

SOUTH YORKSHIRE TRANSPORT USERS GROUP

19 JULY 2018

PRESENT: J Hoare (Chair)
J Brightmore (Ramblers - Sheffield Group), I Jenkinson (Sheffield TUG), M Payling (Member of the Public), N Spetch (Vice-Chair/Rotherham TUG), J Whittington (Barnsley TUG) and D Wrottesley (Hope Valley Rail User Group)

L Eades (Stagecoach Supertram), F Johnson (Stagecoach), A Shirt (SCR Combined Authority), T Taylor (SYPTTE), C Whittaker (SYPTTE) and A Wright (SYPTTE)

GUESTS: D Budd (SCR Exec Team) and C Cocken (Transport for the North)

Apologies for absence were received from S Radford (First), G Richards (SCR Combined Authority), M Wilson (Member of the Public) and N Wragg (Stagecoach Supertram)

1 OPEN AND WELCOME

The Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting.

2 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were noted as above.

3 MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 19 APRIL 2018

With regard to new rail timetables from May 2018, D Wrottesley requested that the minutes be amended to state that there had been **substantial** changes to the timetables.

N Spetch reported that Rotherham TUG Members had raised at their recent meeting that, in their opinion the refurbishment of Rotherham Interchange was a mistake. They felt that Rotherham Interchange was badly designed and had an inefficient layout for buses driving in and out of the. Members' had also expressed an opinion that a new Interchange should have been sited at Forge Island.

The minutes of the meeting held on 19 April 2018 were agreed as a true record, subject to the above amendment and it being noted that J Brightmore had submitted his apologies for this meeting.

4 BUS

A Wright reported that there were some notable changes to SYPTTE's Tendered Services. In summary it was noted that:

- Yorkshire Tiger would be withdrawing all of its services currently operating in South Yorkshire from September.

Following a re-tendering exercise, Stagecoach would be covering bus services in Penistone and Watson Coaches covering the tendered service Doncaster – Wombwell.

- Tendered services operating in Rotherham had been re-let to First South Yorkshire, Stagecoach South Yorkshire and Stagecoach East Midlands.

Following feedback from users and discussions at the Bus Partnership, there would be notable changes to bus timetables from September, all aimed at addressing punctuality and service delivery.

SYPTE would be submitting comments to the Transport Select Committee's inquiry regarding the 'Health of the Bus Market'. The Committee was interested to receive evidence on the factors affecting bus use, including the reliability of the bus service, congestion and the ways bus companies are dealing with congestion, and the effectiveness of bus priority measures.

In relation to the Stagecoach South Yorkshire, F Johnson reported:

- From 22nd July, Manchester Road at Wharncliffe Side would be closed to all traffic for 6 weeks, to allow essential Yorkshire Water works to be carried out.

A revised bus service would be in place for the duration of the works to ensure that customers travelling from Oughtibridge, Stocksbridge, Unsliven Bridge and Deepcar could continue to travel to Middlewood Park and Ride to connect with Supertram, and onto Hillsborough and Sheffield by bus.

- There would be a Supertram strike taking place during the weekend of Friday 20th July, Saturday 21st July and Sunday 22nd July. Replacement bus services would be operating during this time.
- From 22 July the X17 route would now run between Barnsley – Meadowhall – Sheffield – Chesterfield – Matlock. It was noted that not all journeys would operate the full route. Buses would run Matlock to Sheffield and Chesterfield to Barnsley Monday to Saturday. On Sundays buses would run Matlock to Barnsley.
- From 22 July 2018 a new service 65 would commence providing a connection from Buxton to Sheffield.
- Major repair and resurfacing works would commence this weekend in Rotherham Town Centre on the A630 Centenary Way at Crinoline Bridge. To enable work to take place weekend closures would be taking place over the next six weekends.

Bus services would be diverted during these periods.

Members expressed their disappointment that no representative from First had been in attendance at today's, local TUG meetings and previous meetings.

ACTION: T Taylor to contact First.

J Brightmore commented that there were no First bus timetable leaflets available at Doncaster Frenchgate. A Wright stated that he would inform First to re-stock.

ACTION: A Wright

5 TRAM

T Taylor provided Members with an update in relation to the Tram re-railing Project. It was noted that the Middlewood to Hillsborough section of the track was now completed and area two works (between Birley Lane and Halfway) were underway.

On Tram Train, vehicles were now running on the entire route from Meadowhall to Parkgate.

Tram Train driving training had now commenced. It was looking very likely that Tram Trains would commence running during the autumn.

D Wrottesley asked how many park and ride car parking SYPTE had allocated at Parkgate. T Taylor stated that he would obtain details following today's meeting.

