

KIRKLEES DISTRICT CONSULTATION SUB- COMMITTEE

**MEETING TO BE HELD AT 2.00 PM ON WEDNESDAY, 25 MARCH 2020
IN TOWN HALL, HUDDERSFIELD**

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 23 OCTOBER 2020**
- 6. CHAIR'S UPDATE**
- 7. INFORMATION REPORT**
- 8. OPERATOR UPDATES**
- 9. WORKSHOP SESSION - ENCOURAGING UNDER 25S TO SUSTAINABLE TRAVEL**

Signed:

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

Director, Transport Services



**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE
KIRKLEES DISTRICT CONSULTATION SUB-COMMITTEE
HELD ON WEDNESDAY, 23 OCTOBER 2019 AT TOWN HALL,
DEWSBURY**

Present:

Councillor James Homewood (Chair)	Transport Committee
Councillor Martyn Bolt	Transport Committee
Ian Bangay (Public Representative)	Public Representative
Bruce Bird (Public Representative)	Public Representative
Mark Denton (Public Representative)	Public Representative
Shaun Jordan (Public Representative)	Public Representative
David Quarmby (Public Representative)	Public Representative
Ian Roper (Public Representative)	Public Representative
Mark Wylie (Public Representative)	Public Representative

In attendance:

Graham Meiklejohn	Transpennine Express
Pete Myers	Northern
Dwayne Wells	Arriva Yorkshire
Stuart Fillingham	First Group
Will Pearson	First Group
Ben Maxfield	Arriva
Dot Freeman	Better Buses Kirklees
Jackie Hardaker	Better Buses Kirklees
Jean Goodison	Better Buses Kirklees
Councillor Manisha Kaushik	Kirklees Council
Helen Ellerton	West Yorkshire Combined Authority
Janette Woodcock	West Yorkshire Combined Authority

1. Apologies for absence

Apologies for absence was received from Public Representatives Anne Baldwin, Christopher Jones, Jean Kirby, Mike Still and Kelvin Waites

2. Declaration of Disclosable Pecuniary Interests

There were no declarations of disclosable pecuniary interests at the meeting.

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

There were no items requiring the exemption of the press and public.

4. Open Forum

A request was received from Dot Freeman representing Better Buses Kirklees to speak at the Open Forum.

The Open Forum item has been established so that members of the public, in addition to those formally appointed to the committees, can come along and raise any transport related issues. The aim of the Open forum is that officers from the West Yorkshire Combined Authority in attendance can respond to any questions on the day and if not possible, take them away and provide a response by email.

Dot Freeman, Jean Goodison and Jackie Hardaker from Better Buses Kirklees raised their concerns as follows:-

- Bring the Bus Services back in the Public Domain (one body running the services)
- Planned and co-ordinated routes across Kirklees linking with wider areas in West/South Yorkshire which all the bus companies align to and agreed.
- Profits from popular routes can subsidise areas less busy.
- Improve access to rural transport and increase access on evenings and weekends.
- Introduce a simple one ticket scheme on all buses. A clearer ticketing system so return tickets can be used on any bus (include a cap on spend)
- Improve access for disabilities on all levels.
- One rule regarding access re prams, bikes etc
- Improve routes and access on and off buses. Faster routes create higher usage. Look at long term infrastructures and geographical areas when planning.
- Information and communication to be improved at all levels.
- Cleaner and more environmentally transport stock to safeguard climate change.

The Chair asked that Agenda item 9 Consultation Items (West Yorkshire Bus Alliance) be discussed at this point in proceedings.

5. Consultation Items

The sub-committee was provided with a brief presentation by Helen Ellerton, West Yorkshire Combined Authority, on the West Yorkshire Bus Alliance which aims to put customers at the heart of improving services, keeping business moving and developing a sustainable bus network. The Alliance brings together the Combined Authority, the local authorities of West Yorkshire and the bus operators including Arriva, First, Transdev and small operators.

Members gave their feedback and Helen Ellerton answered questions from representatives from Better Buses Kirklees and concerns from public

representatives

Members raised specific concerns about what would happen to the Bus Alliance when/if the First and Arriva operations were sold. The view was that the legal requirements surrounding the alliance may mean that the current agreements with the operators may not be met by new ones.

The importance is what is the right way forward for West Yorkshire and to work with operators to deliver in partnership and to realise the customer benefit early.

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

6. Appointment of Deputy Chair

The Chair had received one application from Mark Denton for the position of Deputy Chair.

Resolved: That Mark Denton be confirmed as the Deputy Chair.

7. Minutes of the meeting held on 6 February 2019

That the minutes of the meeting held on 6 February 2019 be approved.

8. Chair's Update

Councillor Kaushik introduced Cllr James Homewood as the new Chair of the Sub-Committee as she has now moved to a new role as Deputy Chair of the Transport Committee.

Councillor Kaushik announced that sadly Councillor John Appleyard Deputy Chair of the sub committee passed away during the Summer and a one minute silence was held at the commencement of the meeting.

9. Operator Updates

Operators were invited to give their updates to the sub-committee

Arriva

- Arriva re-confirmed their commitment to the Bus Alliance and the view that in order to increase patronage it would be necessary to increase service frequency
- Reported that West Yorkshire had been recognised as providing the most punctual service area in the country and had a dependable good service.
- Updated regarding the sale and said that bids had been invited to purchase. They will still be Arriva and will still be in operation

First

- Improving timetables
- Retrofit programme had been completed with nearly 200 buses for key corridors
- A post-implementation review was underway following the September timetable changes to inform the December timetable changes
- There is to be a fare increase which is not ideal but necessary due to increasing fuel costs.

