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3 JUNE 2011

Dear Mr Leighton,

**RATIFICATION REQUEST FOR CLOSURE OF MOSLEY ST STATION, MANCHESTER METROLINK NETWORK**

Following the recent consultation in respect of the proposal to close Mosley St station on the Manchester Metrolink Network and the publication of the summary of responses, Norman Baker, Parliamentary Under Secretary of State for Transport has agreed that the Office of Rail Regulation be requested to formally ratify the closure. As suggested in paragraph 24 of the ORR's Procedures for Reviewing Closure References, the summary of responses has been published for a period of 4 weeks prior to this reference. The assessment criteria was also published.

Documents making up the closure submission are:

1. Jacobs Assessment – Mosley St Metrolink Station Closure Assessment – Report for GMPTE
2. DfT Consultation Document
3. Consultation Notice on the DfT Website
4. DfT Value for Money Assessment
5. DfT Summary of Responses to the Consultation
6. Emails enclosing consultation papers to Bury Council, Salford Council, Passenger Focus, Stagecoach and DPTAC (Disabled Persons Transport Advisory Committee)
7. Responses to the Consultation
8. Copies of the Statutory Notices to be published in two local newspapers
9. Copies of the adverts from the local newspapers and copies of the GMPTE notices advertising the closure.

If you require any further information, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours sincerely,

  
**Mrs Fozia Chughtai**

## Mosley Street Metrolink Station Closure Assessment

### Revised Final Report for GMPTE

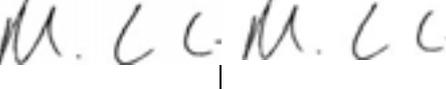


November 2009

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## EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

GMPTE is expanding and renewing the Metrolink network in Greater Manchester, including new vehicles, new ticket machines and network extensions to Chorlton to the South and Droylsden and Oldham / Rochdale to the north. The new trams will not have retractable steps. To provide step-free level access, as required by the standards prescribed by the Disabled Discrimination Act (DDA), all station platforms have to be provided at a high level (915mm above rail level).

Mosley Street Station is single sided (southbound only) and was strategically positioned to provide an access point to the combined service frequency towards Altrincham within the City Centre<sup>1</sup>. It is also the closest stop to the main shopping area for Eccles Line users, without interchanging. The new Metrolink design standards would result in a restricted pavement width of 2.2m wide alongside the 915mm platform covering the length of Mosley Street between York Street and Parker Street. This is considered undesirable in terms of townscape and accessibility and also imposes a significant cost to the project.

GMPTE required a Station Closure Assessment to inform their decision whether to close Mosley Street Station and rebuild the wide pavement to the south side of the tracks. It should be noted that this Station Closure Assessment has been undertaken in line with the Government Guidance, involving appraisal of the business case for **retention** of Mosley Street, with the base scenario assuming **closure** of the station. This means that a positive appraisal outcome would imply a conclusion in favour of retaining the station, whereas a negative outcome implies a preference for closure.

The appraisal revealed a range of slight or significant beneficial and adverse impacts against the identified indicators. The retention of Mosley Street Station would produce some benefits against some policy headings, notably through improved service frequency for Altrincham Line users. However, there will be adverse impacts of station retention, particularly for through passengers. With the existing Metrolink passenger volumes, the adverse impacts are broadly balanced by the benefits (implying that the investment in the new station platform would not be justified). The Metrolink Phase 3 investment will result in a significant increase in the relative numbers of through passengers – meaning that the adverse impacts for through passengers of station retention will outweigh the benefits to Altrincham Line users to a much greater extent.

The economic appraisal therefore **does not support retention** of Mosley Street Station in the future. Furthermore, the technical assessment has shown that for some groups of existing passengers any adverse impacts of station closure are likely to be offset by the increased services and connections that will be offered in future.

The appraisal has highlighted a potential impact associated with station closure in terms of existing passenger perceptions of frequency disbenefits associated with using Piccadilly Gardens or Market Street stations instead of the current Mosley Street station. It is understood that this impact will be mitigated by the provision of additional real-time information screens located in the vicinity of the current Mosley Street station site, as well as at Piccadilly Gardens and Market Street stations, indicating where the next Altrincham Line services will depart from – hence enabling passengers to choose to walk to the most appropriate stop to minimise overall travel times.

