

Why buses matter - stimulating the local economy



John Henkel Acting Director Transport West Yorkshire Combined Authority

LEEDS CITY REGION IN NUMBERS



106,000 businesses

Largest UK financial centre

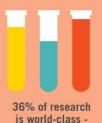
outside London





14 further education

colleges

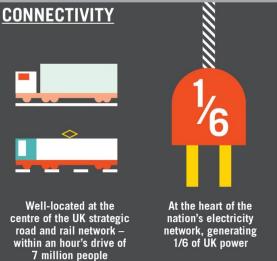


10% world-leading





5% of England's total



STRATEGIC ECONOMIC PLAN: OUR HEADLINE OUTCOMES









62,000 EXTRA JOBS



IN BENEFITS SAVINGS TO THE EXCHEQUER



FOR EVERY £1 INVESTED BY THE TAXPAYER, THE CITY REGION'S – AND THE NATION'S – ECONOMIC OUTPUT WILL GROW BY NEARLY £10



AND THE CITY
REGION WILL BE A
NET CONTRIBUTOR TO
THE PUBLIC PURSE





Buses do matter - the evidence base is strong and growing

Pteg (www.pteg.net)

Greener Journeys

Institute of Transport Studies, Leeds University

Social Exclusion Unit

Citizens Advice Bureau

ACEVO Commission on Youth Unemployment









Agglomeration economies help explain why 16% of all jobs in England are crammed into nine urban centres with a combined area corresponding to just 0.4 of the total land available

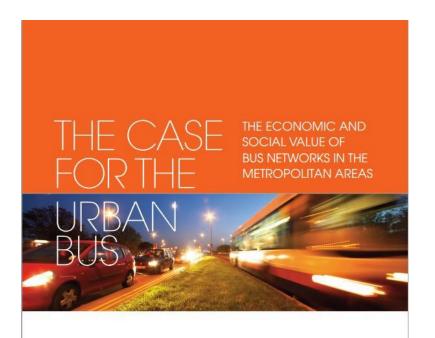
Leeds City Region could miss out on 22,000 potential jobs by 2026 due to worsening transport constraints as firms would struggle to recruit from a shrinking labour pool



Transport works for growth and jobs
Why urban transport drives successful economies









In PTE areas, bus networks are estimated to generate over £2.5bn in economic benefits, against public funding of £0.5bn - around £1.3bn reflect user benefits from access to jobs, training, shopping and leisure opportunities.



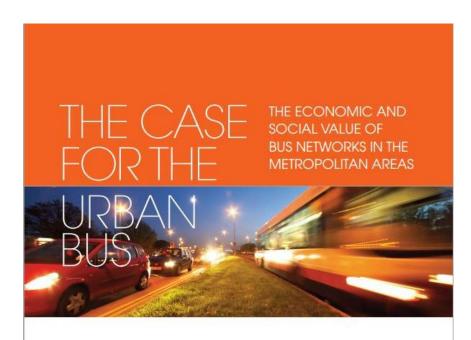
REPORT FEBRUARY 2013



1 in 10 bus commuters might be forced into less productive jobs or move out of work all together

50% of businesses considered the bus to have a role in employment recruitment and retention

UK bus users annual spend of £21 billion on retail and £6.2 billion on shopping, the majority spent in town and city centres





REPORT FEBRUARY 2013



The economic benefits of the key forms of support for bus services

Unlike most other forms of government funding for measures which have a social dimension, public support for buses generates a significant proportion of benefits which accrue to other road users and society at large, rather than just the users themselves.

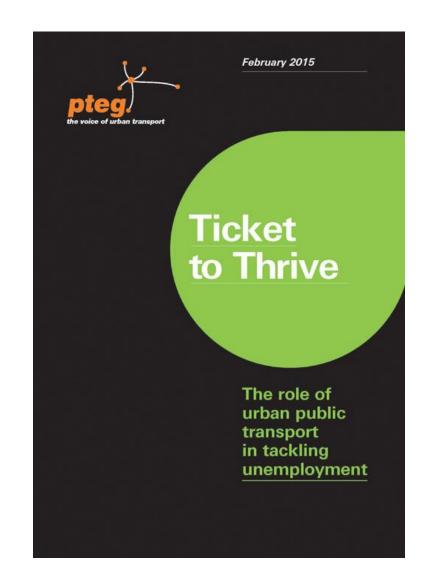


Making the connections.
The cross-sector benefits of supporting bus services pteg



My customer started work for a cleaning company...The bus pass has been a great financial incentiveShe came into the office to say it had really helped her stay in her job.

The free Metrocard (travel pass) was great, I catch four buses a day and am paid monthly, so it really helped until the first payday





To maximise the contribution of the bus to our local economies requires:

- Services and networks, with some employment opportunities requiring interchange
- Availability, with services matching working hours
- Affordability
- Easily accessible and understandable information about services and fares
- Certainty that services will be sustained
- Ability to serve new growth areas before demand is fully realised

Other speakers will offer views on the best regulatory framework for the delivery of bus services that support and stimulate local economies