

**WEST YORKSHIRE PASSENGER TRANSPORT AUTHORITY**

**AT A MEETING OF THE TENDERED SERVICES WORKING GROUP  
HELD IN WELLINGTON HOUSE ON  
MONDAY 14 MAY 2007**

**PRESENT:** Councillor C Townsley (Chair)  
Councillors D Congreve, B Hyde, G Phelps and G Wainwright

**82. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

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

**83. MINUTES**

Further to minute 76, Declaration of Interest, Councillor Wainwright advised that he had declared a personal interest in minute 81 and not minute 80 as recorded.

Further to minute 79, Bus Service 967 – Menston and Otley, it was noted that concern had been expressed regarding the loss of bus services in parts of Menston and tenders had been invited with an option to serve the missing links. The results would be reported to a future meeting of the Working Group together with further details regarding the transport provision for the residents of the High Royds housing development.

**RESOLVED** – That, subject to the above amendment, the minutes of the meeting held on 2 April 2007 be approved.

**84. TENDERED BUS SERVICES – CRITERIA FOR SUPPLEMENTARY FUNDING**

The Working Group considered a report of the Passenger Transport Executive on the criteria for supplementary funding to provide additional tendered bus services.

Members were reminded that at the Authority's Budget Meeting a sum of £500,000 had been identified for additional tendered bus services, including services aimed at addressing the implications of recent changes in the bus network.

It was reported that any initiatives would be trialled on a 6 month use it or lose it basis to assess their value in meeting PTA policies and Local Transport Plan targets. After 3 months an assessment of the operation would be made including on bus surveys to establish journey purposes. The results of the 3

month review would then be reported to the Working Group advising on the continuation or withdrawal of the service after six months. All service proposals would be appraised and should meet two or more of the following objectives on the delivery of LTP targets:

- Bus Patronage
- Accessibility
- Access to Health
- Mode Change

**RESOLVED** - That the criteria and procedure for funding supplementary tendered services be approved.

#### **85. AWARD OF BUS SERVICE TENDERS – LEEDS DISTRICT**

The Working Group considered a report of the Passenger Transport Executive on the award of contracts advertised in Batches 411 and 431 for local bus services in the Leeds District.

The Working Group were informed that although the batch had been split to encourage smaller operators to bid, the local Horsforth service had only attracted two bids.

Members welcomed the new service which would give improved links to/from Cookridge between Monday – Saturday but expressed concern regarding the proposals to withdraw the Sunday service.

**RESOLVED** - That the award of contracts as detailed in the submitted report be noted as being consistent with the Authority's policy for local bus services.

#### **86. AWARD OF CONTRACT – BUS SERVICES TO EUROPORT EMPLOYMENT AREA**

The Working Group considered a report of the Passenger Transport Executive on the results of tenders received for the continuation of bus services to the Europort employment area in Wakefield.

Members noted that tenders had been invited to run an hourly service operating between 0530 and 0900, 1330 and 1430 and between 1600 and 1800. Operators had also been invited to make proposals to integrate these journeys into their current operations under a 3 year contract. It was reported that tenders had been received from 2 operators, Arriva who had proposed to extend their 187 and 188 services into the employment area, and M Travel who had tendered to provide a stand-alone service.

The Working Group were informed that the tender submitted by Arriva represented the most cost effective way of meeting the current travel demand to the Europort site.

**RESOLVED** - That the award of the contract to Arriva for the continuation of services to the Europort employment area be noted as being consistent with the Authority's policy for local bus services.

## **87. HUDDERSFIELD FREETOWNBUS – EXTENSION OF CONTRACT**

The Working Group considered a report of the Passenger Transport Executive on the extension of the contract for the operation of the Huddersfield FreeTownBus.

It was reported that the Huddersfield FreeTownBus had exceeded key performance indicators with regard to patronage, modal shift and accessibility. Current average weekly loadings exceeded 5000 passengers and was continuing to increase. Members were advised that Metro and Kirklees Council were currently pursuing funding opportunities from the business sector in Huddersfield. To enable the conclusion of these negotiations it was proposed to extend the contract until 31 March 2008. Subject to confirmation of future partnership funding arrangements in accordance with PTA policy the service would continue until October 2011.

Members welcomed the success of the Huddersfield scheme and asked for a progress report to be prepared for the next meeting on the Wakefield FreeCityBus and, in particular, figures relating to rail patronage at Kirkgate Station before and after the service's introduction.

**RESOLVED** -

- (a) That the extension of the trial period of operation of the Huddersfield FreeTownBus until 31 March 2008 be noted as being consistent with the Authority's policy for local bus services.
- (b) That subject to the confirmation of continued funding by Kirklees Council and the Huddersfield business sector, the service be continued until 31 October 2011.
- (c) That a report on Wakefield FreeCityBus be prepared for the next meeting of the Working Group.

## **88. ACCESSBUS – EXTENSION OF CONTRACTS**

The Working Group considered a report of the Passenger Transport Executive on the extension of existing contracts for the operation of AccessBus in the five Districts until 2009.

It was reported that contracts were awarded in October 2000 for an initial three years and since that time they had subsequently been extended on an annual basis until October 2007 to co-ordinate the retendering exercise with the implementation of work arising from the Best Value review of the AccessBus service. Members noted that part of the work included the piloting of the trial 'Metro Local' service prior to determining the future of the core AccessBus

service. In order to maintain continuity of the AccessBus service until the outcome of the pilots had been evaluated it was proposed to extend the contracts until October 2009.

**RESOLVED** - That the extension of contracts for the operation of AccessBus services until 30 September 2009 in Bradford, Calderdale, Kirklees, Leeds and Wakefield be noted as being consistent with the Authority's policy for local bus services.

## **89. RENEWAL OF BUS SERVICE - WORTH VALLEY**

The Working Group considered a report of the Passenger Transport Executive on the renewal of tenders for the operation of bus services in the Worth Valley area of Bradford.

### **Worth Valley 'M' Services in the Haworth Area**

It was reported that the existing operator, Tyrer Tours, had given notice to terminate their contract from 29 July 2007 for commercial reasons. The Working Group were advised that the services were operating successfully and it was therefore proposed to issue tenders for the operation of the network with only minor modifications to the route and timetable.

#### **Service 500**

It was reported that following the review of the service it was proposed to operate the service between Keighley and Hebden Bridge only. Members were advised that the proposal would address requests for bus/rail connections between the Worth Valley and the Caldervale rail line for onward travel to Manchester. The operation on a shorter route would also alleviate the operational necessity for two contracts and result in a more economical and efficient service.

**RESOLVED** - That, in keeping with the Authority's policies for the provision of tendered local services, tenders be invited for the above services as detailed in the submitted report.