

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE KIRKLEES DISTRICT
CONSULTATION SUB-COMMITTEE HELD ON WEDNESDAY 18 APRIL
2018 IN THE RECEPTION ROOM, TOWN HALL, HUDDERSFIELD**

Present:

Councillor Manisha Kaushik (Chair)	Transport Committee
Councillor Martyn Bolt	Transport Committee
Councillor Eric Firth	Transport Committee
Councillor Andrew Pinnock	Transport Committee
John Appleyard	Public Representative
Anne Baldwin	Public Representative
Ian Bangay	Public Representative
Bruce Bird	Public Representative
Mark Denton	Public Representative
Christopher Jones	Public Representative
Shaun Jordan	Public Representative
Jean Kirby	Public Representative
Aleks Lukic	Public Representative
Mike Still	Public Representative
Mark Wylie	Public Representative

In attendance:

Jonathan Woodhouse	Arriva Yorkshire
Stuart Fillingham	First Group
Oliver Howarth	First Group
Pete Myers	Northern
Joy Devine	Yorkshire Tiger
Graham Meiklejohn	TransPennine Express
Diane Groom	West Yorkshire Combined Authority
Khaled Berroum	West Yorkshire Combined Authority

1. Apologies for absence

Apologies for absence were received from Councillor Mohan Sokhal, Ian Roper and Kelvyn Waites.

2. Declarations of Disclosable Pecuniary Interests

None were declared.

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

There were no exclusions of the press and public at the meeting.

4. Minutes of the meeting held on 10 January 2018

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

5. Tracker Survey

The subcommittee was provided with a presentation outlining the findings of the annual West Yorkshire Tracker Survey, followed by questions and a discussion covering the following:

- District specific data is not published as the sample size is too small to accurately draw Kirklees district-specific data and conclusions, though this will be considered in future, resources permitting.
- The level of satisfaction with the quality of the roads was challenged – it was not the experience of the members or the feedback they have received.
- Last year's results can be shared with members on request.
- The range of Mcard products is too confusing and difficult to determine value for money. The Combined Authority reported that it was working with operators and Transport for the North (TfN) to establish a capped, multi modal smart ticket.
- Although the Combined Authority doesn't have direct power over many of the survey question topics, it is important to collect the data so it can be considered in any strategies and focuses and to better inform engagement with operators and other bodies.

Resolved: That the Tracker Survey and the subcommittee's feedback be noted.

6. Operator updates

Northern updated the subcommittee on service changes affecting Kirklees due to the new timetable update scheduled for May 2018. Due to an unfortunate delay in the electrification of rail near Bolton, certain electric train reallocations which the new timetable relied upon could not be made and the timetable had to be redone. It was emphasised that no previous plans have been cancelled, only delayed until the new lines and trains are in operation – expected in Summer/Autumn 2018.

- The extension of the Huddersfield-Wakefield service to and from Castleford has been postponed until a later change date.
- Leeds to Southport via Brighouse service still going ahead.
- There will more early trains between Manchester and Leeds.
- The new trains – when operational – will add an extra 250 carriages to services in total.

The subcommittee discussed the changes, followed by questions and a discussion covering the following:

- Concerns were raised about people will no longer be able to travel by rail between Kirkgate and Westgate. Particularly schoolchildren who will now have to make extra changes at new stops unsupervised increasing their travel time. Arriva noted that there are bus services between Kirkgate and Westgate.

- Westgate is also a connection to London, so a reduction in links to Westgate make it harder for Kirklees residents to get to London
- Concerns were also raised about the long running dispute about guards on trains and hoped a solution would be found soon. Northern was confident that their plans are safe and a compromise will be found.
- For some services, it becomes cheaper to split the fare at certain stations negating the point of advanced tickets. In other cases the advanced ticket is several times cheaper than tickets from stations along that line. Northern will feedback and want to eliminate these anomalies.
- A change in fare structures in order to simplify it might lead to price increases.

Yorkshire Tiger and First reported no major bus services changes, and First were currently engaging in a scoping exercise to review current services and will report back at a future meeting. Arriva also reported no major changes and that a punctuality review was ongoing.

TransPennine reported that 50% of their fleet has been upgraded, with further tests taking place on newly manufactured stock due in the UK in the near future – capacity will be increased. Timetable changes will be distributed via email.

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

7. Information Report

An information report was presented updating the sub-committee on matters relating to the Kirklees district.

Resolved: That the information report be noted.

8. Open Forum – Questions and Suggestions

Concerns were raised about:

- the extension to the middle platform at Marsden station not having disabled access. TransPennine assured the subcommittee that where access can not be adequately accommodated, arrangements will be made to make it accessible to people with disabilities.
- a series of acts of criminal damage occurring at bus and rail stations, including the drivers' facilities at Cleckheaton bus station being broken into. The Combined Authority is working with the police, operators and drivers to improve security and offer alternate secure facilities for drivers.

The following suggestions were made:

- That the resources for the planned White Rose station be better used elsewhere and that it was a disruption to other services, adding travel time. Assurances were made that it was part of a wider strategy to improve links to the employment opportunities in that area .

Consultation on these proposals will occur in June/ July.

- That Network Rail to attend future DCSC meetings as many matters concern them.

9. Provisional date of the next meeting – 24 October 2018