Members of the sub-committee had the following questions and comments following the updates.

- What was the fare concessions for the age group 60 – 67 years, it was felt that a gap still exists in this area.
- Clarification was requested on the policy of the bus companies for transporting bicycles, prams, wheelchairs.

TransPennine

- New trains had been introduced into the rolling stock which have provided additional capacity. Customer feedback has been good.
- Winter timetables will shortly be introduced.
- Dewsbury now has two trains per hour to Manchester and Manchester airport.
- Summer 2019 has seen a better performance than 2018.
- There have been issues with infrastructure and a high impact due to delayed trains
- Impact from key work being undertaken by Network Rail and the corridor is run to maximum performance.
- Working closely with Network Rail.
- Friends of Dewsbury Station have been undertaking flower planting
- New Toilets and baby changing facilities have now been provided along with an additional shelter at Dewsbury Station with funding from West Yorkshire Combined Authority. The provision of both facilities has been much appreciated by rail passengers using Dewsbury Station.

Members of the Sub-Committee had the following questions and comments following the update from TransPennine

- The new trains are louder and had this been considered when purchasing the new trains. The representative from TransPennine responded to say that the trains comply with European standards, but agreed they were louder.
- Residents had been making observations that the trains were louder
- The noise had an impact on announcements near the proximity of the engine.
- At Dewsbury Station the Barriers are an obstacle for a visually impaired person and it is difficult to get through with a guide dog as the gates are

not manned all the time. The response to this question was that the problem is appreciated, and this will be picked up and looked into further. All employees have been on a disability awareness course but will ensure that the Station Manager at Dewsbury is aware so that assistance can be provided.

- Regarding changes in strategies, Network Rail are the organisation to contact.
- The performance has been better between Manchester and Leeds.
- Capacity to accommodate, bikes, wheelchairs and luggage. TransPennine are looking at providing more capacity.

Northern

- Performance better, the network is however poor and busy.
- Brand new diesel train being launched in the Calder Valley.
- Brighouse, new trains have been delayed.
- Driver and Conductor training taking place.
- Pacer trains are to be replaced but will be retained for a short time in order to ensure a continuation of service. The decision has been for two reasons, Driver knowledge of the trains and capacity. The remaining Pacer trains will be discontinued in May 2020.
- Autumn is always a difficult time with leaves on the line
- Waiting for the Williams review
- 158 new sprinter trains perform better with falling leaves. Huddersfield University are looking into solutions to leaf mould

Members of the sub-committee had the following questions and comments

- Pacer trains need to go as soon as possible
- Colne Valley Stations are they still managed by Northern, the answer to the question was yes
- Real time train information has not been working
- Marsden station and the Access for all project – all stations were not included because of the Transpennine route upgrade.

The Chair thanked all the operators for their updates.

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

10. Information Report

Members considered a report which gave an update on matters relating to the Leeds District and included notes of the joint District Consultation Sub Committee discussion on Bus Information and December Rail timetable changes.

Members of the sub-committee raised the following:

That the Agenda should cover more locally focussed issues including local

transport update schemes and highways.

The Chair said he is happy to feedback comments to Cllr Groves and the West Yorkshire Combined Authority to ensure that items are on the Agenda so that the DCSC works for all.

Resolved: That the information report be noted.

Report to: Kirklees District Consultation Sub Committee

Date: 25 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 Kirklees 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/ Recent engagement activity includes:

- **A62 Leeds Road - Huddersfield Town Centre to Old Fieldhouse Lane.** The first phase of the engagement took place in November 2018. A further phase is planned during spring 2020, the purpose of this being an opportunity for the public to comment on plans before they are submitted to full business case. Further information is available at: www.yourvoice.westyorks-ca.gov.uk/A62phase1

Better Deal for Bus Users

- 2.1 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.

2.2 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.

Transpennine Express Rolling Stock

2.3 Transpennine Express (TPE) continue to introduce more trains into passenger service. There are now four Nova 3 in operation per day on the Liverpool – Manchester – Huddersfield – Leeds – York – Scarborough route. More of these will be introduced once staff training has completed and further trains have been accepted from CAF (who are supplying the trains). There are now 11 Nova 1 trains in service each day on the routes between Liverpool – Manchester – Huddersfield – Leeds – York – Newcastle – Morpeth – Edinburgh and also between Manchester Airport/Manchester – Huddersfield – Leeds – York – Newcastle, these are helping to provide more stability into services and additional capacity. All 16 of TPE's Nova 1 trains will be in service by the end of March 2020.

2.4 In January, TPE announced a season ticket compensation scheme, as an apology for the disruption on the network towards the end of last year. The scheme provided a refund of 3% of the annualised cost of Weekly, Monthly and Annual tickets held between the 1 October and 31 December 2019. TPE also provided compensation of £30 for affected M-Card holders. During February 2020 TPE also held a sale where tens of thousands of tickets were made available for all calling points on its network with fares available for a low as £1 for adults and 50p for children. Such was the popularity of sale that all tickets sold out in just over 24 hours.

Rail Timetable Change

2.5 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.

2.6 In the May 2020 timetable change, the current Transpennine Express Manchester Piccadilly – Huddersfield service will be extended to call at

Wakefield Kirkgate. This provides the population of Wakefield with a new hourly, all day, faster journey to Manchester. The timings of this train arriving/departing Wakefield Kirkgate has been designed to connect well with other train services and buses for West Yorkshire.

3. Recommendations

3.1 That the information report be noted.

4. Background Documents

4.1 None.

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Report to: Kirklees District Consultation Sub Committee

Date: 25 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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