ACTION: T Taylor

Post meeting note – There are 30 allocated spaces currently agreed with the site owners of Parkgate Retail Centre.

6 UPDATE FROM TRAIN OPERATORS

A discussion took place regarding the recent rail timetable changes that had been scheduled for May 2018. It was noted that the timetable changes scheduled for December 2018 would take place incrementally up to May 2019.

J Brightmore commented that there were no Northern Rail timetables available at Sheffield Station. **ACTION: T Taylor to investigate.**

7 TRANSPORT FOR THE NORTH UPDATE

The Group welcomed Clare Cocken from Transport for North (TfN) to the meeting. Clare provided Members with an overview of Transport for the North's statutory powers, Boards and major projects.

Members were informed that the TfN Board, Scrutiny and Audit Committee and Rail North Committee meetings were open to the public and Members of the Group were encouraged to attend.

An overview of the TfN's draft Strategic Transport Plan was presented for Members' information.

It was noted that, in January 2018, TfN released its Draft Strategic Transport Plan. This set out the requirements of the pan-Northern transport network through to

2050 and incorporated analysis and evidence from previous Rail North, stakeholder, and other partner strategies. The Draft Strategic Transport Plan had been developed in conjunction with the 11 Local Enterprise Partnerships (LEPs), which encompasses 19 Local Transport Authorities (LTAs) and 4 National Delivery Partners that constitute TfN. In late 2018 the Draft Strategic Transport Plan would become a statutory document.

The Group were provided with information on TfN's Integrated and Smart Travel programme (IST) which aimed to transform the passenger experience in the North by working in partnership with the rail, bus and light rail sectors, and key transport organisations.

ACTION: T Taylor to circulate website link to TfN's video on IST.

<https://youtube.com/watch?v=4pYCq4pYyXI>

The IST programme would build on existing systems to develop smart ticketing, payment and information technologies to transform travel across the whole region. Passengers would be able to plan journeys, view fare information and know the different options as well as benefitting from a fair price promise when travelling across all operators and modes of travel in the North.

Members discussed the Settle to Carlisle rail journey; Clare suggested that it may be useful for the Group, if her colleague, Jonathan Brown attended a future meeting to discuss rail issues. **ACTION: T Taylor / J Hoare to consider the suggestion.**

The Chair thanked Clare for attending today's meeting.

8 SHEFFIELD CITY REGION TRANSPORT STRATEGY REFRESH: NEXT STEPS

The Group welcomed David Budd, Assistant Director for Transport at the Sheffield City Region (SCR) Executive Team.

David informed the Group that stakeholder consultation on the Sheffield City Region Transport Strategy Refresh 2018-2040 had taken commenced in January 2018 for a period of 12 weeks.

Following the close of consultation, the SCR Executive Team had received 286 responses and 43 written submissions. The Team were currently analysing the responses received. A consultation summary report was currently being produced and was anticipated to be published within the next month, which would include details of the responses received.

It was anticipated that the final Transport Strategy would be signed-off by the Sheffield City Region Combined Authority around autumn 2018.

Following a question from D Wrottesley regarding a HS2 Parkway Station, it was noted that work had been commissioned by the SCR to assess the economic benefits of a Parkway Station.

9 PATRONAGE WORKING GROUP

T Taylor reported that there had been a decline in bus patronage during the last year of 6% alone. In order to address this SYPTE had established a Patronage Working Group.

The Group had agreed to look at specific activity around customer behaviours, cycling and walking, clean air zones, park and ride infrastructure, feasibility of an electric bus fleet in the region and active travel.

10 MEMBERS ITEMS

T Taylor reported that he had forwarded J Hoare's concerns regarding Northern Rail timetables – Sheffield to Doncaster to SYPTE's Rail Team for investigation and a written response is available on request.

11 FORWARD PLANNER: ROTHERHAM INTERCHANGE PROGRESS

T Taylor provided the Group with an update on current progress with regards to the upgrade and refurbishment of Rotherham Interchange. Work was currently on track, ready for re-opening in February 2019.

T Taylor stated that he would circulate a link to Members regarding current progress. **ACTION: T Taylor**

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ITKRBOXSzi0>

12 ANY OTHER BUSINESS

L Eades reminded Members that there would be strikes taking place on Sheffield Supertram during the forthcoming weekend.

Members asked if any timetable information had been published for journeys between Matlock, Derby and Nottingham during the Derby Resignalling work taking place between 22nd July and 7th October 2018. **ACTION : T Taylor to investigate and circulate any links to Members.**

<https://www.derby2018.co.uk/media/1023/derby-resignalling-january-customer-leaflet.pdf>

13 DATE OF FUTURE MEETINGS

Future meetings of the Group would be held on 18 October 2018 and 17 January 2019.

This page is intentionally left blank