

WEST YORKSHIRE PASSENGER TRANSPORT AUTHORITY

AUDIT AND GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE

DATE: 14 MARCH 2008

AGENDA ITEM NO: 8

SUBJECT: AUDIT COMMISSION REVIEW OF BUS USAGE

Report of the Clerk

1. MATTER FOR CONSIDERATION

- 1.1. To consider the Audit Commission review of bus partnership working.

2. INFORMATION

- 2.1. The Audit Commission undertook a review of the role of the West Yorkshire authorities in 'Increasing Bus Use in West Yorkshire' as part of their audit work during 2007. That report was discussed at the last meeting of the Audit and Governance committee and has also been presented to both the LTP Steering Group and the Bus Working Group.
- 2.2. During the discussion at the last meeting of this committee members asked for a further discussion with the authors of the report who will be present at this meeting to do a presentation of their findings.
- 2.3. The draft action plan arising out of the report's recommendations is attached as Appendix A. (A copy of the full report is attached at Appendix B.)

3. FINANCIAL AND LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

- 3.1. None as a result of this report.

4. STAFFING IMPLICATIONS

- 4.1. None as a result of this report.

5. EQUAL OPPORTUNITY IMPLICATIONS

- 5.1. None as a result of this report.

6. RECOMMENDATIONS

- 6.1 That the draft action plan be developed further through discussions with District Councils and operators and be progressed through the Authority's Bus Working Group and LTP Steering Group.

**Clerk to the Authority
West Yorkshire Passenger Transport Authority**

APPENDIX A

RECOMMENDATIONS AND PROPOSED ACTIONS IN RELATION TO THE 2007 BUS USAGE REPORT

Recommendation	Proposed Action
<i>To Improve Partnership Working</i>	
Metro works with District Councils to develop approaches that would maximise the opportunities within the forthcoming Local Transport Bill for improving local bus services	There is a review of transport governance arrangements for the Leeds City Region. The West Yorkshire will be making further input to the Local Transport Bill.
Metro and West Yorkshire/City Region authorities undertake a review of partnership governance arrangements, and that arrangements that would enhance the deliverability of the Local Transport Plan and Bus Strategy be considered as part of the review.	There is a review of transport governance arrangements for the Leeds City Region. Effectiveness in delivering the LTP and Bus Strategy, as well as the Leeds City region Transport Vision, will be a key consideration.
Major bus operators be asked to provide submissions that sets out their planned contributions for the remainder of the period of the second Local Transport Plan, and that these be reviewed annually	Meetings are being held / arranged with the major bus operators to discuss their contributions to LTP targets. These will be reviewed annually. The outcome of these meetings will be reported to Metro/ District Council LTP and bus liaison meetings
Metro reviews the mechanisms for Member liaison in each District Council to strengthen the links between PTA members and other Members with transport or related responsibilities and interests	It is proposed that the arrangements for Member liaison in each District Council will be considered as part of the review of PTA Working and Liaison Groups.
<i>To Improve Value For Money</i>	
Metro and the District Councils undertake a mid LTP2 review, which would involve operators and others in consultations, and consider revisions to the planned capital programme and to the targets set out in LTP2	A mid-term review of LTP2 is planned for early in 2008.
Metro revises its conditions of contract for tendered services to reflect the second Local Transport Plan and bus strategy	Revised Conditions of Contract will be introduced from April 2008.
<i>To improve communications and encourage use of public transport</i>	
Metro is updating its consultation strategy Metro seeks to ensure that it has mechanisms in place to capture the views of a wide range of bus users and non-users	A draft revised consultation strategy is being prepared for consideration in January 2008 and will seek to capture views of both users and non-users.