operating in that area to electric. Up to £50m is available to support one town in England.
 - **Rural Mobility Funding** – to trial on-demand services in rural and suburban areas. As the Combined Authority is eligible for Transforming Cities Fund, it is not eligible for this funding.
 - **Supported Bus Services Funding** – the Combined Authority is eligible for £1.086m of revenue funding to support bus services. The Government expects this funding to be used to improve the provision of local bus services in one or more of the following ways:
 - a) to improve current local bus services - for instance increasing evening or weekend frequencies, or supporting additional seasonal services in tourist areas;
 - b) to restore lost bus routes where most needed to ensure people have access to public transport services; and
 - c) to support new bus services, or extensions to current services, to access new housing, employment opportunities, healthcare facilities etc.
- 2.9 An Expression of Interest is required for submission to the Department for Transport in March 2020 to receive payment in April 2020. A verbal update on

the Combined Authority's expression of interest will be provided at the meeting.

Rail Timetable Change

2.10 The National Rail Timetable is changed in May and December each year. The December timetable operates until Saturday 16 May 2020. The May 2020 rail timetable change will see less significant service-pattern changes than in some recent years; further details will be available at www.wymetro.com.

3. Recommendations

3.1 That the information report be noted.

4. Background Documents

4.1 None.

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Report to: Calderdale District Consultation Sub Committee

Date: 17 March 2020

Subject: **Workshop Session – Encouraging Under 25’s to Sustainable Travel**

Director(s): Dave Pearson Director Transport Services

Author(s): Erica Ward

1. Purpose of this report

- 1.1 The West Yorkshire Bus Strategy set a target to grow the number of bus passengers by up to 25% by 2027. Encouraging young people to use bus services more will contribute to this target and will help the Combined Authority to deliver its wider policy objectives: supporting clean growth, boosting productivity, enabling inclusive growth and delivering 21st century transport.
- 1.2 Feedback from young people locally has highlighted some of the barriers to their use of public transport, and this is reflected in recent research carried out with young people nationally.
- 1.3 The Combined Authority and West Yorkshire Bus Alliance have developed a number of proposals which aim to encourage young people in West Yorkshire to travel more by bus. There will be a brief presentation, and members’ views will be sought.

2. Recommendations

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

3. Background Documents

- 3.1 None

4. Appendices

- 4.1 None

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