

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE
TRANSPORT COMMITTEE
HELD ON FRIDAY, 3 JULY 2020 AT REMOTE MEETING - TO BE
LIVESTREAMED HERE:
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Present:

Councillor Kim Groves (Chair)	Leeds City Council
Councillor Manisha Kaushik (Deputy Chair)	Kirklees
Councillor Martyn Bolt (Leader of the Opposition)	Kirklees Council
Councillor Neil Buckley	Leeds City Council
Councillor Peter Caffrey	Calderdale Council
Councillor Peter Carlill	Leeds City Council
Councillor Colin Campbell	Leeds City Council
Councillor Michael Ellis	Bradford Council
Councillor Miss Jo Hepworth	Wakefield Council
Councillor James Homewood	Kirklees Council
Councillor Hassan Khan	Bradford Council
Mark Roberts	Beer Hawk Ltd
Councillor Taj Salam	Bradford Council
Councillor Daniel Sutherland	Calderdale Council
Councillor Kevin Swift	Wakefield Council

In attendance:

Councillor Peter McBride	Kirklees Council
Graham Meiklejohn	Transpennine Express
Councillor Lisa Mulherin	Leeds City Council
Councillor Alex Ross-Shaw	Bradford Council
Councillor Jane Scullion	Calderdale Council
Dwayne Wells	Arriva Yorkshire
Matt Rice	Network Rail
Dave Pearson	West Yorkshire Combined Authority
Alan Reiss	West Yorkshire Combined Authority
Liz Hunter	West Yorkshire Combined Authority
Andrew Bradley	West Yorkshire Combined Authority
James Nutter	West Yorkshire Combined Authority
Edwin Swaris	West Yorkshire Combined Authority

1. Apologies for absence

Apologies for absence were received from Simon Pringle and Councillor D'Agorne.

2. Declarations of disclosable pecuniary interests

There were no pecuniary interests declared at the meeting.

3. Exempt information - possible exclusion of the press and public

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

4. Minutes of the meeting of the Transport Committee held on 15 May

Councillor Swift wished to give his apologies for the previous meeting, having been unable to join due to technical difficulties.

Resolved: That the minutes of the meeting of the Transport Committee held on the 15 May be approved.

5. Rail Strategy Update

The Committee considered a report which provided an update on several strategic rail items.

Matt Rice, on behalf of Network Rail, was in attendance and the following points were raised:

- That there was ongoing work with stakeholders on continuous modular strategic planning to understand the needs of the rail network in the region and how it interlinks with other parts of the country.
- That there was a growth challenge across the north of England and that capacity at Leeds Station needed to be addressed.
- Members raised a concern regarding the Transpennine Route Upgrade and disabled access works at stations in Kirklees. Some stations were excluded from funding on the assumption that TRU would address but there were concerns that the scope of TRU may have changed.
- Matt Rice clarified that some of the station renovations were outside TRU scope at the minute but that would not preclude network rail discussing funding for minor renewal.
- The potential for a negative impact on Kirklees because of plans for Bradford gateway. Work was underway to understand the impact and would return to a future meeting once completed.
- Length of platforms across the districts needed to be addressed to

enable wholistic capacity.

- Network Rail would work with partners to ensure disruptions were managed and communication was clear.
- That an option to extend Platform 17 at Leeds Station was on a list of decisions to be made regarding funding.
- That Network Rail was working with operators to put together ambitious overhaul Neville Hill.
- Members questioned if longer term projections for rail usage had changed as a result of the pandemic. Members heard that the rail formed a central part in the recovery plan and in the Combined Authority's ambition to achieving a zero carbon economy. The rail network may be used in a different way following the pandemic, but it remained central to the region.

Resolved:

- (i) That the progress on development of the West Yorkshire Rail Vision be noted and the next steps be endorsed.
- (ii) That the Combined Authority's response to the Rail Needs Assessment for the Midlands and the north consultation be noted and endorsed.
- (iii) That the Combined Authority's submission to the New Stations Fund scheme be noted and endorsed.
- (iv) Welcome the publication of the Leeds Area Continuous Modular Strategic Planning study by Network Rail, and to endorse the need to actively support the case for development and funding of the recommended projects in partnership with Network Rail and Transport for the North.
- (v) That the progress on development of the Leeds Station Existing Programme business case be noted and the need to actively support the funding case for this project in partnership with Network Rail, Leeds City Council and Transport for the North be endorsed.

