

**AT A MEETING OF THE WEST YORKSHIRE INTEGRATED TRANSPORT  
AUTHORITY HELD IN WELLINGTON HOUSE ON  
FRIDAY 27 MARCH 2009**

**PRESENT:** Councillor C Greaves (Chair)

Councillors T Brice, C Campbell, A Carter, D Congreve,  
R Downes, E Firth, A Hawkesworth, G Hyde, J Jarosz, S Khan,  
M Lyons, P McBride, G Phelps, A Pinnock, K Rhodes, D Robinson,  
T Swift, P Wadsworth, M Walker, A Wallace and K Watson

**87. COUNCILLOR G WAINWRIGHT**

The Chair referred to the recent death of Councillor Wainwright and his dedication and service during his 17 years as a member of the Authority. Contributions were also made by Councillors Downes and Lyons and the Authority stood for a minute's silence in his memory.

**88. MR M MORRISON – SECRETARY AND SOLICITOR**

The Chair referred to the impending retirement of Mr Morrison, Secretary and Solicitor, after 10 years of service. He paid tribute and expressed the appreciation of the Authority and the best wishes of all members for a long and happy retirement. Councillors Downes and Lyons supported the remarks made by the Chair.

**89. NEW MEMBERS**

The Chair welcomed Councillor Watson to his first meeting and welcomed back Councillor McBride. He also thanked Councillor Bolt, who was no longer a member, for all his hard work during his second term of office on the Authority.

**90. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

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

**91. MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE AUTHORITY HELD ON  
6 FEBRUARY 2009**

**RESOLVED** – That the minutes of the meeting of the Authority held on 6 February 2009 be approved and signed by the Chair.

**92. MEMBERSHIP OF THE AUTHORITY AND APPOINTMENTS TO COMMITTEES**

The Authority considered a report of the Clerk on the membership of the Authority, appointments to Committees and the appointment of District Spokesperson for Calderdale and Kirklees.

The following nominations were put forward for the position of District Spokesperson:

	<u>PACT</u>	<u>LABOUR</u>
Calderdale	K Watson	No nomination
Kirklees	T Brice	P McBride

A vote was taken on the position of Spokesperson for Kirklees. Councillor McBride was proposed by Councillor Lyons and seconded by Councillor Phelps.

For	11
Against	11

As there was an equality of votes the Chair exercised his casting vote and the nomination was rejected.

A vote was then taken on the nomination of Councillor Brice who was proposed by Councillor Greaves and seconded by Councillor Downes.

For	11
Against	11

As there was an equality of votes the Chair exercised his casting vote and the nomination was accepted.

**RESOLVED –**

- (a)** That the appointments of Councillor K Watson (Calderdale) and Councillor T Brice (Kirklees) be approved.
- (b)** That, in accordance with Section 41 of the Local Government Act 1985, Councillor K Watson (Calderdale) and Councillor T Brice (Kirklees) be nominated to act as Spokespersons to answer questions within their constituent Councils on the discharge of functions of the Authority.
- (c)** That the revisions to the Committee structure as outlined in the submitted report be approved.
- (d)** That Councillor P McBride be appointed Chair of the Tendered Services Working Group.

**93. MINUTES OF THE MEETINGS OF THE LOCAL TRANSPORT STEERING GROUP HELD ON 9 FEBRUARY AND 16 MARCH 2009**

**RESOLVED** – That the minutes of the meetings of the Local Transport Steering Group held on 9 February and 16 March 2009 be noted.

**94. MINUTES OF THE RAIL WORKING GROUP STATION VISITS HELD ON 9 FEBRUARY AND 10 FEBRUARY 2009**

**RESOLVED** – That the minutes of the Rail Working Group station visits held on 9 February and 10 February 2009 be noted.

**95. MINUTES OF THE JOINT MEETING OF THE BUS AND TENDERED SERVICES WORKING GROUPS HELD ON 11 FEBRUARY 2009**

**RESOLVED** – That the minutes of the joint meeting of the Bus and Tendered Services Working Groups held on 11 February 2009 be noted.

**96. MINUTES OF THE MEETINGS OF THE TENDERED SERVICES WORKING GROUP HELD ON 11 FEBRUARY AND 4 MARCH 2009**

**RESOLVED** – That the minutes of the meetings of the Tendered Services Working Group held on 11 February and 4 March 2009 be noted.

**97. MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE DEVELOPMENT & ENVIRONMENT WORKING GROUP HELD ON 23 FEBRUARY 2009**

**RESOLVED** – That the minutes of the meeting of the Development & Environment Working Group held on 23 February 2009 be noted.

**98. MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE TAXI LIAISON GROUP HELD ON 2 MARCH 2009**

**RESOLVED** – That the minutes of the meeting of the Taxi Liaison Group held on 2 March 2009 be noted.

**99. MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE HIGHWAYS & TRANSPORT PLANNING LIAISON GROUP HELD ON 3 MARCH 2009**

**RESOLVED** – That the minutes of the meeting of the Highways & Transport Planning Liaison Group held on 3 March 2009 be noted.

