

## **AGENDA ITEM NO: 13**

### **WEST YORKSHIRE PASSENGER TRANSPORT AUTHORITY**

#### **AT A MEETING OF THE DEVELOPMENT AND ENVIRONMENT WORKING GROUP HELD AT WELLINGTON HOUSE ON THURSDAY 6 APRIL 2006**

**PRESENT:** Councillor S Khan (Chair)

Councillors R Downes, K Iqbal, J S King, J Lewis and C Townley

#### **11. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

There were no apologies for absence.

#### **12. DECLARATION OF INTERESTS**

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

#### **13. MINUTES**

**RESOLVED** - That the minutes of the meeting held on 13 December 2005 be noted.

#### **14. FTR ON ROUTE 4 IN LEEDS**

The Working Group considered a report of the Passenger Transport Executive on the plans for the use of the 'ftr' vehicle on Route 4 in Leeds and members were given the opportunity to inspect and travel on it.

Members were advised that the first 'ftr' service was due to be introduced in York in May 2006. The Group discussed the ticketing issues and it was noted that a solution was yet to be agreed for the Route 4 service in Leeds. It was agreed that a visit to York be arranged during the Summer to see their vehicles in operation.

It was reported that Leeds City Council and Metro were working to implement the necessary infrastructure for Route 4 and it was anticipated that the service would be introduced in Leeds in the Autumn of 2006. A report would be prepared for the next meeting of the Group which would include the costs incurred by Metro and Leeds City Council and members would be provided with a specific route map.

It was suggested that members of the Passenger Consultative Committees be invited to view the new vehicle during the summer.

**RESOLVED –**

- (a) That the report be noted.
- (b) That members of the Passenger Consultative Committees be invited to inspect the 'ftr' vehicle.
- (c) That a visit to York to view the new 'ftr' service be arranged.
- (d) That a report be prepared for the next meeting of the Working Group.

**15. DEVELOPMENT & ENVIRONMENT WORKING GROUP VISIT TO TRANSPORT SYSTEMS IN FRANCE AND GERMANY**

The Working Group considered a report of the Passenger Transport Executive on the recent visit to transport systems in Nancy, France and Saarbrücken, Germany which included a summary of the key findings.

The Working Group considered that the visit had been beneficial and had helped in their understanding of the different systems. Members thanked officers for arranging the visit and also to Councillor King for circulating his detailed note of the visit.

Members considered that further research into the systems visited was required in order to gain a clearer understanding of the issues involved in developing a scheme for West Yorkshire. Additional information would be sought on capital and revenue costs, patronage and modal shift benefits and economic growth. The potential barriers to implementation and the key risks involved in developing proposals would also need to be fully investigated.

It was suggested that a seminar be arranged for members of the Authority during the Summer once further research had been done.

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

**16. LEEDS SUPERTRAM REPLACEMENT**

The Working Group were given a presentation on the conclusions of a joint Leeds City Council and Metro review of transport options for Leeds, including bus based alternatives, following the cancellation of the Leeds Supertram project.

Members were advised of the short, medium and long term proposals and it was noted that the implementation of the programme would be subject to funding and negotiations with third parties. There would also be a need to hold further discussions with the Department for Transport.

**RESOLVED -** That officers be thanked for their presentation.

## **17. MAJOR SCHEMES FUNDING AND APPRAISAL**

The Working Group considered a report of the Passenger Transport Executive and was given a short presentation on an overview of the guidance issued by the Government on "Affordable Mass Transit".

It was reported that there were five main sources of funding for implementing transport projects which included Local Integrated Transport Block, Local Transport Plan Major Schemes, developer contributions, other contributions including private sector investment and the Transport Innovation Fund.

The Working Group noted the requirements of the Department for Transport's appraisal methodology and discussed the framework for developing transport proposals including costs and benefits. Members would be circulated with a copy of the "Affordable Mass Transit Guidance" which had been published by the Government.

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

## **18. NATIONAL ENERGY REVIEW**

The Working Group considered a report of the Passenger Transport Executive on the Energy Review issued by the Department for Trade and Industry (DTI) and to consider the content of a consultation response.

It was noted that the DTI had issued a consultation document "Energy Review" in January 2006 and had requested responses by 14 April 2006. Members considered the issues to be included in a response which included reducing demand, energy efficiency, carbon dioxide emissions (including aviation) and renewable energy sources.

The Working Group noted that it would be beneficial to review the current Environment Strategy and a report would be prepared for a future meeting.

**RESOLVED** -

- (a) That the report be noted.
- (b) That a response be made to the Department for Trade and Industry (DTI) which incorporates the issues raised and endorsed by the Working Group.
- (c) That a report be prepared for a future meeting on a review of the Environment Strategy.