

**AT A MEETING OF THE LOCAL TRANSPORT PLAN
STEERING GROUP HELD AT WELLINGTON HOUSE, LEEDS
ON THURSDAY 22 NOVEMBER 2007**

PRESENT: Councillor S King (Chair)

Councillor M Bolt	-	Kirklees MC
Councillor S Andrew	-	Leeds CC
Councillor R Downes	-	WYPTA
Councillor P McBride	-	WYPTA
Councillor M Slater	-	WYPTA

Officers in Attendance:	I Gallacher	-	Bradford MC
	F Limb	-	Bradford MC
	D Holdstock	-	Calderdale MBC
	M Fudge	-	Kirklees MC
	A Molyneux	-	Leeds CC
	A Hall	-	Leeds CC
	B Anderson	-	Wakefield MDC
	J English	-	Metro
R Chaplin	-	WYPTA	

17. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors D Jeffery (Wakefield) and G Wainwright (Calderdale).

18. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

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

19. MINUTES

RESOLVED - That the minutes of the meeting held on 24 September 2007 be approved.

20. LOCAL TRANSPORT BILL AND TRANSPORT GOVERNANCE REVIEW

The Steering Group considered a report on the Local Transport Bill and the Review of Transport Governance across the Leeds City Region.

Local Transport Bill

It was reported that the revised Local Transport Bill had been introduced to Parliament and the proposals for governance reform had been retained. The Bill renamed all PTAs as “Integrated Transport Authorities” (ITA) and allowed for new or expanded ITA areas to incorporate parts of adjacent shire counties subject to the agreement of all relevant authorities. It was noted that Local Transport Plans were also to be retained.

City Region Governance Review

Members were advised that, subject to the agreement of the Leeds City Region Leaders Board in December, independent consultant, Atkins, would undertake a review of transport governance which would be overseen by a Governance Steering Group. An information leaflet detailing frequently asked questions about the review and how it would be carried out was circulated at the meeting.

It was reported that the financial arrangements for the review would be considered by the City Region Leaders in December and a progress report would be prepared for a future meeting of the Steering Group.

RESOLVED -

- (a) That the update on the Local Transport Bill and the approach to the review of governance arrangements as set out in the submitted report be noted.
- (b) That a further update on progress of the governance review be reported to the next meeting of the LTP Steering Group.

21. DEVELOPMENT OF A MULTI AREA AGREEMENT

The Steering Group considered a report which provided an update on the development of the transport component of a Multi Area Agreement (MAA) for Transport and Skills in the Leeds City Region.

It was reported that the Leeds City Region Leaders Board had agreed to seek to develop a Leeds City Region MAA. This would cover the priority themes of transport and skills and address issues around connectivity and labour market skills and mobility.

An indicative timetable had been identified for the preparation of the MAA to meet the intended sign-off date of June 2008 by Government. It was noted that in order to meet the timescale, work must commence to develop and establish the MAA and the necessary partnerships and arrangements. Potential MAA transport targets and opportunities had been discussed at a recent seminar which had been attended by representatives from Government Office, Yorkshire Forward and Leeds City Region authorities.

Comment was made that the MAA needed to be realistic and accountable and members' views on the key issues and areas of focus for the ongoing development of the MAA were noted. It was acknowledged that further work was required in respect of the identification of appropriate, robust MAA targets and the desired freedoms and flexibilities required to deliver outcomes. A progress report would be prepared for the next meeting of the Steering Group

RESOLVED –

- (a) That the progress in developing a MAA for Transport across the Leeds City Region be noted.
- (b) That members provide comments to help shape the development of the MAA for Transport
- (c) That a further update report be prepared for the next meeting of the LTP Steering Group.

22. LOCAL DEVELOPMENT FRAMEWORK UPDATE

The Steering Group considered a report which provided an update on the progress being made by each West Yorkshire Local Planning Authority (WYLPA) in developing their Local Development Frameworks (LDFs).

It was noted that until the LDFs were in place the Unitary Development Plans (UDPs) would continue to be the statutory planning document. The key documents contained in the LDFs were Core Strategies, Area Action Plans (AAPs) and Supplementary Planning Documents (SPDs). Members noted the progress of each District in developing their LDFs, a summary of which was attached at Appendix 1 to the submitted report.

It was reported that members of the Highways and Transport Planning Liaison Group supported a desire to achieve a common approach to obtaining developer contributions towards transport in West Yorkshire. Members had been invited to attend a West Yorkshire Planning Members Seminar which had been arranged for 4 December 2007 and were asked to encourage their Planning Committee representatives to support the event. The seminar would give the opportunity to share best practice and work towards a uniform approach for transport core policies within LDFs and for developer contributions to fund sustainable transport schemes.

RESOLVED -

- (a) That the report be noted.
- (b) That members note the Members Planning Seminar organised for 4 December 2007.

23. EFFECTIVE ASSET MANAGEMENT UPDATE

The Steering Group considered a report which provided an update on the Effective Asset Management Shared Priority.

It was noted that achievement of the shared priority was dependent upon appropriate maintenance and improvement regimes to deliver the six performance outcomes listed in LTP2 together with the development of appropriate asset management plans. Members were advised that of the six indicators, specifications for three had been revised by government which made year on year comparison difficult and the targets would need to be revisited in the LTP2 Interim Report. Performance figures for individual districts were available on the West Yorkshire LTP website at:

www.wyltp.com

It was reported that the development of asset management plans was proving to be a challenge although all West Yorkshire authorities had made progress and development was ongoing. All the authorities had policies and plans that covered the basic requirements and members were advised that the main gaps included inventory collection, setting service levels and asset valuation.

RESOLVED - That the report be noted.

24. LEAFLET ON 'ACCESS FOR ALL AT BUS STOPS'

The Steering Group considered a report on the proposed production of a leaflet promoting 'Access for all at Bus Stops'.

It was reported that the West Yorkshire Bus Partnership Group was seeking the Steering Group's endorsement for a leaflet promoting easy access and level boarding for passengers with mobility problems and passengers with buggies and pushchairs. A copy of the draft leaflet, aimed at ward councillors in West Yorkshire, was circulated at the meeting. It was noted that the bus stop improvements promoted in the leaflet were being delivered in accordance with the best practice accessibility guidance and would contribute towards making public transport in West Yorkshire 'accessible to all'.

RESOLVED - That members provide feedback on the proposed leaflet.

25. OPTIONS TO AMEND THE ACCESSIBILITY TARGET

The Steering Group considered a report and were given a presentation in respect of the options for amending the accessibility target and indicators.

It had previously been reported that the LTP accessibility target (M1) in relation to journeys to hospitals by public transport was not 'on track'. The LTP Accessibility Partnership wished to maintain a health target and it had been recommended that a review to identify a more pertinent target and /or set of supporting indicators be carried out.

Members were given a presentation and considered the options for alternative targets for accessibility to health services which were outlined in paragraph 2.6 of the submitted report. Members recommended that the original target of access to hospitals should be retained, although access to primary care (GPs) should also be included. It was suggested that consideration be given to reducing the standard average walking speed within the accessibility mapping software (currently 4.8km per hour).

The Steering Group noted the importance of seeking alignment between LTP accessibility objectives, the LAA process and the potential Multi Area Agreements and a report would be prepared for the next meeting of the Steering Group.

RESOLVED -

- (a) That members consider the options for amending the accessibility target.
- (b) That a report be prepared for the next meeting of the LTP Steering Group.