

**WEST YORKSHIRE PASSENGER TRANSPORT AUTHORITY**

**AT A MEETING OF THE DEVELOPMENT AND ENVIRONMENT WORKING  
GROUP HELD AT WELLINGTON HOUSE ON  
MONDAY 13 OCTOBER 2008**

**PRESENT:** Councillor P Wadsworth (Chair)

Councillors C Greaves, S Khan, G Phelps and A Pinnock

**1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Campbell and Firth.

**2. DECLARATION OF INTERESTS**

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

**3. MINUTES**

**RESOLVED** – That the minutes of the meeting held on 25 April 2008 be approved.

**4. TRANSPORT VISION REFRESH**

The Working Group considered a report of the Passenger Transport Executive which provided an update on the refresh of the Leeds City Region Transport Vision (LCRTV).

It was reported that since the launch of the Transport Vision in 2006, a number of policy changes had taken place and it was proposed to refresh the Vision as part of the engagement strategy for transport. The refresh, together with the transport Multi Area Agreement negotiated with Government, would be used as the basis of a new 'city region deal' with central government and would form the basis of a ministerial presentation.

Members noted the main areas to be covered in the refresh which were outlined in the submitted report. It was proposed that both the DfT and GOYH would be involved from an early stage and Arup consultants had been appointed to carry out the refresh on behalf of the city region partners. The Working Group stressed the importance of the consultants being given a precise specification for the refresh work.

It was anticipated that the work would be completed by February 2009 and the Vision would be re-launched as part of the City Region engagement strategy for transport. However it was suggested that the re-launch of the Vision should not be linked with the proposed Transport Innovation Fund (TIF) bid. A progress report would be prepared for a future meeting of the Working Group.

**RESOLVED –**

- (a) That the report be noted.
- (b) That further progress reports be prepared for the working group as appropriate.

**5. NEW GENERATION TRANSPORT**

The Working Group considered a report of the Passenger Transport Executive which provided an update on progress made with the New Generation Transport (NGT) proposals.

Members noted a bid had recently been submitted as part of a wider Regional Funding Allocation (RFA) review process for the outstanding funding required to develop an optimised NGT network for Leeds. It was anticipated that the Major Scheme Business Case would be submitted in Spring 2009 and, subject to Programme Entry being obtained, the next key project indicator would be to move towards Conditional Approval. This process would take approximately 18 months and it was likely that a Transport and Works Act Order would be needed, involving a full Public Inquiry. It was currently estimated that construction of the scheme could commence in 2012 with opening of an initial phase of NGT by 2015.

The Working Group was updated on the approach to public engagement on the NGT project which had been developed. Members discussed the proposals to hold joint city centre exhibitions entitled 'Transport for Leeds' with the TIF project team in November 2008. Concern was expressed regarding the linking of the two projects as it was believed this could give the wrong perspective to the general public. Members stressed the importance of using up to date information and it was reported that the largest collection of data ever taken in the city had been carried out for the 'Transport for Leeds' project.

Members also noted the approach adopted for the development of the NGT project which had been agreed following detailed analysis work and discussions with the DfT. A progress report would be prepared for a future meeting of the Group.

**RESOLVED -** That the report be noted.

## **6. ENVIRONMENT STRATEGY UPDATE**

The Working Group considered a report of the Passenger Transport Executive which provided an update on progress in relation to Metro's Environment Strategy.

It was reported that an Environment Advisor had been appointed and members noted the ongoing work being carried out towards achieving the ISO 14001 international standard. It was noted that both GMPTE and Merseytravel were accredited to the standard and meetings had taken place with them to facilitate the sharing of good practice. Members also discussed the importance that any environmental initiatives should include a consideration of payback period.

The Working Group also noted that initial work had focussed on involving staff and consulting them on the priorities in the existing draft environment strategy and details of the key activities undertaken were highlighted in the submitted report.

**RESOLVED** - That the report be noted.

## **7. TRANSPORT INNOVATION FUND**

The Working Group considered a report of the Passenger Transport Executive on the development of a potential Transport Innovation Fund (TIF) bid. Members were also given a presentation which provided more information on the development of the NGT scheme and the results of the initial congestion analysis.

It was reported that within the TIF fund there was specific funding for TIF 'congestion' which was available to authorities who brought forward innovative packages of measures to tackle the most serious congestion problems. The Department for Transport (DfT) had made 'pump priming' funding available for authorities to undertake development work on the modelling and business cases required for a TIF congestion package. Metro and Leeds City Council had made a joint bid for pump priming funding to support work on developing a future transport strategy for Leeds, leading to a potential bid in 2010 for full TIF funding. The overall cost of the development work through to a TIF business case was estimated at £4.6m with 50% government support.

The Working Group considered the TIF work programme which had been divided into four blocks and details were outlined in the submitted report. It was noted that engagement with stakeholders was a key part of the overall programme which had been designed to carry out the necessary work to allow a full TIF bid submission to be made within two years if partners deemed this appropriate. As previously reported, it was proposed that the first main public engagement would be a joint consultation with the NGT scheme and would take place in November 2008.

**RESOLVED -**

- (a)** That the report and presentation be noted.
- (b)** That further update reports be prepared as appropriate.