

AGENDA ITEM NO: 2

WEST YORKSHIRE INTEGRATED TRANSPORT AUTHORITY

AT A MEETING OF THE LEEDS PASSENGER CONSULTATIVE COMMITTEE HELD AT WELLINGTON HOUSE, LEEDS ON MONDAY 18 JANUARY 2010

PRESENT: Councillor C Campbell (Chair)

WYITA

R Downes
J Jarosz
T Leadley
M Lyons
P Wadsworth

PUBLIC REPRESENTATIVES

David Bowcock
Brian Cooper
Ian Davies
Edward Gale
Joyce Hutt
Lynn Jones

Rosemary Keenoy
Jim Kerr
Hazel Lee
Frank Priestley
Eric Smith
Charles Stones
Bill Tymms

LEEDS CC

C Fox

Also in attendance:-

R Harris	-	First Leeds
C Newbury	-	Arriva Yorkshire
D Mallender	-	First TransPennine Express

13. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors D Congreve and J Lewis and public representatives Anthony Austwick and Philip Good.

14. CHAIR'S COMMENTS

The Chair asked that the Committee's thanks be formally recorded and passed to the staff at the bus and rail companies for their efforts in providing public transport during the recent bad weather.

15. MINUTES

RESOLVED - That the minutes of the meeting held on 5 October 2009 be approved.

16. MEMBER FEEDBACK

The Committee considered a report of the Passenger Transport Executive advising members of the feedback received at the meeting of the Committee held on 5 October 2009 and to report the action taken.

It was reported that a further edition of the "You Said, We Did" document incorporating members' feedback would be produced during 2010.

RESOLVED - That the report be noted

17. INFORMATION REPORT

The Committee considered a report of the Passenger Transport Executive on information regarding current developments and issues affecting the Leeds District.

NGT Project

It was noted that a Major Scheme Business Case for the NGT project had been submitted to the Department for Transport (DfT) in October 2009. A decision on whether the project had been given 'Programme Entry' (which was the first stage in the government approval process) was expected in the very near future.

Governance

It was reported that the ITA had established an 8 member ITA Executive Board which would meet on a monthly basis to carry out all the current functions of the full ITA with the exception of budget setting and the Annual Meeting. The new arrangements would help to deliver stronger governance and decision making and assist in securing more innovative approaches to funding and strategic delivery. It was noted that West Yorkshire was the first ITA to adopt the new arrangements and further reports would be provided at future meetings.

Quality Contracts

The Committee was advised of the unanimous decision by the Integrated Transport Authority to pursue the development of a Quality Bus Contract Scheme. PCC members would be consulted on the development of the proposal in the future. Operators, District Councils and other key stakeholders' consultations were also planned. An initial PCC member consultation was scheduled for 4 February 2010.

Real Time

It was reported that there were further problems regarding the electricity supply to the realtime information on service X84 and Metro would investigate the matter.

Members asked whether there were any plans to install real time at Otley Bus Station. It was noted that Metro did not own the bus station but would investigate the possibility.

High Speed Rail

It had been announced that the High Speed Rail Company, HS2, had been asked to focus its attention on the London to West Midlands corridor, including access to Heathrow Airport. HS2 were to report to Lord Adonis, the Secretary of State for Transport and it was expected that the Government would respond to the report in due course. Members expressed their disappointment that the East Coast route was not being pursued at this time and noted that Metro continued to press for the development of a comprehensive high speed network on the East Coast route.

Service Changes

The Committee was updated on the forthcoming service changes scheduled for 22/23/24 January 2010. It was noted that service 33A would not now be amended as previously advised. A copy of the Changing Times leaflet giving full details of the changes had been circulated to members.

Boxing Day 2009 Services

It was noted that a network of bus services had operated on Boxing Day linking several communities with Leeds and Huddersfield. Although final patronage figures were awaited, observation on the day suggested that the services had been well used.

It was reported that there had been problems on New Year's Eve with the closure of the Headrow to buses and discussions would be held with Leeds City Council at an early stage to avoid a recurrence in 2010.

