

COUNCIL MEETING – 16th November 2022

NOTICE OF:	Reference No:	Date Received:	Date Forwarded:
White Paper	WP1	7/11/22	8/11/22

Submitted by: Councillor Neil Buckley
 Relevant Board/Regulatory Panel: Executive Board
 Executive Member/Chair: Executive Member (Infrastructure and Climate)
 Relevant Director: Director of City Development

This Council is concerned at the current state of bus services in Leeds.

Council notes that public transport was hit hard by the pandemic, with passenger numbers not yet fully recovered, and Council welcomes the substantial and continuing government funding that has been paid to operators and local transport authorities to keep services running. Between April and December this year alone, West Yorkshire Combined Authority is expected to receive £3,043,632 to help operators maintain vital routes.

Council regrets that despite this investment the performance of some services has worsened. Passenger satisfaction has declined on key measures such as punctuality, reliability and the provision of information during the journey, whilst concerns have been raised about the accuracy of the real time information system that displays the predicted time of the next bus. Meanwhile many outer areas of the city still suffer from poor public transport connectivity and service reliability issues, with investment largely focused on the city centre.

Council notes that the Combined Authority has been awarded an indicative settlement of £69,974,070 in government funding over three financial years to support delivery of a Bus Service Improvement Plan, and believes the public will expect the Mayor of West Yorkshire to be held accountable for addressing current problems with services now, as well as delivering a longer term step change in performance in Leeds.

Council requests that the Chief Executive writes to the Mayor of West Yorkshire asking that she outlines her detailed plans to tackle the immediate concerns with the city's bus services, and inviting her to take questions in an appropriate forum from elected members in Leeds.

Councillor Neil Buckley

Deadlines for submission

- White Papers - 10.00 am on the day before the issue of the Summons
- Questions - 10.00 am on Monday before the meeting
- Amendments - 10.00 am on the day before the meeting

(including references back)

(All submissions should be made to Governance Services for receipt to be recorded and distribution made)
