

WEST YORKSHIRE PASSENGER TRANSPORT AUTHORITY

DATE: 23 JUNE 2006

AGENDA ITEM NO: **8**

SUBJECT: APPOINTMENTS TO COMMITTEES

REPORT OF CLERK

1. MATTER FOR CONSIDERATION

1.1 Appointments to the Authority's Committees for 2006/07.

2. INTRODUCTION

2.1 Arising from the appointments made by the Constituent Councils the political balance of the Authority is:-

Labour	9
Conservative	8
Liberal Democrat	4
Green	1
	22

In accordance with the requirements of the Local Government and Housing Act 1989, regarding political balance in the representation on Committees, appointments to Committees need to have regard to the above.

Set out in Appendix A attached is the existing Committee structure together with an analysis of the political split required. It should be noted that these cannot be made precisely for each Committee and have therefore been rounded up or down to the nearest whole number. Members are asked to confirm what Committees they require for 2006/07 and to determine memberships in terms of political balance both individually and in total. Terms of Reference are attached at Appendix B.

2.2 The Appendix contains a number of changes. Following the cancellation of the Supertram scheme, that working group is no longer required and has been deleted from the committee structure. This provides the opportunity to merge the Supertram Working Group with

the Development and Environmental Working Group. A newly created Audit and Governance Committee has been established to provide a continuous overview of government, regional and EU proposals and legislation. In this context governance is taken to mean the way in which the Authority operates, controls itself and ensures that all its processes are 'fit for purpose'. Over the last few years there have been a number of changes in the structure of authorities and it is now common, and considered to be 'good' practice to include an Audit and Governance Committee. Examination of structures in other authorities suggests that any terms of reference should cover accounting, auditing and general governance matters.

- 2.3** New partnership arrangements, overseen by the LTP Steering Group, have been agreed for the delivery of the second Local Transport Plan. These arrangements mean that the Integrated Transport Forum is no longer required and it has therefore been deleted from the committee structures. The Integrated Transport Forum meetings were generally held in conjunction with meetings of the LTP Steering Group, which are to continue.
- 2.4** It will be important to continue to gain European and other external funding in order to implement the Authority's policies. The expansion of the European Union and focus on the accession countries, means that other external funding opportunities must be considered. It is also proposed that the remit of the European Funding Working Group be expanded to include other external funding opportunities, such as partnership working with Yorkshire Forward, The Northern Way and developer contributions.
- 2.5** As in previous years, the Standards Committee will be chaired by the Independent Member. Interviews will shortly take place to appoint a new Independent Member to replace Mr T Homewood who resigned in March.
- 2.6** It should be noted that although the Authority's Standing Orders allow provision to allow substitute members at all Working Group meetings, it is not legally permissible for there to be substitute members at the full meeting of the Authority.

3. RECOMMENDATIONS

- 3.1** That the Authority be asked to determine the Committee Structure, Terms of Reference and appointments to committees.

APPENDIX A

COMMITTEE	LABOUR	CON	LIB DEM	GREEN	TOTAL
Appointed Members	1	1	1		3
Audit and Governance Committee	2	2	1	1	6
Bus Working Group	2	2	1		5
Business Improvement Group	2	2	1		5
Concessionary Fares WG	2	2		1	5
Development and Environment Working Group	2	2	1		5
Education Liaison Group	2	2		1	5
External Funding Working Group	2	2	1		5
Facilities Working Group	2	1	1	1	5
Highways & Transport Planning Liaison Group	2	2	1		5
Local Transport Plan Steering Group	2	1	1		4
Rail Working Group	2	1	1		4
Social Services Liaison Group	2	2	1		5
Staffing Working Group	2	1	1		4
Standards Committee	1	1	1		3
Taxi Liaison Group	2	2			4
Tendered Services Working Group	2	2	1		5
Actual Totals (rounded up or down to nearest whole number)	32	28	14	4	78
Total seats per percentage split	31.9	28.4	14.2	3.5	78

The Members allocations shown in total reflect the percentage split of Members of the Authority.

	* NO OF MEMBERS	LABOUR	CON	LIB DEMS	GRN
Bradford PCC	5	2	2	1	
Calderdale PCC	2	1	1		
Kirklees PCC	4	1	2	1	
Leeds PCC	8	3	2	2	1
Wakefield PCC	3	2	1		

* Because all members are automatically members of their respective PCC, this section is excluded from the political balance requirements.