

WEST YORKSHIRE PASSENGER TRANSPORT AUTHORITY

Calderdale Passenger Consultative Committee

DATE: 27 MARCH 2007

AGENDA ITEM NO: 4

SUBJECT: INFORMATION

Report of the Passenger Transport Executive

1. MATTER FOR CONSIDERATION

1.1. Matters of information relating to the Calderdale district.

2. INFORMATION

Concessionary Travel

- 2.1. The 25% increase in travel by senior citizens and disabled persons as a result of the introduction of free local bus travel from 1 April 2006 is broadly in line with expectations.
- 2.2. New, national arrangements will be coming into effect from 1 April 2008 and will allow, for example, a permit holder from West Yorkshire to travel for free on any local bus service in England at most times.
- 2.3. It is almost certain that Metro, and other travel concession authorities, will be required to re-issue permits – a considerable undertaking as some 400,000 people will be affected. Plans for permits re-issue are being prepared and will be accompanied by extensive publicity. Metro has, along with other PTEs, been lobbying for the adoption of smartcards for new permits and an announcement is expected shortly.
- 2.4. The appeal by First against Metro's concessionary travel reimbursement arrangements has been determined. The adjudicator largely upheld Metro's approach but found in favour of First on the treatment of new trips. This decision has consequences for Metro's budget and work is being undertaken to accommodate any additional payments within Metro's overall budget.

"Putting Passenger's First"

- 2.5. The publication of the document 'Putting Passengers First' was reported to the last meeting of the PCC. Putting Passengers First set out a range of measures aimed at securing a sustainable long-term future for local bus services.

- 2.6. The document set out the next steps as including the publication of a draft Road Transport Bill, which would be subject to pre-legislative scrutiny by Parliament.
- 2.7. PCC Vice Chairs were invited to a Department for Transport local seminar to discuss issues of local bus services and governance.
- 2.8. It is understood that the draft Bill will be published in May and further information will be provided to future meetings.

Real Time Information update

- 2.9. The Real Time system has now received over a million texts since September 2005. The service delivers around 3,500 text messages to passengers each day, and has delivered over 5,000 messages during major traffic disruptions. A programme of on-street Real Time display installations is ongoing with over 40 now installed at various locations in West Yorkshire. In total there will be 922 on-street displays installed across West Yorkshire. The Yournextbus service continues to be the most used Real Time bus information system in the UK.

April Bus Service Changes

- 2.10. The next major bus timetable change of the year occurs on the weekend of 22 April 2007; however some cross boundary services may change the following weekend. Details of the changes will be set out in a copy of Metro's Changing Times leaflet which will be available at the meeting. The impact of the changes can be summarised as follows:
 - **Bradford** First service changes relating to the redesign of the minibus network to safeguard service 846 as reported to the January PCC meeting. Route and timetable changes to Keighley & District services between Keighley and Skipton
 - **Calderdale** – minor timetable changes.
 - **Kirklees** – minor timetable changes, withdrawal of service to Bradley Business Park following end of developer funding.
 - **Leeds** – punctuality improvements to First services 2/12/3/13, 40/50 and 97. Route changes to First services 60, 61, 62 aimed at improving reliability to services in Richmond Hill and Cross Green.
 - **Wakefield** – alterations to Arriva services between Wakefield and Castleford together with Wakefield, Pontefract and Knottingley services. Revised cross boundary services between Pontefract, Wakefield and Doncaster Also changes to Arriva local services in Ossett and North Wakefield. In May, Stagecoach services to and from Barnsley will be changed as a new bus network is implemented to coincide with the re opening of Barnsley Interchange

May – December 2007 Rail Timetable

- 2.11. The new summer rail timetable will start on Sunday 20th May and will cover the period until Saturday 8th December 2007.
- 2.12. GNER are providing 12 extra trains between Leeds and London Kings Cross, six in each direction on Mondays to Fridays, making the service frequency half hourly all day with 65 trains between Leeds and London in total. The extra trains call at Wakefield Westgate, Doncaster, Newark North Gate, Grantham, Peterborough and Stevenage improving journey opportunities and peak capacity.
- 2.13. Due to major engineering work on the Settle - Carlisle line the route will be closed between Settle and Appleby from 8 to 22 July 2007 inclusive and services will also be affected each weekend from September to December 2007. Journeys will be extended with replacement buses provided. Northern will produce special timetables.