**100. MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE ADULT SERVICES LIAISON GROUP HELD ON 9 MARCH 2009**

**RESOLVED** – That the minutes of the meeting of the Adult Services Liaison Group held on 9 March 2009 be noted.

**101. MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE CHILDREN & YOUNG PEOPLE LIAISON GROUP HELD ON 10 MARCH 2009**

**RESOLVED** - That the minutes of the meeting of the Children & Young People Liaison Group held on 10 March 2009 be noted.

**102. MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE FACILITIES WORKING GROUP HELD ON 11 MARCH 2009**

**RESOLVED** - That the minutes of the meeting of the Facilities Working Group held on 11 March 2009 be noted.

**103. MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE STANDARDS COMMITTEE HELD ON 13 MARCH 2009**

**RESOLVED** - That the minutes of the meeting of the Standards Committee held on 13 March 2009 be noted.

**104. MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE AUDIT & GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE HELD ON 17 MARCH 2009**

**RESOLVED** - That the minutes of the meeting of the Audit & Governance Committee held on 17 March 2009 be noted.

**105. MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE BUSINESS IMPROVEMENT GROUP HELD ON 17 MARCH 2009**

**RESOLVED** - That the minutes of the meeting of the Business Improvement Group held on 17 March 2009 be noted.

**106. MEMBERS ALLOWANCES AND EXPENSES**

The Authority considered a report of the Clerk and Chief Financial Officer on the Members' Allowances Scheme proposed for 2009/10, which had been reviewed and endorsed by the Standards Committee on 13 March 2009.

It was reported that under the Local Authority Members' Allowances Regulations 2003, a revised scheme was required to be approved annually before the start of the financial year.

Comment was made that Clause 11(i) of the existing scheme required that allowances should be increased from 1 April 2009 by the amount of any percentage increases, which had been approved for staff in the previous year. The nationally agreed percentage increase granted to Metro staff on 1 April 2008 was 2.5% and therefore the Basic and Special Responsibility Allowances, including those for all Independent Members, had been increased accordingly.

The Authority were also informed that travelling and subsistence for staff had not yet been announced and that any changes, when received, would be notified to members and would take effect from 1 April 2009.

#### **RESOLVED -**

- (a) That the Members Allowance Scheme be approved from 1 April 2009.
- (b) That the Scheme be amended from 1 April 2009 for any revised travel and subsistence expenses rates subsequently issued by the Executive and their staff.

### **107. CAPITAL PROGRAMME**

The Authority considered a report of the Passenger Transport Executive providing an update on the overall capital programme for 2009/10, including through the Local Transport Plan (LTP) and the Congestion Performance Fund.

It was reported that following the City Region's success in securing more than £300m for transport schemes from the Regional Transport Board, progress was being made on preparing the full business cases required on the East Leeds Parkway, new stations and additional park and ride spaces. The Authority was advised that the funding approvals being sought reflected the need to fund that work in order to access regional funding.

The Authority welcomed the additional £1.2m of Congestion Performance Funding which had been awarded to West Yorkshire by the Department for Transport (DfT) to support measures to reduce congestion on key corridors including additional bus priorities, traffic light priorities and marketing/promotion of public transport.

#### **New Generation Transport**

It was reported that Metro had secured approximately £250m which would be supplemented by the necessary 10% local contributions and allowed for the development of the core 3 line network. Work continued on developing a

Major Scheme Business Case and it was proposed to submit that to the DfT in late Summer 2009. The DfT would then consider whether the scheme would be granted Programme Entry.

Councillor Carter indicated that he had recently met with the Government Minister and made quite clear the ITA and City Region's aspirations for a high quality 21<sup>st</sup> Century transport system. He went on to say that the perception, performance and segregation from the road network was key to achieving a system to encourage modal shift and for the economic growth of Leeds and the City Region.

### **Tram Train**

It was reported that although the Regional Transport Board was not able to allocate funding at the present time to Metro's tram train scheme, it was important to progress the development of the scheme. The Authority were encouraged that the Regional Assembly and Yorkshire Forward made specific reference to the scheme in their advice to Government as a 'strong concept bid' and highlighted the need for major investment in public transport.

### **RESOLVED –**

- (a) That the report be noted.
- (b) That the expenditure as detailed in paragraph 2 of the submitted report be approved.

## **108. NATIONAL RAIL INITIATIVES**

The Authority considered a report of the Passenger Transport Executive on the possible opportunities as a result of the development of a National Rail Electrification Strategy.

### **Rail Electrification**

It was reported that following growing concerns about climate change and the cost and security of energy, the Government had recognised and endorsed the potential for a rolling programme of electrification. An announcement had been made that the Midland Main Line (MML) from Bedford to Sheffield would be established in the first stages of a potential national electrification strategy. In view of this, Metro, in conjunction with South Yorkshire PTE, had undertaken an assessment of strategic electrification options which could build upon the emerging national electrification framework. The work had identified the optimal extension of the proposed Midland Main Line electrification scheme together with potential 'infill' schemes which would provide benefits to both the Leeds and Sheffield City Regions.