Taxis in Leeds

It was reported that several measures had been put in place to alleviate the problem reported at the previous meeting regarding queuing hackney carriages, particularly on Boar Lane and The Headrow. Comment was made that the situation had improved and it was noted that the ongoing development of the next Local Transport Plan (LTP3) would provide the opportunity to address longer term issues in relation to the better management and integration of taxis.

Green Bus Fund

It was reported that First West and North Yorkshire had been successful in securing £1.7m from the Green Bus Fund which would fund up to 22 new vehicles. Discussions were ongoing between First and Metro regarding the introduction of the new fleet and progress would be reported to future meetings.

England 2018 World Cup Bid

It was reported that Leeds had been selected as a host city in England's bid to hold the World Cup in 2018. Should the bid be successful, extensive transport arrangements would be essential for the event.

RESOLVED - That the report be noted.

18. CONSULTATION ITEMS –

- (a) West Yorkshire's 3rd Local Transport Plan 2011-26 ('MyJourney' West Yorkshire)**
- (b) Services to Leeds-Bradford Airport**
- (c) Marketing Plan**
- (d) Priorities for SmartCard Roll Out**

West Yorkshire's 3rd Local Transport Plan 2011-2026

It was reported that the West Yorkshire Local Transport Plan 3 (WYLTP3) 2011-2026 would be prepared in partnership with the District Councils. A draft strategy would be in place by the end of Summer 2010. Initial awareness raising and engagement was currently taking place with partners and key stakeholders through newsletters, workshops and meetings and a survey was to be launched to capture initial feedback.

Further consultation would take place with the Passenger Consultative Committees and members were asked for their suggestions on how best to capture the views of the public.

It was suggested that technologies such as i-phones and Twitter be investigated together with conventional methods of consulting. The Committee felt it would be beneficial for a joint meeting of the Passenger Consultative Committees to be held to discuss issues relating to LTP3.

Services to Leeds-Bradford Airport

It was reported that following approval to expand Leeds-Bradford International Airport there was a need to consider a future strategy for bus services. Metro had recently consulted on a revised pattern of services and members were given a presentation outlining the proposals. These included:

- A half hourly direct service from Leeds to the airport
- An hourly Bradford – Shipley – airport service
- An hourly Bradford – Yeadon – airport service
- Bradford services co-ordinated to half hourly

It was also recognised that would also be opportunities to enhance bus links to Menston and Guiseley rail stations.

It was expected that the services would commence in April 2010 to coincide with Ryanair's new contract at the airport. However, it was acknowledged that

further consideration would need to be given in particular to evening, early morning and limited stop services, vehicle specifications and integration with rail timetables.

Marketing Plan

The Committee received a presentation on the marketing campaigns which had been carried out during 2009 which included:

- Go Greener Campaign
- Settle-Carlisle Campaign
- MetroMessenger
- Festive Services

It was proposed to include YourNextBus and MetroCard campaigns, the Travel for Work Project and the further promotion of MetroMessenger in the Marketing Plan for 2010/11. Members were asked to forward ideas for any other key themes that could be included in the Plan.

Priorities for SmartCard Roll Out

It was reported that the Department for Transport (DfT) had announced a funding package of £20m to support the development of smart and integrated ticketing to the 9 largest urban areas outside London which included the 6 PTEs, Nottingham, Leicester and Bristol. The funding would go towards implementing ITSO smart ticketing schemes and with £2.2m being allocated to each urban area. Half of the funding would need to be spent by the end of March 2010 and it was intended that Metro would work with South Yorkshire PTE to jointly procure the necessary infrastructure for implementing ITSO smartcard schemes.

The DfT had also announced an 8% increase to the BSOG rate for bus operators that introduced smartcard infrastructure on their buses. This would equate to approximately £800 per vehicle per year.

It was noted that there were also plans to enable the ticket barriers at Leeds and Bradford Interchange rail stations to accept ITSO smartcards and work was ongoing to progress this.

Members were asked to consider where they would expect to be able to purchase smartcards and associated travel products and to forward any further ideas or comments on the questionnaire provided at the meeting or by email to erica.ward@wypte.gov.uk.

RESOLVED - That PCC members' feedback and views be noted.