WEST YORKSHIRE INTEGRATED TRANSPORT AUTHORITY

VISIT TO WEST YORKSHIRE RAIL STATIONS BY THE RAIL WORKING GROUP ON TUESDAY 10 FEBRUARY 2009

PRESENT:	Councillor C Campbell		
	Councillor C Greaves (Leeds, Horsforth & Menston Stations)		
	Councillor D Robinson		
In Attendance:	A Haley	-	Northern Rail
	J Oxley	-	Metro
	R Chaplin	-	WYITA

25. APOLOGIES

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Carter and Rhodes.

26. VISIT TO WEST YORKSHIRE RAIL STATIONS

Members of the Working Group visited Leeds, Horsforth, Menston and Crossflatts Rail Stations.

Leeds Station

Members met with Angela Hern, Northern's Station Manager at Leeds to see the recently installed ticket gates in operation. Members were advised that the gates were working well and it was anticipated that the issues regarding the use of some prepaid tickets and out of date tickets would be resolved in the near future.

It was reported that there had been no problems with congestion since the ticket gates were introduced. Members were made aware of the safety and evacuation procedures that come into place at the gate line should an emergency situation occur on the station.

Members were also shown inside the kiosk that houses the ticket gate controls to see how the gates can be individually operated to deal with the daily tidal flow of passengers

Horsforth Station

Horsforth Station is served by 2 trains per hour to Leeds and Harrogate during the day and 4 trains per hour during the morning and evening peaks. Horsforth is a staffed station and has a ticket office, heated waiting rooms and

a covered waiting area on both platforms. The ticket office is open between 0700 – 1800

The existing car park is heavily over-subscribed with no substantial areas of land nearby to provide additional parking. It is believed that many cars are parking on-street and Leeds City Council had recently issued notices advising of the introduction of waiting restrictions around the station. It was noted that the proposed new station at Horsforth Woodside would potentially allow for approximately 300 car parking spaces, which would help to alleviate the problem but in the meantime there was no immediate solution.

The following observations were made:

- The station was very clean with good facilities.
- The station was on a bus route with a stop nearby. It was reported that the local college provided a shuttlebus for its students and it was suggested that posters be displayed to advertise this. The bus went around Horsforth and it was suggested that investigations be made into making the service available to all rail passengers.
- Disabled access was acceptable but it was a long walk from the ticket office to the other platform.
- Toilet facilities were available on request from the ticket office.
- CCTV coverage – 9 cameras viewed from the ticket office

<u>Menston</u>

Menston Station has a half hourly service to Leeds and Bradford and every 15 minutes to Ilkley. It has 120 car parking spaces but is oversubscribed and Bradford Council is proposing to introduce Traffic Regulation Orders on streets around the station. It was estimated that this would halve the amount of spaces available for passengers at the moment. It was suggested that investigations be continued into the possibility of some land near to the station, owned by a private members club, being used for daytime car parking.

The following observations were made:

- Bus stop/shelter/timetable information at the station.
- Staffed station with ticket office and waiting room.
- Privately owned café inside the station building (although closed at time of visit).
- Realtime information in the station building.

- New information screens on the platform.

- Convenient footbridge for platforms, although not fully accessible.

Crossflatts

The current car park provided 98 spaces and at present there was overspill onto the surrounding roads. It was proposed to extend the existing car park into land owned by Network Rail. This would provide an additional 70 spaces, making a total of 168 spaces, 10 of which would be for disabled person's use.

The station is served by 2 trains per hour to Leeds and Bradford and 4 trains per hour to Skipton.

The following observations were made:

- The platforms were tidy and the litter bags had been emptied.

- The shelter structure was dirty, especially the polycarbonate roof.

- There was a help point on the platform (for general information and for alerting the British Transport Police in emergency situations). The help point was demonstrated to be functioning.

- The platform was of wooden construction and was in generally good repair.