

Report of Head of Governance and Scrutiny Support

Report to Scrutiny Board (City Development)

Date: 17 May 2017

Subject: Scrutiny Inquiry – Advancing Bus Service Provision

Are specific electoral Wards affected? If relevant, name(s) of Ward(s):	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
Are there implications for equality and diversity and cohesion and integration?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
Is the decision eligible for Call-In?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
Does the report contain confidential or exempt information? If relevant, Access to Information Procedure Rule number: Appendix number:	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No

Summary of main issues

- 1 At the meeting in June 2015, the Scrutiny Board (City Development) considered its work programme for the 2015/16 municipal year and resolved to undertake and inquiry into Bus Service Provision.
- 2 Terms of reference for this inquiry were agreed in September 2015 when the Board expressed its desire to understand current and future options for bus service provision in the city and consider what would be most beneficial for Leeds. It was agreed that the purpose of the inquiry was to make an assessment of and, where appropriate, make recommendations on the following areas:
 - The provision and connectivity of Bus Services in Leeds, including services into the Leeds area and sufficiency to meet the needs of people and business.
 - Current impact of bus services on social inclusion, poverty and the economy
 - Options for improving local bus services
 - Investment and the delivery of strategic and operational improvement in bus services
 - The Bus Services Bill, (now enacted)
- 3 The inquiry was conducted over five evidence gathering sessions which took place between January 2016 and October 2016, during which the Board received a range of

evidence both written and verbal. The Board also considered the transport strategy for Leeds in February 2017. Following the gathering of evidence the appended Scrutiny Inquiry Report has been drafted and is presented to the Scrutiny Board for consideration and agreement.

- 4 Scrutiny Board Procedure Rule 13.2 states that "where a Scrutiny Board is considering making specific recommendations it shall invite advice from the appropriate Director(s) prior to finalising its recommendations. The Director shall consult with the appropriate Executive Member before providing any such advice. The detail of that advice shall be reported to the Scrutiny Board and considered before the Board's recommendations are finalised and published on the Council's website". The Director of City Development and the Director of Transport Services (WYCA) were invited to provide advice. In response the Director of Transport Services (WYCA) has provided further clarity regarding recommendations 1 and 8 which has been reflected in the draft report. The Director of Transport Services (WYCA) also provided advice relating to achievable timescales for reporting back to the Scrutiny Board on recommendations relating to the Bus Services Act, West Yorkshire Bus Strategy and the Bus 18 programme. These timescales have also been reflected in the draft inquiry report.
- 5 A further opportunity for the provision of advice is available at the meeting on the 17 May 2017 and the Scrutiny Board is recommended to consider this before agreeing its report.
- 6 Once the Board publishes its final report, the appropriate Director(s) will be asked to formally respond to the Scrutiny Board's recommendations within three months.

Recommendations

- 7 The Scrutiny Board (City Development) is recommended to consider and agree the appended report following its inquiry into Advancing Bus Service Provision.

Background documents

- 8 None used¹

¹ The background documents listed in this section are available to download from the Council's website, unless they contain confidential or exempt information. The list of background documents does not include published works.