

WEST YORKSHIRE INTEGRATED TRANSPORT AUTHORITY

**AT A MEETING OF THE BRADFORD PASSENGER CONSULTATIVE
COMMITTEE HELD AT CITY HALL, BRADFORD ON
FRIDAY 15 JANUARY 2010**

PRESENT: Councillor A Hawkesworth (Chair)

WYITA

S Khan
D Robinson

PUBLIC REPRESENTATIVES

Lynette Gooderham-Fickés
Andrew Jewsbury
Gordon Lakin
Graham Peacock

Geoff Reid
John Spencer
Andrew Wowk

BRADFORD MDC

Councillor S Hussain
Councillor J Watmough

Also in Attendance:

G Lomax	-	Keighley & District Travel
D Haley	-	Northern Rail
C Rickaby	-	Observer

6. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors J Dodds (BMDC) and C Greaves (WYITA), public representatives Mr M Chappell, Miss A Peel, Mr J Prestage and Mr C Walters and Mr K Hussain (First Bradford).

7. MINUTES

RESOLVED - That the minutes of the meeting held on 2 October 2009 be approved.

8. MEMBER FEEDBACK REPORT

The Committee considered a report of the Passenger Transport Executive advising them of the feedback received at the meeting of the Committee held on 2 October 2009 and to report the action taken.

With regard to the FreeCity/TownBus services, members were advised that a reported would be submitted to a future meeting of the Committee outlining the results of the recent surveys and how the results could be utilised in developing the services further.

RESOLVED - That the report be noted.

9. INFORMATION REPORT

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

City Region Transport Strategy

Members were advised that in November 2009 the Leeds City Region launched its new City Region Transport Strategy. The strategy identified the main issues/challenges for transport and the current/future demands on the transport network. The strategy focussed on jobs and housing growth and the transition to a lower carbon economy. It was noted that the strategy defined the city region spatial priorities including specific interventions to deliver economic growth in a sustainable way.

Governance

It was reported that the ITA had established an 8 member ITA Executive Board which would meet on a monthly basis to carry out all the current functions of the full ITA with the exception of budget setting and the Annual Meeting. The new arrangements would help to deliver stronger governance and decision making and assist in securing more innovative approaches to funding and strategic delivery. It was noted that West Yorkshire was the first ITA to adopt the new arrangements and further reports would be provided at future meetings.

Quality Contracts

The Committee was advised of the unanimous decision by the Integrated Transport Authority to pursue the development of a Quality Bus Contract Scheme for West Yorkshire. It was reported that PCC members would be consulted on the development of the proposal and that an initial PCC member consultation was scheduled to take place on 4 February 2010. Operators, District Councils and other key stakeholders' consultations were also planned.

Real Time at Bus Stations

Members welcomed the installation of real time at the 8 main bus stations in West Yorkshire. The next phase involved the provision of a real time audio system at all 8 stations, along with a replacement of the life expired electronic displays.

Comment was made regarding the main displays in Bradford Interchange and how services were not listed according to their departure times. In response it was explained that Metro was aware of this issue and was working with ACIS to modify the displays. Metro officers gave assurance that this matter would be further pursued with ACIS.

Further comment was made regarding the discrepancies of real time predictions. It was explained that this could be attributed to loss of signal between the base unit on the vehicle and the real time system. In a situation

such as this the system would assume the signal had been lost and would automatically count down. Metro was also aware of this issue and investigations to resolve it were ongoing.

Bus Service Changes - January 2010

Members were advised of the changes to Services 619 and 629 in the Bradford district, which would be introduced at the next bus timetable change on the weekend of the 23 January 2010.

The Committee was updated further to the report and Metro officers advised that Service 33A would still continue to operate via Menston village.

Boxing Day Services 2009

It was noted that a network of bus services had operated on Boxing Day linking several communities with Leeds and Huddersfield. Although final patronage figures were awaited, initial reports suggested that the services had been well used.

Councillor Robinson advised members that he had investigated if Bradford traders would be interested in opening their businesses on Boxing Day. He regretfully reported that they had shown very little interest in this regard and accepted that services in the area could, therefore, not be justified.

Low Moor

It was noted that preliminary design work for Low Moor rail station would commence in January 2010 and, subject to further approvals and design work, it was envisaged that the station would be opened in 2012.

Councillor Robinson made comment regarding Bradford Highways' proposed changes to the access arrangements to the station, which was delaying scheme development. The Chair agreed to pursue this matter with Highways to minimise any disruption to the scheme progress.