MyBus Update

Implementation of Phase 2

- 2.14. The second phase of the Mybus project is now complete with successful implementation of 60 buses in service between September 2005 and February 2007. Appendix 1 details the schools served by Phase 2 buses.
- 2.15. A monitoring report was produced which demonstrated the success of Phase 2 of the scheme and provided the DfT with key feedback on the project. The key findings of the report include:
 - 84 services in Phase 2,
 - 27 secondary schools, 43 primary schools and 2 SEN schools served,
 - 65% of primary pupils previously travelled to school by car,
 - 2500 car trips are being replaced each week,
 - 20,000 primary school children have benefited from participating in the Mybus road shows.

Implementation of Phase 3

- 2.16. To encourage competition for Phase 3 services, tenders have been split into several batches. Table 1 details the operators selected to serve Phase 3 of the project.

Table 1: Phase 3 operators

Batch	Operator	Schools	District	No. Buses	Start
400	First	School base	Calderdale	15	Sept 06
401	First	Ravenscliffe	Calderdale	1	Sept 06
401	CT plus	Leeds	Leeds	25 (8 now in service)	Jan- June 07
426	First	1 Bradford/ 7 Calderdale	Bradford/ Calderdale	8	Sept 07
426	City Travel	Bradford	Bradford	6	June- Nov 07
426	HJC	Calderdale	Calderdale	2	April- Nov 07
426	K&D	Bradford	Bradford	3	June- Nov 07
432	HJC	Calderdale	Calderdale	2	Nov 07

- 2.17. Appendix 2 details the schools served by Phase 3 buses. To date, 24 of the 60 Phase 3 buses have been implemented. Initial results are showing that the success of the initial 2 phases has been maintained in Phase 3 of the project. For example, at North Halifax Grammar school, one of the schools served at School Base, 35% of passengers previously travelled to school by car.
- 2.18. Implementation of all Phase 3 buses will be completed by the end of 2007.
- 2.19. A final project monitoring report will be produced once all Phase 3 buses are implemented to evaluate the success of the overall Mybus project and to provide the DfT will key feedback on the scheme.
- 2.20. The completion of the project will mean that around a quarter of tendered schools services have been converted to Mybus. It is unlikely that this model for implementing services can be extended much further. However it is desirable that the key features of Mybus (e.g. dedicated, trained driver, CCTV, seatbelts, low floor accessible vehicles, use of call centre) are extended to other schools services. Metro is therefore currently reviewing its tendering documentation to allow for the inclusion of these aspects as options within future schools tender batches.

Halifax Rail Station

- 2.21. Halifax rail station has recently been the subject of criticism in the local press due to falling standards of maintenance and cleaning. This in turn has prompted a campaign for improved station facilities, citing Barnsley Station as an example of good practice.
- 2.22. Metro has liaised with Northern and Network Rail on the issues and Northern have already improved the standard of their cleaning regime. Metro is also investigating opportunities to develop partnerships with the rail industry and other local bodies with a view to developing and bringing forward a programme of improvements that would help to refresh the appearance and condition of the station. This would include encouraging Northern to bring forward their painting programme and Network Rail to carry out essential repairs as soon as possible.
- 2.23. Other works being considered in the short term include better marking out of the car park and replacement of the totem sign at the entrance to the station. It is also proposed that information facilities at the station are improved as soon as is practical.

Brighouse Bus Station

- 2.24. Planning permission for the proposed new bus station was obtained at the end of 2006 and the traffic regulation order process and consultation period has commenced. The Brighouse road safety group and a local shop owner have raised a number of issues regarding loading and access arrangements along Ganny Road. These were discussed at a meeting held on 14 February and it is anticipated they can be resolved with assistance from Calderdale Highways. It is anticipated that work will commence late 2007 with the new facilities becoming operational during summer 2008.

Norwood Green Bus Service / 520 Bus Service

- 2.25. From 29 January 2007, Arriva withdrew their service 226 between Halifax and Cleckheaton. The major impact of this change was the removal of bus services from the village of Norwood Green. Following local representation, Metro has secured two return journeys operating on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays between Norwood Green and Halifax. These services are provided by First and will operate on a trial basis until Friday 31 August 2007.

Bus Services to Illingworth

- 2.26. From 28 January 2007 First withdrew their commercial bus service 520 which linked the Heathmoor area of Illingworth to Halifax. Arising from this, Halifax Bus Company have extended their commercial service 700 to retain bus services in this area.

Public Representation on Passenger Consultative Committees –
Last Meeting of Current Membership

- 2.27. Public representatives on the Committee are reminded that this meeting is their last in their current 2 year term of membership. The recruitment process for the next 2 year term is scheduled to take place in the near future.
- 2.28. Public representatives are advised that an application form will be sent to them automatically for completion should they wish to re-apply.

