

COUNCIL MEETING – 17th January 2024

NOTICE OF:	Reference No:	Date Received:	Date Forwarded:
White Paper Amendment	A4 TO WP1	16/1/24	16/1/24

Submitted by:	Councillor Helen Hayden
Relevant Board/Regulatory Panel:	Executive Board
Executive Member/Chair:	Executive Member (Sustainable Development and Infrastructure)
Relevant Director	Director of City Development

Delete all after “This Council” and replace with:

“.....welcomes the comprehensive local transport infrastructure investment delivered by this administration in recent years, including new rail stations, bus infrastructure improvements, cycling routes and road improvements, helping to better connect this city’s communities to each other. Council notes this has resulted in more people choosing to travel by bus, rail, cycling and walking, as well as quicker journeys for vehicles using A roads in Leeds than in other core cities.

Council notes these achievements have been delivered against a backdrop of a shambolic approach to long term transport planning by the Conservative Government, who have broken countless promises to invest in and improve transport infrastructure in the North.

Council notes the district parking proposals are a direct result of the huge financial pressures facing the council due to the Conservative Government failing to properly fund local councils. Council notes all areas affected by the parking charges proposal would continue to offer free parking at other sites both on and off street within the local area.

Council further notes Leeds is a busy and bustling city, recovering well from the COVID19 pandemic, and welcomes the comprehensive work done to enhance the street environment in Leeds, helping to make our city centre a premier destination to visit, with city centre footfall last month up 13.6% compared to the previous year. Over the last ten years, the city has attracted £4 billion private investment for large scale development projects in the city, with an even larger active future pipeline of over £7 billion. Council notes this is despite the hugely damaging mismanagement of the national economy in recent years by the Conservative Government.

Council also notes that over 10,500 off street parking spaces are available to the public in council and private car parks in the city centre, in addition to over 3600 Park and Ride spaces.

Council notes the rise in rail usage in Leeds, with many days now higher than pre COVID levels, but regrets the current bus system allows private operators to reduce or remove services placing the travelling public at the mercy of companies focused more on generating profits than generating a comprehensive, connected network. Council reiterates its support for a franchise model to allow better accountability and involvement in setting the bus routes the public wants.

Council notes Executive Board received an update report on the Connecting Leeds Transport Strategy Action Plan as recently as November, and Council supports the recommendations agreed by Executive Board for a further report to the Board this year. Council welcomes input

into the strategy by Scrutiny Board Infrastructure, Investment and Inclusive Growth, most recently at its meeting in July 2023, as well as engagement with Community Committees.

Council notes the significant funding gap that prevents the delivery of the ambitions outlined in the Connecting Leeds Transport Strategy and therefore calls on national Government for the support, powers and funding to enable full delivery of the strategy.”

A Hayden

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 (including references back)	- 10.00 am on the day before the meeting

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