

WEST YORKSHIRE PASSENGER TRANSPORT AUTHORITY

**AT A MEETING OF THE APPOINTED MEMBERS
HELD IN WELLINGTON HOUSE ON
FRIDAY 29 JUNE 2007**

PRESENT: Councillor J S King (Chair)

Councillors C Campbell and M Lyons

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Councillor R Downes who was attending a Local Government Briefing on the Local Transport Bill in York on behalf of the Authority.

2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no personal or prejudicial interests declared by Members at the meeting.

3. EXCLUSION OF THE PRESS AND PUBLIC

The Appointed Members considered a recommendation to exclude the press and public from the following items which contained exempt information as defined in paragraph 3 of Schedule 12a of the Local Government Act 1972.

RESOLVED -

- (i) That, in respect of Agenda Item No 5, it was agreed that disclosure of the report could prejudice further negotiations, the press and public be now excluded.
- (ii) That, in respect of Agenda Items 6 and 7, it was agreed that disclosure of the report could prejudice further negotiations on leases, the press and public be now excluded.

4. MINUTES

RESOLVED - That the minutes of the meeting held on 17 May 2007 be approved.

5. CONCESSIONARY FARES BUDGET UPDATE

Consideration was given to a report of the Passenger Transport Executive giving an update regarding the budget for concessionary travel following the adjudicators determination of the First Appeal and associated cost recovery from the bus operators.

It was reported that data for the fourth quarter of 2006/07 had now been analysed and the revised payment to operators had been calculated in line with the framework discussed with bus operators. Members were advised that the key elements were:

- (i) Passenger volumes derived from Metro's continuous on-bus surveys.
- (ii) Fares that would have been paid by concessionary travellers in the absence of the Concessionary Travel Scheme.
- (iii) Number of generated journeys as a result of the Concessionary Travel Scheme, calculated through an elasticity value (elasticity measuring changes in demand in response to changes in price).

Members were informed that Metro had used the DfT toolkit to recalculate an elasticity value using the evidence of changes in the numbers of concessionary travellers during 2006/07. On that basis calculations had shown an elasticity value which was considerably closer to Metro's original value and significantly higher than the value issued by the Adjudicator in determining an interim payment to First.

In this respect Members were advised of the revised estimated total concessionary travel payments for 2006/07 and 2007/08 based on the DfT toolkit method and the budgetary implications for the Authority as well as the risks involved and how they could be mitigated.

The Appointed Members were informed of the various options on how to proceed based on the various differential elasticity values and that consideration would also be given to the adjudicators recommendation that PTE's should work together to develop more common approaches to the reimbursement arrangements for concessionary travel.

RESOLVED -

- (i) That the position statement as detailed in the submitted report be noted.
- (ii) That discussions with the operators be continued.
- (iii) That further evaluation be undertaken on differential elasticities (for different fare levels) and the option of adopting the PTE average elasticity value.

- (iv) That the Concessionary Fares Working Group be updated on the position.
- (v) That a further report be prepared for consideration by the Passenger Transport Authority.

6. BUCKINGHAM BINGO LTD – BRADFORD INTERCHANGE

Consideration was given to a report of the Passenger Transport Executive on proposed terms for an increase to the lease of the bingo hall at Bradford Interchange.

RESOLVED -

- (i) That approval be given to the granting of a new lease to Buckingham Bingo subject to the terms contained in paragraph 3 of the submitted report.
- (ii) That the Passenger Transport Executive be authorised to complete the necessary documentation.

7. LEASE OF ADDITIONAL SPACE AT CROW NEST LANE BY ACIS

Consideration was given to a report of the Passenger Transport Executive on proposed terms to extend the area leased by ACIS at Crow Nest Lane.

RESOLVED -

- (i) That approval be given to the granting of a new lease to ACIS subject to the terms outlined in paragraph 3 of the submitted report.
- (ii) That the Passenger Transport Executive be authorised to complete the necessary documentation.