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<sup>1</sup> The existing service is split between services operating on routes through Victoria Station and Piccadilly Station, and this split will be retained in the future.

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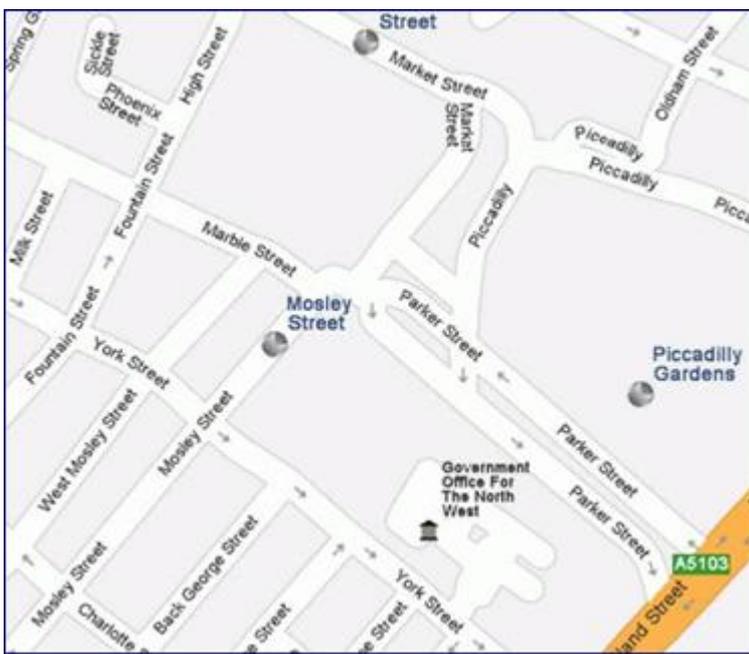
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# 1 INTRODUCTION

## 1.1 Background

Mosley Street Station is served by southbound Metrolink services on the Eccles and Altrincham Lines. The single platform on the south side of Mosley Street is of dual height – providing step free access to one door of the Metrolink vehicles. The stop is located in the City Centre between St Peter’s Square and Market Street / Piccadilly Gardens.

**Figure 1 Station Location**



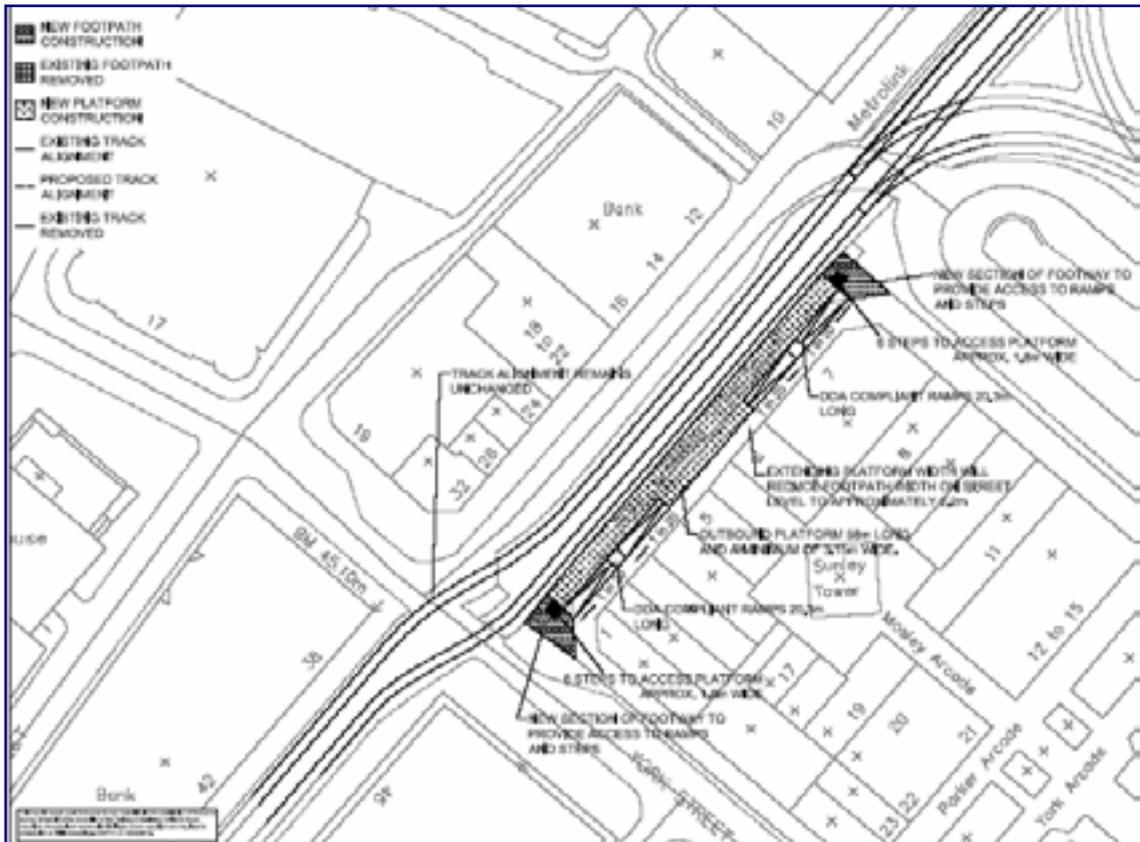
GMPTE is currently implementing the Metrolink Phase 3A improvements which include;

