
Report to: Calderdale District Consultation Sub Committee

Date: 13 October 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 Leeds 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;

<https://westyorkshire.moderngov.co.uk/ieListDocuments.aspx?CId=138&MId=1021>

2. Information

Halifax Bus Station

2.1 Plans for a new £15.8m Halifax Bus Station delivered in partnership between Calderdale Council and West Yorkshire Combined Authority have been approved by members of the Council's Planning Committee. The scheme will be delivered through the region's £317 million Transforming Cities Fund (TCF) - a major new programme of transport infrastructure investment secured as part of West Yorkshire's devolution deal earlier this year.

2.2 Alongside improved passenger facilities and better access to the town centre, plans for the new bus station include environmentally friendly features, such as electric bus charging points, bike parking and solar panels, as well as a living roof and green wall complete with plants.

Bus Services

2.3 A full area review of tendered bus services in Calderdale was undertaken in 2019 and a procurement process proceeded prior to the COVID lockdown. At the start of the COVID 19 emergency, local bus operator TJ Walsh t/a Halifax Bus Company ceased trading. Tenders were invited for the company's services which were not in competition with other operators and contracts awarded to Yorkshire Tiger and South Pennine Community Transport. Arising from this exercise, it has been possible to reinstate a through bus service

between Halifax and Keighley. These changes were implemented at the end of August 2020.

- 2.4 Across West Yorkshire, the Combined Authority has delivered an £8 million Clean Bus Technology programme to equip 476 buses with emission control equipment to enable them to meet clean air zone standards. As at June 2020, 53% of the Calderdale bus fleet met this standard (compared with 59% of the West Yorkshire fleet).

Active Travel - Emergency Active Travel Fund

- 2.5 On the 5th June, the Combined Authority submitted an application for tranche one of the Department for Transport's (DfT) Emergency Active Travel funding, on behalf of the Combined Authority and West Yorkshire partner councils. The programme of schemes was established to provide swift and meaningful plans to provide more safe space for cyclists and pedestrians
- 2.6 An application for £10.053 million of tranche two funding was submitted on the 7th August, in line with the indicative allocations published by DfT. This 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, and monitoring and evaluation. The outcome is expected to be announced at the end of August. The full details of the programme submitted will be published once an announcement has been made by government.
- 2.7 The programme was developed in partnership with partner councils, and Transport Committee members provided comments on the application form and proposed programme alongside Leaders and Portfolio Holders. The proposed programme was shared with members of the West Yorkshire Bus Alliance and the CityConnect Advisory Group for comment before submission.
- 2.8 Comments received through online interactive mapping platforms were also used by partners to identify schemes within the programme, including the Your Voice interactive map covering Calderdale, Kirklees and Wakefield, and equivalent online engagement tools managed by Bradford Council and Leeds City Council. To date there have been over 1,600 comments made on the Your Voice map, from almost 400 contributors since launch in June.
- 2.9 As with tranche one, it is proposed to manage delivery of the tranche two programme through the existing CityConnect programme governance structure.

3. Recommendations

- 3.1 That the information report be noted.

4. Background Documents

- 4.1 None.

5. Appendices

- 5.1 None.