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Leeds, 12 September 2017

Comment on 'Transport for Leeds - Supertram, NGT and Beyond' scrutiny inquiry draft report

The Leader of Leeds City Council Councillor Judith Blake has made the following comment in response to a draft report published today by the council's infrastructure and investment scrutiny board following an inquiry into the city's transport position and the Supertram and NGT (New Generation Transport) projects.

Leader of Leeds City Council Councillor Judith Blake said:

"I'd like to thank everyone involved in this scrutiny inquiry which was vitally important in looking in detail at how the situation developed and most importantly the lessons to be learned. The key finding I take away from the report reinforces the need for continuous discussion and engagement with all key partners and especially the public so that the new transport strategy we have put forward reflects the views and ongoing needs of our communities so everyone in the city benefits. Starting the transport conversation began that process, generating a fantastic response which along with engaging the views of a panel of independent transport experts directly shaped the new strategy, and we are firmly committed to ensuring that two-way dialogue continues.

"Retaining the £173.5million of funding together with additional partner investment gives us an unprecedented £270m which we are looking to maximise in order to transform the transport network in Leeds. Alongside this exciting programme of deliverable improvements in the coming years our ambition remains to provide a modern rapid-transit system for the city and we are continuing to explore options to bring that about in the longer term."

The draft report will now be discussed and formally considered by the scrutiny board at its meeting at Civic Hall from 10:30am on Wednesday 27 September.

To see the full scrutiny inquiry draft report, go to http://bit.ly/2wUEZ2a (agenda item 7).

ENDS

For media enquiries please contact:

Roger Boyde

Leeds City Council communications and marketing,

Email: roger.boyde@leeds.gov.uk

Tel: 0113 378 9164

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