3. RECOMMENDATIONS

- 3.1. That the report be noted.

Director General
West Yorkshire Passenger Transport Executive

APPENDIX 1

Phase 2 Schools

District	Secondary Schools	Primary Schools	Number of Vehicles	Start date
Bradford	Bingley Grammar	Crossflatts Primary Morton Eldwick Primary St Joseph's Myrtle Park Primary All Saints CE Sandy Lane Cottingley Village	5	14/11/2005
Leeds	Menston St Mary's	SS Peter and Paul West End, Horsforth St Margaret's Horsforth St Marys, Horsforth Sacred Heart, Ilkley	5	28/11/2005 (1 bus 19/06/2006)
Calderdale		Sacred Heart, Sowerby Bridge	1	03/01/2006
Calderdale	Brooksbank	Old Earth Primary	1	03/01/2006
Leeds	Corpus Christi	St Theresa's	1	30/01/2006
Leeds	Wetherby High	Lady E Hastings, Thorpe Arch	1	30/01/2006
Leeds	Boston Spa		1	30/01/2006
Kirklees	Ravenshall		1	20/02/2006
Kirklees	Salendine Nook	Moorlands Lindley Juniors Lindley Infants Reinwood Juniors Reinwood Infants	2	20/02/2006
Wakefield	Ossett High	Flushdyke	1	06/03/2006
Wakefield		Holy Family and St Michael's St Joseph's Pontefract	2	06/03/2006

Leeds	Royds	Methley St Mary's Rothwell Rothwell Primary Victoria Junior	3	20/03/2006
Leeds	Guiseley		1	03/04/2006
Leeds	Cockburn	Sharp Lane St Philip's St Mary's Middleton	3	24/04/2006
Leeds	Priesthorpe and Crawshaw	St Joseph's Pudsey	1	24/04/2006
Leeds	John Smeaton		2	24/04/2006
Leeds	Otley Prince Henry's		1	08/05/2006
Bradford	Wyke Manor	Whitechapel Middle	1	15/05/2006
Bradford	Salt's Grammar	Sandal Baildon CE	4	15/05/2006
Wakefield		Dane Royd	1	22/05/2006
Wakefield	Hemsworth	Badsworth CE	1	22/05/2006
Wakefield	Kings High		1	22/05/2006
Wakefield	St Wilfrids		3	22/05/2006
Kirklees		Rawthorpe Bradley	1 1	05/06/2006
Bradford	South Craven		1	05/06/2006
Leeds	Yorkshire Martyr's		1	05/06/2006
Leeds	Mount St Mary's West	Sacred Heart, Kirkstall	1	19/06/2006
Leeds	Abbey Grange		1	19/06/2006
Kirklees	Honley High		3	19/06/2006
Kirklees	St John Fisher		1	04/09/2006
Calderdale	Blessed Trinity		3	04/09/2006 (1 started 27/11/2006)
Wakefield	Highfield		1	30/10/2006
Kirklees	Ravenshall		1	26/02/2007
Calderdale	North Halifax Grammar		1	26/02/2007
Leeds		St Urbans	1	04/01/2007

Total: 60 buses

APPENDIX 2

Phase 3 schools

District	Secondary Schools	Primary Schools	Number of vehicles	Start Date
Calderdale	North Halifax, St Catherine's & Holy Trinity		15	04/09/2006
Calderdale	Ravenscliffe		1	04/09/2006
Leeds	Brigshaw High		1	08/01/2007
Leeds	David Young Academy		1	08/01/2007
Leeds	Parklands Girls		2	08/01/2007
Leeds	Corpus Christi		2	08/01/2007
Leeds	Carr Manor High		2	05/03/2007
Leeds		Adel Ireland Wood	1	19/02/2007
Leeds	Abbey Grange		7	16/04/07
Leeds	Cardinal Heenan		5	16/04/07
Leeds	Intake High		2	16/04/07
Leeds	Elmete		1	11/06/07
Leeds	TBC		1	TBC
Bradford	Thornton Grammar		2	29/10/07
Bradford	Queensbury High School		3	29/10/07
Bradford	Greenhead High School		1	04/06/07
Bradford	Oakbank High School		2	04/06/07
Bradford	Feverham College		1	04/06/07
Bradford	TBC		1	TBC
Calderdale	Ravenscliffe		1	12/03/07
Calderdale	Park Lane High		2	29/10/07
Calderdale	Sowerby Bridge High School		2	03/09/07
Calderdale	Calder High School		5	03/09/07
Calderdale	TBC		1	TBC

Total: 62 buses