Bus Services to Asda Keighley

The Committee was advised that Service 719 had been extended in December 2009 to serve the newly opened Asda store in Keighley, providing a link with the town centre and the Bracken Bank area. The service was operated by Keighley and District Travel and ran every 15 minutes during the day.

Bus Services to Leeds Bradford International Airport

Members were informed that following a review of the current pattern of bus services linking the airport with Leeds, Bradford and nearby communities, tenders had been invited from bus operators seeking to provide this network. Plans would be finalised when tenders had been returned, details of which

would be provided to the next meeting of the Committee. It was envisaged the new service pattern would commence in late April 2010.

Bus Services to Bradford Royal Infirmary

It was reported that Service 629, which operated off peak between Shipley, Windhill and Bradford Royal Infirmary, had initially been established in 2007 on a 'use it or lose it' basis. The service had proven popular and a 3 year contract had now been awarded to Halifax Joint Committee to operate the service on an extended timetable. It was further reported that the service would operate in the early evening and on Sundays on an experimental basis. In response to members' queries concerning the length of the trial period, it was stated that the trial would last for 12 months with a review after 6 months to determine passenger usage levels.

Members also noted that the revised 629 service would replace Service 619 between Bingley, Cottingley and Bradford Royal Infirmary and operate via Sandy Lane and the medical practice on Haworth Road to better meet local needs.

Bradford Interchange Ticket Barriers

The Committee was advised that the new ticket gates at Bradford Interchange would be commissioned towards the end of January 2010. The gates would be manned by staff who would assist customers to use the gates once they had become operational.

Mr Haley of Northern Rail reported that lessons learned from the installation of the gates in Leeds rail station would be implemented at Bradford Interchange and communicated to passengers.

RESOLVED - That the report be noted.

10. CONSULTATION ITEMS:-

- (a) West Yorkshire's 3rd Local Transport Plan 2011-26 ('MyJourney' West Yorkshire)**
- (b) Marketing Plan**
- (c) Priorities for SmartCard Roll Out**

West Yorkshire's 3rd Local Transport Plan 2011-2026

It was reported that the West Yorkshire Local Transport Plan 3 (WYLTP3) 2011-2026 would be prepared in partnership with the District Councils and it was intended that a draft strategy would be in place by the end of Summer 2010, with the plan being completed by March 2011. Initial awareness raising and engagement was currently taking place with partners and key stakeholders through newsletters, workshops and meetings and a survey was to be launched to capture initial feedback.

Further consultation would take place with the Passenger Consultative Committees and members were asked for their suggestions on how best to

capture the views of the public. In this respect, it was suggested that Internet Forums be created in order to enable members of the public to contribute towards the strategy.

Marketing Plan

The Committee received a presentation on the marketing campaigns, which had been undertaken during 2009 and included the Go Greener and Settle-Carlisle campaigns, MetroMessenger and festive services. Members commended the design of the Go Greener campaign poster, which they considered very effective.

It was proposed to include YourNextBus and MetroCard campaigns, the Travel for Work Project and the further promotion of MetroMessenger in the Marketing Plan for 2010/11. Members were asked to forward ideas for any other key themes that could be included in the Plan.

Priorities for SmartCard Roll Out

It was reported that the Department for Transport (DfT) had announced a funding package of £20m to support the development of smart and integrated ticketing in the 9 largest urban areas outside London which included the 6 PTEs, Nottingham, Leicester and Bristol. The funding would go towards implementing ITSO smart ticketing schemes and £2.2m had been allocated to each urban area. Half of the funding would need to be spent by the end of March 2010 and it was intended that Metro would work with South Yorkshire PTE to jointly procure the necessary infrastructure for implementing ITSO smartcard schemes.

The DfT had also announced an 8% increase to the BSOG rate for bus operators that introduced smartcard infrastructure on their buses. This would equate to approximately £800 per vehicle per year.

It was noted that there were plans to enable the ticket barriers at Leeds and Bradford Interchange rail stations to accept ITSO smartcards and work was ongoing to progress this.

Members were asked to consider where they would expect to be able to purchase smartcards and associated travel products. It was commented that the Oyster system in London was very successful and easy to use and it was hoped the system in West Yorkshire would be similar.

Mr Lomax of Keighley and District Travel advised the Committee that his company was wholly supportive of the idea and was keen to be involved in the initiative.

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 or by email to erica.ward@wypte.gov.uk.

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

11. REVISED TIME OF NEXT MEETING OF BRADFORD PASSENGER CONSULTATIVE COMMITTEE

The Chair advised the members that the next meeting of the Committee (Friday 26 March 2010) was scheduled to take place at 2.30 pm.