The Authority, whilst welcoming the electrification of UK rail lines, stressed the importance of extending the schemes to include other lines across the City

Region. They made reference to routes that would benefit including Trans Pennine journeys between York, Leeds, Huddersfield and Manchester which would be significantly quicker if that line was electrified.

The Authority was advised that in parallel with the electrification development work, a group chaired by Lord Adonis was examining various options for expanding a series of national high speed routes. Current proposals included a Heathrow 'hub' with a connection to London and a high speed link with Birmingham as the potential first phase of a high speed rail network between London, the North and possibly Scotland.

Members were advised that Metro proposed to take an active role within the High Speed 2 initiative in order to seek opportunities to influence the Government led work with a view to ensuring that any future high speed rail link proposal was developed to serve the needs of the City Region. The importance of developing a proposal for West Yorkshire and the City Region which was robust, deliverable and offered value for money was stressed and a report would be prepared for a future meeting of the Rail Working Group.

The Authority stressed that it was essential that the Leeds City Region should be part of any planned high speed rail network. They indicated that once the business case had been prepared an urgent meeting should be arranged with Lord Adonis to put forward not only how important a high speed rail link was to the City Region but also the contribution the Leeds City Region could make to achieve national priorities. Comment was also made of the need to set out to the City Region's MPs the significant economic benefits that being part of a high speed network could bring.

#### **RESOLVED –**

- (a) That the report be noted.
- (b) That the development of proposals to deliver further electrification and high speed rail routes that serve the City Region be supported.
- (c) That a meeting be arranged with Lord Adonis and the Department for Transport once the business case had been developed.

#### **109. BUS STRATEGY**

The Authority considered a report of the Passenger Transport Executive on the implementation of the Bus Strategy and opportunities resulting from the Local Transport Act 2008.

It was reported that work on the Bus Strategy was being overseen by the Bus and Tendered Services Working Groups. The Authority was informed of a parallel approach which had been adopted by the Working Groups which sought service improvements through partnership schemes with bus operators whilst also progressing work on developing a business case for

quality contracts to achieve the desired efficient, integrated bus system necessary to support the local economy and meet the social and environmental objectives outlined in the new Act.

The Authority commented that their principle concern remained the level of patronage which continued to decline despite the growth in bus travel by senior and disabled concessionary pass holders and the introduction of FreeCity and Town Buses. Whilst supporting any partnership initiative to promote bus usage such as MetroLocal, guideway schemes and Performance Improvement Partnerships (PIPs), the Authority was extremely conscious that the recession and cost pressure on the operators could lead to the deregistration of a significant number of commercial services impacting severely on local communities, as well as further jeopardising the growth target.

It was therefore stressed that the review of the Authority's approach to tendered services was critical.

**RESOLVED -**

- (a) That the report be noted.
- (b) That a seminar be arranged on the Bus Strategy and bus service issues.

**110. YOUNG PEOPLE'S STRATEGY**

The Authority considered a report of the Passenger Transport Executive on the proposed adoption of the Young People's Strategy.

It was reported that the Strategy had been endorsed by the Business Improvement Group and the Children & Young People Liaison Group.

It was noted that a key piece of the Strategy surrounded the development of free or flat fare travel for young people. In supporting free travel for young people the Authority recognised the wider work being undertaken by pteg and SIG.

**RESOLVED -** That the Young People's Strategy be adopted.

**111. DALESBUS – AWARD OF GRANT**

The Authority considered a report of the Passenger Transport Executive on proposals to support bus services linking West Yorkshire and The Yorkshire Dales.

It was reported that the Dalesbus services were jointly commissioned from the Yorkshire Dales Society by the Yorkshire Dales National Park and North

Yorkshire County Council. In 2008 Metro contributed to the cost of the operations of Sunday services 784/785 (Ilkley – Skipton) with the intention of supporting the Society in establishing the service in the longer term.

The Local Transport Act 2008 and associated Governance reviews had set out a new environment for Integrated Transport Authorities and for a more strategic view of cross-boundary issues. Members were advised that the overall Dalesbus network offered an attractive and effective means by which the people of West Yorkshire could access the Dales by public transport.

It was therefore proposed to award a grant under Section 99 of the Local Transport Act 2008 for the Authority to use its well being powers to give financial assistance where it considered that the grant would achieve one or more of the objectives specified in Section 99(1) of the new Act.

**RESOLVED -**

- (a) That, exercising its powers under Section 99 of the Local Transport Act 2008, approval be given to provide a grant of £20,000 to the Dales and Bowland Community Interest Company for the operation of Dalesbus services in 2009 as detailed in the submitted report.
- (b) That, pursuant to Section 99(7) of the Local Transport Act, the payment of the grant be delegated to the Passenger Transport Executive.
- (c) That a further report be prepared for the Tendered Services Working Group detailing the performance of Dalesbus services in 2009 and for the consideration of appropriate action in future years.