6. Governance Arrangements

The Committee considered a report which set out the governance arrangements for 2020/21 municipal year.

Members agreed that the Cycling and Walking Working Group would be renamed the Active Travel Working Group to align with Government terminology.

Resolved:

- (i) Notes that the following appointments made by the Combined Authority on 27 June 2019 will continue for the 2020/21 municipal year:
- Councillor Groves as Chair of Transport Committee,
 - Councillor Kaushik as Deputy Chair of Transport Committee,
 - Councillor Bolt as leader of the opposition on Transport Committee.
- (ii) Re-establishes a District Consultation Sub-Committee for the municipal year 2019/20 for each constituent council area with the same terms of reference previously approved.
- (iii) Appoints to the relevant District Consultation Sub-Committee each Transport Committee member co-opted from a constituent council as a voting member.
- (iv) Confirms the following as Chair for each District Consultation Sub-Committee for the 2020/21 municipal year:
- Bradford DCSC – Taj Salam
 - Calderdale DCSC – Daniel Sutherland
 - Kirklees DCSC – James Homewood
 - Leeds DCSC – Peter Carlill
 - Wakefield DCSC – Kevin Swift
- (v) Approves the re-appointment of the public representatives for a further one year term of office until the next annual meeting of the Combined Authority.
- (vi) Agrees that each District Consultation Sub-Committee meets on the dates set out in Appendix 1 to this report.
- (vii) Re-establishes the Local Bus Services Working Group for the municipal year 2020/21, with the same terms of reference and arrangements previously approved.
- (viii) Re-establishes the Cycling and Walking Working Group for the municipal year 2020/21, with the same terms of reference and arrangements previously approved.
- (iv) Re-establishes the Zero Emission Transport Working Group for the municipal year 2020/21, with the same terms of reference and arrangements previously approved.

7. COVID-19 - Impacts and Recovery

The Committee considered a report which provided an update on Covid-19 impacts and recovery.

Members discussed the report and the following comments were made:

- That there was uncertainty of funding around buses and difficult

decisions around bus provision might need to be made. Members were informed that use local bus working group would be used as a mechanism for discussion.

- Members requested greater clarity and structure for the local bus working group going forward. Officers would provide a working note to accompany the terms of reference for the local bus working group to provide clarity and structure for how the group would function practically going forward.
- Members would be notified of the outcome of a tender for bus services between Keighley and Halifax in due course.
- The need to make sure that the less commercial routes serving harder to reach communities were not left isolated.
- That it may be necessary to review guidance used to assess bus services which the Combined Authority funds.
- That the Chair would write to government for clarity around bus funding

Resolved:

- (i) That the Committee notes the updates provided in this report.
- (ii) That the Local Bus Working Group oversees the reinstatement of the bus network and any commissioning of services by the Combined Authority in support of this.
- (iii) That the Committee endorses the framework set out for the Transport Recovery Plan set out in paragraph 2.26
- (iv) That the Committee approves alterations to the scope of the Bus Strategy and Smartcard and Information Programmes to facilitate elements of the Transport Recovery Plan set out in 4.1
- (v) That the delegated decision-making arrangement approved by the Committee on 13 March be maintained for use on urgent matters relating to the COVID-19 emergency and reviewed at the next meeting.

8. Leeds City Region Transport Update

The Committee considered a report which provided an update on transport matters across the region.

Members noted the work carried out by the Zero Emission Working Group and that a public consultation was forthcoming. The consultation would have two stages with the zero emission pathways published later in July and work with stakeholders across the region to follow and a full public circulation in the autumn.

Resolved: That the report be noted.

9. Summary of Transport Schemes

A concern was raised on behalf of shopkeepers in Holmfirth regarding the Corridor Improvement Programme (CIP) Phase 1 Holmfirth Town Centre.

It was noted that significant consultation had been carried out with a broad measure of consensus achieved following modifications made as a result of the consultation.

Resolved: That the report be noted.