

**TRANSPORT 4 ALL Meeting 27.04.17
Sheffield Town Hall - Room G42**

1) WELCOME/APOLOGIES/INTROS

People present

Shel Turner (MT) – Chair
Grace Parry (GP)
Paul Savage (PS)
Craig Williams (CW)
Alan Kennedy (AK) – supporting CW
James Martin (JM)
Val Bowen (VB) – Disability Sheffield
Jake G (JG) – volunteer at Disability Sheffield
Adam Batty (AB) - Access Ambassadors Co-ordinator, SY Housing Assoc.
Councillor Ian Auckland (IA) – Shadow Cabinet
Councillor Douglas Johnson (DJ)
Nigel Wragg (NW) – Stagecoach Supertram
Andy Metcalfe (AM) – First Bus
Dave Caton (DC) – Stagecoach Bus
John Hudson (JH) – Sheffield City Council Transport & Facilities Management
Paula Turner (PT) – SY Passenger Transport Executive
Cate Jockel (CJ) – Sheffield City Council Transport Planning
Saskia Peet (SP) – Sheffield Safe Places Scheme Co-ordinator

Apologies

Councillor George Lindars-Hammond (GLH) – Cabinet Advisor on Transport
Elspeth Mallowan – (EM) – Sheffield Churches Council for Community Care
Danny Heffernan (DH)
Stacey Anderson (SA)

Noted

Dave Cooper - Sheffield Community Transport – has retired
Clare Cocken – SYPTE Communications – has left SYPTE
T4A wishes them both well for the future

2) MINUTES OF JAN 2017

The draft minutes were agreed as an accurate record.

3) SHEFFIELD SAFE PLACES SCHEME

MT welcomed Saskia Peet (SP) – Sheffield Safe Places Scheme Co-ordinator – who introduced the Scheme. There are similar schemes across the UK although they are all independent stand-alone schemes. Organisations/ businesses offer their buildings as safe places/havens which anyone can use. Staff are then given training in how to help. They don't need to be DBS checked as all the spaces used are public spaces and staff won't take people away from these public spaces. There are a large number of places in Sheffield signed up as safe places. Transport interchanges are signed up.

The scheme was originally aimed for people with learning disabilities but anyone can use the safe places. People can sign themselves up as members or be referred.

Members will get more info on the scheme including a help card which has their name on it and the name and number of someone they would like to be called on their behalf when needed.

Members can suggest places that they would like to see as safe places – tho it's possible that they won't all be suitable.

Discussion

SP is linking up with the August Special Olympics organisers.

JH was interested in how SCC drivers and taxis under contract could work with Safe Places.

NW & DC & AM noted that operators all have their own help schemes and safe journey cards but are interested to make staff aware of the Safe Places scheme.

PS would like to see places at Totley Rise as Safe Places – PS to contact SP.

AB is co-ordinating a project at SYHA to get older people out & about more: knowing where Safe Places are would give people more confidence.

Hate crime: staff training at Safe Places includes how to report hate crimes. People are being encouraged to report this - & SY Police has 2 officers working on the 'Hate makes me feel ...' campaign at the moment. Operators noted that CCTV will usually record incidents – although without sound - but they are recorded over, so incidents need to be reported quickly.

Contact

Sheffield Safe Places: 0114-2505106 and 07464-828976 and safeplaces@heeleyfarm.org.uk

4) MATTERS ARISING INCLUDING UPDATE ON EAST MIDLANDS RAIL FRANCHISE AND TAXIS

East Midlands Rail Franchise

Department for Transport consultation with stakeholders was expected soon when we met in Jan 17 but has been delayed. Latest rumour is that it will start 08/05, which wouldn't fit with our meeting cycle but we have a draft response already and JM, MT, SA, PT and Julie Smethurst have all offered to help.

Taxis Update

There is a new duty on taxi drivers to carry wheelchairs. DJ has been looking into this and has put together a note – circulated at the meeting & to go out with the minutes. In fact, the duty has been legislation under the DDA since 1995 but Government did not make it effective until 1st April 2017. What has changed is that the LA, through the Licensing Team, now has the power to prosecute. So long as it has a list of accessible taxis – which SCC has in relation to black cabs.

Discussion

What about PHVs and Uber? - Licensing has been voluntarily keeping a list of accessible black cabs for some years, so it's ready to enforce in relation to these. But not other cabs for the moment.

MT: when should drivers start the meter? There shouldn't be any additional charge involved in carrying a wheelchair. If passengers think they are being overcharged, let Licensing know. Steve Lonnia (SL) (Taxi Licensing) is aware of this as a potential issue about charging & will be keeping an eye on it.

VB reported that the Disability Hub had met with SL in the morning & had a very useful discussion about taxi issues and drivers' disability awareness. The Hub is planning to have a transport sub-group where this work can be progressed and

invitations will be sent to T4A. SL is also looking to develop a number of training modules and is keen to update and reissue the leaflets for drivers and service users that Emma Cawley developed a few years back in her Mobility Strategy work. PT asked how this would integrate with the training course run at Sheffield College.

VB reported that SL would like all complaints to come to Licensing as the first point of contact & not the taxi companies. There will be a complaints form on the SCC website. The Licensing team will investigate the complaints. Reporting of all incidents will enable Licensing to see any emerging patterns and can be used in evidence.

Bus Design – handrails and bells

1. JM asked if there are national standards for visual contrast for handrails and bells. He finds the ones on First Bus which are different shades of grey very hard to see. Older vehicles had yellow poles and a yellow bell push. MT noted that blue and yellow made a good contrast as they were on opposite sides of the colour spectrum. PT – there are guidelines which say there should be a good contrast between rails and the rest of the interior. AM will report the problem back to the company.
2. JM asked about a loud & continuous buzzer that he'd heard on an 83 Ecclesfield service (Stagecoach), which has continued for about a minute until the bus had stopped. DC thought there were 2 possibilities: either a stick button or more than one person ringing the bell so it sounded continuous – but he will check. MT noted that London buses have a continuous buzzer when the doors are open.

Bus ticket machines: PS reported problems using his card with these machines. DC responded that Stagecoach will be replacing all its tickets machines with better ones soon.

Millsands bus stops: This remains with SCC and SYPTE to co-ordinate provision of permanent bus stops. In the meantime, SYPTE has used 'custom and practice' to create a stop number so Operators can update their data. The stop is then recognised in any tracking data.

Tram-train: NW reported that the tram-train junction had been constructed over Easter. Electrification will follow in the autumn. The vehicles are being used on the tram system for driver training and to get some mileage done.

Tram: JM has noticed a problem with on-vehicle announcements. NW reported that there had been a problem with the hardware on some older vehicles – he thinks it has been fixed. Also at-stop announcements: NW reported that Supertram is getting the suppliers back in to sort this out.

Shopmobility: MT reported that Shopmobility has lost its funding from SCC (£14K): it is continuing to provide the service for the moment.

5) NEXT MEETING – 20th July – 1400-1600 – Town Hall.