

WEST YORKSHIRE PASSENGER TRANSPORT AUTHORITY
AT A MEETING OF THE LEEDS PASSENGER CONSULTATIVE
COMMITTEE HELD AT WELLINGTON HOUSE, LEEDS
ON MONDAY 7 APRIL 2008

PRESENT: Councillor T Leadley (Chair)

WYPTA

C Campbell
J Jarosz
B Jennings

PUBLIC REPRESENTATIVES

David Bowcock	Lynn Jones
Brian Cooper	Rosemary Keenoy
Vera Foster	Martin Marerwa
Edward Gale	Glenys Meredith
Philip Good	Frank Priestley
Timothy Holdsworth	Eric Smith
Joyce Hutt	Charles Stones

LEEDS CC

C Fox

Also in attendance:-

S Graham	-	First Leeds
C Powell	-	Arriva Yorkshire
D Mallender	-	First TransPennine Express
C Leslie	-	TSSA

12. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors D Congreve, R Downes, J Lewis and M Lyons and public representatives Jim Kerr and Hazel Lee.

13. MINUTES

RESOLVED - That the minutes of the meeting held on 14 January 2008 be approved.

14. MEMBER FEEDBACK

The Committee considered a report of the Passenger Transport Executive advising members of the feedback received at the meeting of the Committee held on 14 January 2008 and to report the action taken.

With regard to the consultation items presented to the previous meeting, the following further comments were made:

Promotion of Public Transport to Non-Users - journey speed and times were also important factors as these would have an effect on the attractiveness of services.

Information Provision – there was a need to have notice of cancelled journeys to enable passengers to make alternative travel arrangements.

Bus Service Changes – Sufficient time should be given to allow for consultation with local members and passengers prior to service changes.

RESOLVED - That the report be noted

15. INFORMATION REPORT

The Committee considered a report of the Passenger Transport Executive on information regarding current developments and issues affecting the Leeds District.

Leeds Rail Station

Members were advised of Northern's proposals to install automatic ticket gates at Leeds Rail Station and it was estimated that the first phase would be completed by October 2008.

It was reported that a scheme to create a new passenger access on the southern side of the rail station had been approved by the Yorkshire and Humber Regional Transport Board (RTB). The scheme would increase the passenger capacity of the station and significantly reduce access times to/from the developing southern section of Leeds city centre. Metro would ask Northern to consider the suggestion made for the introduction of a single ticket queue at the station.

Leeds Performance Improvement Partnership (PIP)

It was reported that the Leeds PIP had been signed by First, Metro and Leeds City Council and an action plan had been developed to improve reliability and further progress reports would be provided at future meetings of the Committee.

New First Bus Depot

The Committee were advised that First would be moving to a new bus depot at Hunslet Park on the weekend of 17/18 May 2008.

Boxing Day Bus Services

It was reported that following the pilot operation of daytime bus services on core routes into Leeds and Huddersfield on Boxing Day, plans were being made for a similar operation in 2008.

Leeds Bus Station Fatality

Members were advised of the investigations which had been undertaken by Metro, First, the Police and the Health and Safety Executive following the fatal accident at Leeds Bus Station in January 2008.

Tram-Train Trials

It was reported that a 'tram-train' was to be trialled for the first time in the UK on the Penistone Line. The trial would commence in 2010 over a two year period and would look at the environmental benefits, costs, technical suitability and passenger perception.

RESOLVED - That the report be noted.

16. CONSULTATION ITEMS -

- (a) Metro Messenger Service Development**
- (b) DfT Consultation on Bus Service Operators Grant**
- (c) New Concessionary Entitlement**

Metro Messenger Service Development

The Committee were given a short presentation on the Metro Messenger service and members' views were sought on the current service and how it could be further developed.

Bus Service Operators Grant

It was reported that The Department for Transport (DfT) were currently consulting on options for change to the current arrangements for bus subsidies, in particular the Bus Service Operators Grant (BSOG). Members were given a short presentation and it was suggested that a summary be sent to all PCC members for further consideration. Any comments on the consultation should be forwarded to Metro by 30 April 2008.

New Concessionary Entitlement

Members were aware of the new rules for concessionary travel entitlement which had become effective on 1 April 2008. They were given a presentation detailing what Metro had done to date to communicate information and were asked for any ideas or suggestions on how further marketing and communication should be carried out.

Future Consultation Item

It was reported that at a recent meeting with PCC members to discuss the Transport Governance Review, the issue of cross boundary services within an integrated transport authority area was raised. This would be discussed as a consultation item at a future PCC meeting.

Members were thanked for their suggestions to all the consultation items and asked to forward any further ideas or comments on the questionnaire provided at the meeting.

RESOLVED - That PCC members' comments and views be noted.

17. MR P KIRBY

At the request of Mr P Kirby, members were provided with a copy of a letter he had sent to Councillor Leadley dated 13 March 2008 together with a copy of Councillor Leadley's response.

The Committee noted that issues raised in his letter had been previously considered and that Mr Kirby had continued to raise these despite having received numerous replies on the reasons for decisions and actions being taken. The Committee was able to request reports on topics, including services provided by Metro, and had influenced decisions and would continue to do so.

Mr Graham reported that First Leeds had received many similar letters and emails from Mr Kirby and that he had visited Cherry Row Depot at First's invitation. During his term as Chairman, Councillor King had also invited Mr Kirby to Wellington House to discuss his concerns.