

## AGENDA ITEM NO: 2.

### WEST YORKSHIRE PASSENGER TRANSPORT AUTHORITY

#### AT A MEETING OF THE LEEDS PASSENGER CONSULTATIVE COMMITTEE HELD AT WELLINGTON HOUSE, LEEDS ON MONDAY 14 JULY 2008

**PRESENT:** Councillor C Campbell (Chair)

#### WYPTA

R Downes  
G Hyde  
J Jarosz  
M Lyons  
P Wadsworth

#### PUBLIC REPRESENTATIVES

David Bowcock	Rosemary Keenoy
Brian Cooper	Hazel Lee
Vera Foster	Glenys Meredith
Philip Good	Eric Smith
Joyce Hutt	Charles Stones
Lynn Jones	

#### LEEDS CC

C Fox  
J Lewis

#### Also in attendance:-

S Graham	-	First Leeds
C Powell	-	Arriva Yorkshire
C Leslie	-	TSSA

### 1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Councillor D Congreve and public representatives E Gale, J Kerr and F Priestley.

### 2. MINUTES

**RESOLVED** - That the minutes of the meeting held on 7 April 2008 be approved.

### 3. 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 7 April 2008 and to report the action taken.

**RESOLVED** - That the report be noted

#### **4. INFORMATION REPORT**

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

##### **East Leeds Parkway**

It was reported that the Regional Transport Board had given support to £80 million of schemes in the Leeds City Region as part of an Interim Review of the Regional Funding Allocation. The package of schemes included a bid for an East Leeds Parkway station which would improve accessibility to the rail network and would also provide an opportunity for a turn-back facility for trains east of Leeds. Metro was leading the development of a Major Scheme Business Case for submission to the Department for Transport in order to achieve 'Programme Entry Level' and Network Rail was working on the proposals so that the overall business case for the proposed station could be developed. The Committee welcomed the improvements that a new station would bring to the area but expressed concern that the proposals included a relocation of Micklefield Station, which would increase walk times for some local residents, whilst decreasing walk times for others.

##### **July Bus Service Changes**

Members were advised that the next major timetable change would take place on the weekend of 27/28 July 2008. Copies of Metro's Changing Times leaflet were circulated at the meeting.

##### **'Kids for a Quid' Offer**

Members were advised that Metro was developing a Young People's Strategy and, as part of it, operators had agreed to implement a 'Kids for a Quid' promotion throughout August. The offer would be available to children under 11 years old accompanied by an adult or any child in possession of a half fare pass.

##### **Transport for High School Students**

Councillor Lyons advised the meeting of a scheme which had been introduced in some high schools in Leeds where students were being given part time apprenticeships towards the end of their secondary education. This involved studying at school for two days a week, spending a day at college and two days on work experience. However, many students could not afford the cost of travel to their work placements and Councillor Lyons asked if Metro and the operators could assist. Metro and Mr Graham of First Leeds agreed to explore options and report on progress to a future meeting.

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

5. **CONSULTATION ITEMS -**
- (a) **Access to Hospitals**
  - (b) **Cross Boundary Bus Services**
  - (c) **Realtime Displays – Demonstration**
  - (d) **Fuel Prices and Transport**

### **Access to Hospitals**

The Committee was given a short presentation on the access to hospitals and health services project which had been identified as a priority for action in the Local Transport Plan Accessibility Strategy.

It was reported that Metro had employed two students on summer work placement to undertake an audit of hospital sites in each district. The aim of the audits was to gather information on public transport and physical accessibility issues to inform shared actions for delivery by the hospitals, Metro and districts.

Members' feedback on access to hospitals was sought and comment was made that all people would prefer direct links from their home to health services if possible. It was reported that Metro had provided some services to hospitals on a 'use it or lose it' basis. However the need to advertise and publicise these services was stressed in order for them to be able to continue. It was suggested that hospitals could assist by putting service information on their own publicity and appointment letters. Comment was made that access to GP surgeries on the 'use it or lose it' services was sometimes a problem because they did not always operate during the surgery's opening hours. It was also suggested that the location of bus stops and the routing of the services should enable easy access to health services for people with mobility impairment. It was requested that information be included in the access audit on the use and impact of the FreeCityBus to Leeds General Infirmary. It was noted that AccessBus could not accommodate hospital appointments but it was suggested that consideration could be given to providing a dedicated hospital service similar to the 'Mybus' services. However it was noted that this would be more challenging because hospitals appointments were arranged on an ad hoc basis compared to the start and finishing times of the school day.

### **Cross Boundary Bus Services**

It was reported that at a seminar on the Transport Governance Review, PCC members had requested a discussion on cross-boundary bus services and destinations served and not-so-well served to be included as a future consultation item. No comments were made.

### **Realtime Displays - Demonstration**

The Committee were advised that Metro was developing a new form of realtime display which combined the information from a number of individual stops on one screen. The screens could be used in the foyers of shopping

centres, hospitals and other large, well used buildings to provide information on services which were leaving from the vicinity of that location. Members were given a short presentation and demonstration and their views were sought on where the new service could be rolled out. The Committee welcomed the realtime system but were concerned that few realtime displays had been erected in the more remote/rural areas. Use of these stops did not justify the provision of realtime displays and it was noted that information could be obtained from the text messaging service to mobile phones. It was suggested that a screen should be provided at Otley Bus Station.

### **Fuel Prices and Transport**

It was recognised that fuel prices had increased significantly over the last year and that this could have significant short and long term implications on transport supply and demand.

Members' views were sought on public reaction to this situation and how people could be encouraged to make more use of public transport, cycling and walking.

There was a discussion regarding the impact of fuel prices on operator costs and the challenge of providing attractive, reliable and affordable services when costs were increasing.

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.