

## **AGENDA ITEM No: 5**

### **WEST YORKSHIRE PASSENGER TRANSPORT AUTHORITY**

#### **AT A MEETING OF THE TENDERED SERVICES WORKING GROUP HELD IN WELLINGTON HOUSE ON WEDNESDAY 8 FEBRUARY 2006**

**PRESENT:** Councillor J Akhtar (Chair)

Councillors R Downes, K Iqbal, P McBride, J Prestage and  
G Wainwright

#### **128. APOLOGIES**

An apology for absence was received from Councillor G Phelps.

#### **129. DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS**

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

#### **130. MINUTES**

The Working Group welcomed the success of the Leeds City Bus during its first few weeks of operation. Early patronage figures had shown that the bus had carried 10,000 passengers in the first week, which had far exceeded expectation.

**RESOLVED** - That the minutes of the meeting held on 11 January 2006 be approved.

#### **131. SERVICE 636/637 – BRADFORD KICKSTART**

The Working Group considered a report of the Passenger Transport Executive on the award of a de minimis contract for the operation of Service 636/637 as part of the Department for Transport Kickstart award to provide frequent bus services to Morrisons HQ building in Gain Lane, Bradford.

It was reported that a de minimis contract had been awarded to First for a five year period. The first 3 years would be paid by DfT funding and then First would be contractually obliged to operate the service at no additional subsidy for a further two years.

It was reported that First would extend their Orange Line service on a frequent basis from 0600 until 1830 with an hourly service thereafter.

**RESOLVED** - That the award of a de minimis contract to First for the Operation of Service 636/637 be noted as being consistent with the Authority's policy for the provision of local bus services.

**132. CHANGES TO RURAL BUS SERVICE CONTRACTS – SERVICES 335 AND 903**

The Working Group considered a report of the Passenger Transport Executive on changes to rural bus services 335 and 903.

**Service 335 Marsden – Slaithwaite – Meltham – Holmfirth (Sunday daytime and Friday and Saturday evening)**

It was reported that the operator of the service, JRT, was struggling to operate the contract due to vehicle repairs and driver shortages. As a result they had given notice to terminate the contract with effect from 29 January 2006. Following requests for quotes from local operators the contract had been awarded to Ryburn Taxibus (Slaithwaite) Ltd who would be using one of the existing MetroConnect taxibus vehicles to deliver the service.

It was reported that the new contract for the operation of Service 335 would reduce the annual cost of operation by £4,896 per annum.

**Service 903 Airedale Hospital – Steeton – Silsden – Addingham**

It was reported that following requests from passengers the operator of the service had indicated a willingness to provide a new low floor easy access vehicle provided that the existing three year contract was extended to five years on the current terms.

**RESOLVED –**

- (a) That the award of a de minimis contract to Ryburn Taxibus Ltd for the operation of Service 335 (Evenings and Sundays) be noted as being consistent with the Authority's policy for the provision of local bus services.
- (b) That the award of a de minimis contract to Jacksons of Silsden for the Operation of Service 903 be noted as being consistent with the Authority's policy for the provision of local bus services.

**133. SERVICE 647 – AWARD OF DE MINIMIS CONTRACT**

The Working Group considered a report of the Passenger Transport Executive on the extension of a de minimis contract for the operation of Service 647, an hourly off peak service between Yeadon and Bolton Junction via Greengates, Apperley Bridge and Rawdon.

It was reported that following representations from Councillors and local residents regarding the level of service, especially for links to Bradford, a meeting had been arranged with First to discuss the route of current services and to explore options for network improvements to better meet customer needs.

**RESOLVED** - That the award of a de minimis contract to First for the extension of Service 647 for a 12 month period as detailed in the submitted report be noted as being consistent with the Authority's policy for the provision of local bus services.

#### **134. EMERGENCY TENDERED SERVICES CONTRACTS**

The Working Group considered a report of the Passenger Transport Executive on the award of emergency contracts to ensure that local communities had access to public transport during disruption arising from highway works.

Services had been provided at the following locations:

Holywell Green – Gas main works resulting in the closure of Stainland Road  
Sandy Lane, Wilsden – Disruption of carriage works in Wilsden  
Brookfoot – Carriage works between Brighouse and Southowram  
Northorpe, Mirfield – Resurfacing works on Shillbank Lane

**RESOLVED** - That the award of emergency works be noted.

#### **135. TENDER TIMETABLE**

The Working Group considered a report of the Passenger Transport Executive on the tender programme for local bus services and consequential adjustments to current contracts to coincide with the agreed service change dates.

Members noted that there would be a large number of tender renewals in 2007/08 and that as a consequence it would be necessary to adjust the contract expiry dates of the following:

Batch 318 – Extension of contract with First to co-ordinate with the renewal of Batch 293 in June 2007

Batch 305 – Extension of contract with Arriva to co-ordinate with the renewal of Batch 320 in January 2008.

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