

**AT A MEETING OF THE WEST YORKSHIRE INTEGRATED TRANSPORT
AUTHORITY EXECUTIVE BOARD HELD IN WELLINGTON HOUSE ON
FRIDAY 30 APRIL 2010**

PRESENT: Councillor R Downes (Chair)

Councillors C Campbell, C Greaves, E Firth, S Khan, M Lyons,
K Rhodes and P Wadsworth

16. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Councillor A Pinnock.

17. COUNCILLOR S KHAN

The Chair welcomed Councillor S Khan who was attending his first Executive Board meeting.

18. MRS S PICKERSGILL

The Chair reported that Sheena Pickersgill would shortly be leaving the Executive. He expressed his appreciation of the committed and hard working service which she had given the Authority and the Executive. He gave Mrs Pickersgill his congratulations and best wishes for the future. This was unanimously endorsed by the meeting.

19. COUNCILLOR K RHODES

The Chair expressed his appreciation to Councillor K Rhodes, who was standing down as a councillor, for his hard work and dedication to the Authority and wished him well for the future. Councillor Rhodes thanked the Chair and members and commented that he had enjoyed his time on the Authority and it would be the one aspect of local government he would miss the most.

Councillors Lyons and Greaves supported the remarks made by the Chair.

20. LOCAL ELECTIONS

The Chair expressed his best wishes to those members who were standing in forthcoming local elections.

21. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

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

22. MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE EXECUTIVE BOARD HELD ON 26 FEBRUARY 2010

RESOLVED - That the minutes of the meeting of the Executive Board held on 26 February 2010 be approved and signed by the Chair.

23. NEW GENERATION TRANSPORT UPDATE

The Executive Board considered a report of the Passenger Transport Executive on progress in developing the New Generation Transport (NGT) scheme following programme entry for routes to the North and South of the City.

In welcoming Programme Entry Approval, the Executive Board expressed their disappointment at the decision taken by the DfT not to award funding to the east route (St James's Hospital) and the Leeds City Centre Loop.

They stated their clear intention to find a way of delivering those routes by way of alternative funding options.

The Executive Board noted that the next stage would involve preparing a Transport and Works Act Order (TWA) application. The application which was currently anticipated in September 2010 would then be followed by a public inquiry which was likely to take place in spring 2011.

It was recognised by the Board that whilst gaining Programme Entry Approval, which provided an increased level of security, they were very mindful of the potential risks following any post election spending review. They stressed the need that senior members of the ITA and LCC meet with the Secretary of State in order to seek a commitment and assurances regarding the future funding of the scheme as a matter of urgency.

RESOLVED -

- (a) That the report be noted.
- (b) That the DfT's Programme Entry funding be formally accepted and that discussions continue with the DfT to identify other funding opportunities for those parts of the network without Programme Entry Approval.

- (c) That a meeting be sought with the appropriate DfT Minister to gain further assurances about the security of NGT funding.
- (d) That work on funding options for those sections of the NGT network not granted DfT approval be explored.

24. MAJOR SCHEME DEVELOPMENT

The Executive Board considered a report of the Passenger Transport Executive providing an update on proposed major schemes and seeking approval for the continuation of funding for the next stages of the development work in respect of those schemes.

It was reported that funding approval of £285k was sought for Metro staff working on the NGT project in 2010/11.

The report also set out the expenditure of £285k which was required on Major Schemes (Table 2) which would be funded from the £1.4m provided in the Capital Programme for 2010/11.

In response to a question raised by Councillor Khan the Executive Board was told that work on the development of a new station at Low Moor was progressing in accordance with the planned timetable with completion by December 2012.

RESOLVED -

- (a) That the latest position in relation to the development of major schemes be noted.
- (b) That expenditure in the sum of £285k on Rapid Transit staff salaries, as set out in paragraph 2.3 of the submitted report, to be funded through the 2010/11 LTP allocation be approved.
- (c) That expenditure in the sum of £285k, as set out in Table 2 of the submitted report, to be funded through the LTP allocation be approved.
- (d) That a further review of Major Schemes Capital Expenditure be carried out following the completion of the next phases of work and further announcements made by the DfT.
- (e) That the latest position statement with regard to the development of Low Moor rail station be welcomed.

25. DEVELOPMENT OF A BUS QUALITY CONTRACT SCHEME

The Executive Board considered a report of the Passenger Transport Executive on progress in developing a Bus Quality Contract Scheme.

It was reported that following the decision taken by the ITA to develop a Quality Contract Scheme it had resulted in national and local media coverage which had been extremely positive.

The Executive Board were advised that work to date had included:-

- Liaison meetings held with the five District Councils.
- Consultation exercise carried out with PCC members and the general public.
- Development of a communications strategy to be implemented later in the year.
- Preparing a draft Public Interest Statement.

The Executive commented that whilst welcoming the discussions which were continuing with the bus operators to develop enhanced quality partnership proposals it was still their view that it was imperative to pursue Quality Contracts. The recent example of First running to compete with a tendered service to Leeds/Bradford Airport operated by Centrebus was a prime example of where Quality Contracts would have negated this type of issue.

In this respect a report would be brought to a future meeting of the Executive Board to consider:-

- (i) A review of operator responses.
- (ii) An analysis of the gap between what any partnership(s) would offer and the ITA's desired outcomes.
- (iii) An evaluation of the risks associated with alternative partnership approaches.

The Executive welcomed the approach which would assist in considering the work undertaken in developing the Bus Quality Contract Scheme, the extent to which operators were prepared to meet those objectives through partnership working, and the benefits and risks of partnership and Quality Contract Scheme approaches .

RESOLVED - That the report be noted.

26. EXCLUSION OF THE PRESS AND PUBLIC

The Working Group considered a recommendation to exclude the press and public from Agenda Item 8 which contained exempt information as defined in paragraph 3 (information relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person (including the authority holding that information)) of Schedule 12A to the Local Government Act 1972.

It was recommended that, because disclosure of the report would prejudice future negotiations on bus station leases, the public interest would be better served by maintaining the exemption and therefore the press and public should be excluded from the meeting.

RESOLVED - That the press and public be now excluded from Agenda Item 8.

***27. NEW LEASE – BATLEY BUS STATION**

The Executive Board considered a report of the Passenger Transport Executive on the proposed terms for the granting of a new lease at Batley bus station.

RESOLVED -

- (i) That approval be given to the granting of a 5 year lease to Mr Khan subject to the terms outlined in paragraph 2 of the submitted report.
- (ii) That the Passenger Transport Executive be authorised to complete the necessary documentation.