

**WEST YORKSHIRE PASSENGER TRANSPORT AUTHORITY**

**AT A MEETING OF THE TENDERED SERVICES WORKING GROUP  
HELD IN WELLINGTON HOUSE ON  
THURSDAY 5 JULY 2007**

**PRESENT:** Councillor T Brice (Chair)  
Councillors C Campbell, J S King, G Phelps and G Wainwright

**1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Apologies for absence were received from Councillor D Congreve.

**2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

Councillor Campbell declared a personal interest in Item 10 - Bus Service 967 - Award of Contract, as he was a member of Otley Town Council.

**3. MINUTES**

**RESOLVED** - That the minutes of the meeting held on 14 May 2007 be approved.

**4. SUPPLEMENTARY TENDERED BUS SERVICES**

The Working Group considered a report of the Passenger Transport Executive regarding the approved budget for 2007/08 for supplementary funding to provide additional tendered bus services and to assess the value of the operation of shopping services on Boxing Day and New Year's Day 2007/08.

Members were reminded that an appraisal process for potential new services had been approved at the last meeting of the Group. The Group was advised of proposals to consult with each of the Authority's District Spokespersons and local members to assess how best the funds could be allocated, as well as discuss bus network issues and determine potential trial services. A report detailing the outcome of the District consultations would be submitted to a future meeting of this Group.

In relation to supplemental funding for tendered services, it was reported that discussions were being held with bus operators to identify cost effective solutions in respect of improving accessibility to St James' Hospital from the Colton Estate. These discussions would also seek to investigate options for Boxing Day and New Year's Day services. A report concerning both these issues would be submitted to a future meeting of the Group.

Members welcomed proposals to trial services on Boxing Day and New Year's Day on high frequency corridors into Leeds and Huddersfield from the approved supplementary fund. When consulting with operators to establish the costs/viability of running such services, it was requested that Castleford Xscape and Junction 32 Shopping Outlet be taken into consideration. It was also suggested that 'businesses' be approached for a financial contribution towards the initiative and that smaller bus operators be given due consideration to operating services as well as the larger operators.

**RESOLVED -**

- (a) That the Group endorse consultations with the District Spokespersons on potential trial services and that a progress report be submitted to a future meeting of the Group.
- (b) That further reports be presented to the Group detailing proposals for a trial of bus services on Boxing Day and New Year's Day 2007/08 and other proposals for utilising supplemental funding in line with the adopted criteria.

**5. TENDERED BUS SERVICES - WAKEFIELD AND SOUTH KIRKLEES**

The Working Group considered a report of the Passenger Transport Executive concerning the adjustment of tendered bus service contracts in response to Arriva service changes planned for July 2007.

Members were advised of variations to tender service contracts arising from commercial changes planned by Arriva, which would affect the Wakefield and South Kirklees areas. It was noted that these would have a significant impact on services in the Streethouse/Sharlston and the Denby Dale/Bretton areas.

**RESOLVED -**

- (a) That the withdrawal of tendered service contracts detailed in this report be noted.
- (b) That the award of de minimis contracts, as detailed in the submitted report, be noted.

**6. BUS SERVICES TO NORWOOD GREEN**

The Working Group considered a report of the Passenger Transport Executive regarding bus service provision to Norwood Green in the Calderdale District, which was funded by the Rural Bus Subsidy Grant.

The Working Group noted the successful performance of service 226 following the introduction of the limited off peak service in January 2007. The service had been implemented on a trial "use it or lose it" basis operating 3 days a week and 4 trips per day and currently averaging 7.3 passengers per trip. It was agreed by Members to continue operation of the service until the end of the year, with a view to reviewing passenger usage in early 2008. In

this respect, Members emphasised the need to continue encouraging Norwood Green residents to use the service.

**RESOLVED -**

- (a) That the award of a de minimis contract for the continued operation of service 226 until April 2008 be noted.
- (b) That the performance of the service be reviewed in early 2006 to determine if it continues to meet Metro's tendered service criteria.

**7. TENDERED SCHOOL TAXI CONTRACTS - BATCH 423 - CALDERDALE DISTRICT**

The Working Group considered a report of the Passenger Transport Executive regarding the results of tenders received in Batch 423 for the provision of school taxi and minibus services in Calderdale District, which were administered by Metro on behalf of Calderdale LEA.

It was reported that the current contract award represented an increase in costs of 10.5% compared to 2006/07 academic year costs. This increase was in line with RPI inflation and the increase in the overall number of contracts.

**RESOLVED** - That the awards, as detailed in Appendix 1 of the submitted report, be noted as being consistent with the Executive and Authority policies for the provision and development of schools transport services.

**8. EXCLUSION OF THE PRESS AND PUBLIC**

The Tendered Services Working Group considered a recommendation to exclude the press and public from Agenda Items 9, 10 and 11, which contained exempt information defined in Paragraph 3 of Schedule 12a Local Government Act 1972.

**RESOLVED** - It was agreed that because disclosure of the reports might prejudice future negotiations due to the commercial confidentiality of tender prices, the public would be better served by maintaining the exempt information and, therefore, the press and public be now excluded.

**9. HUDDERSFIELD MINIBUS SERVICES - AWARD OF CONTRACTS**

The Working Group considered a report of the Passenger Transport Executive concerning the award of contracts for the operation of minibus services in Huddersfield.

Members were advised that eight bids, as set out in Appendix 1 of the submitted report, had been received for the operation of services 354/355 (Huddersfield-South Crossland), 368 (Huddersfield-Marsh-Newsome-Almondbury) and 374/375 (Huddersfield-Dalton Woodedge Avenue). Award of tenders was recommended to the lowest bids received.

**RESOLVED** - That, in accordance with the Authority's policies for the provision of tendered local bus services, the award of contracts for the operation of Huddersfield minibuses tendered as Batch 439, be noted.

#### **10. BUS SERVICE 967 - AWARD OF CONTRACT**

The Working Group considered a report of the Passenger Transport Executive regarding the award of tenders for the operation of service 967 (Otley-Menston) invited as Batch 441.

Members endorsed the proposals to secure the continuation of service 967 following the liquidation of Pegasus. It was reported that contracts would commence mid November following completion of the road works on Bradford Road, Menston, which were scheduled to begin late in July. Further discussions regarding the funding of these with Otley Town Council and Menston Parish Council would be held prior to the award of contracts.

**RESOLVED** - That, in accordance with the Authority's policies for the provision of tendered local bus services, the award of contracts for the operation of service 967 tendered as Batch 441, be noted.

#### **11. WORTH VALLEY BUS SERVICES - AWARD OF CONTRACTS**

The Working Group considered a report of the Passenger Transport Executive on the award of tenders for the operation of bus services in the Worth Valley area of Bradford advertised as Batch 440.

**RESOLVED** - That, in accordance with the Authority's policies for the provision of tendered local bus services, the award of contracts for the operation of Worth Valley services tendered as Batch 440, be noted.

#### **12. DATES OF FUTURE MEETINGS**

**RESOLVED** - That meetings of the Working Group will be held at 11.00 am on:-

- 6 August 2007
- 10 September 2007
- 15 October 2007
- 5 November 2007
- 3 December 2007
- 7 January 2008
- 4 February 2008
- 3 March 2008
- 31 March 2008
- 12 May 2008
- 2 June 2008