- New vehicles;
- New ticket machines;
- Network extension and new services to Chorlton, and;
- Network extension and new services to Droylsden and Oldham / Rochdale.

The new vehicles will provide for an increase in capacity through lengthening trams but will be high floor and without internal steps (the foldout steps on existing Metrolink vehicles producing maintenance and reliability problems). In addition, the Disability Discrimination Act (DDA) requirements contained within the rail industry station planning criteria require authorities planning any station alterations to provide full step free access to the latest standards.

The design criteria / requirements present problems for the continuation of serving Mosley Street Station. Specifically, the upgrade would require provision of a full length (58m), full width (minimum 3.15m) and high level (915mm above rail level) platform which, with steps from the pavement level and ramps, would produce a ‘tunnel’ between the platform and adjacent commercial businesses (as shown in Figure 2 drawn from the feasibility study report). This would be undesirable. The relatively narrow street prevents a more acceptable design or relocation solution.

**Figure 2 Mosley Street Retention Option Design**



It is understood that retention of the stop at Mosley Street would cost in the order of £1.2m whilst removal of the stop would cost £0.3m. Thus the closure of the stop could have a significant impact on the costs of the Metrolink enhancement project. As a result of the practical difficulties in designing a suitable replacement facility and in view of the cost implications, GMPTE are considering closure of Mosley Street Metrolink Station, and replacement of the pavement. Mosley Street Station passengers would be forced to use existing stations within the immediate vicinity (around 200m away).

The station closure would be proposed within a package incorporating substantial improvement measures to benefit the communities of Greater Manchester, rather than losing the ability to travel by Metrolink.

**1.2 Station Closure Assessment**

The DfT has specified before the closure of rail stations an assessment of retention of the station is required within formal procedures. It is understood that the Office of the Rail Regulator (ORR) has indicated that the formal procedures do not need to be followed for the closure of Mosley Street Metrolink Station. However, GMPTE require a station closure appraisal to inform their decision-making processes.

Whilst this tram station closure is proposed within a package incorporating improvement measures to benefit the community, rather than losing the ability to travel by Metrolink, the formal procedures have been followed. However, the level of analysis has to be ‘appropriate to the scale of the proposed closure’<sup>2</sup> and this assessment includes a simplified appraisal including a qualitative assessment of some factors (e.g. environment).

<sup>2</sup> Railways Closures Guidance, DfT Oct 2006, Annex A: Appraisal para 74

### **1.3 Report Structure**

Following this introduction, section 2 presents the base scenario and station closure option, section 3 presents the assessment of the station closure option and Appendix A presents the results of the technical assessment and cost benefit analysis and Appendix B presents the appraisal summary table (AST) and Appendix C presents the Transport Economic Efficiency tables.

## 2 BASE SCENARIO AND CLOSURE OPTION

### 2.1 Introduction

The Station Closure Guidance requires the assessment to show that reasonable alternatives to closure have been examined and to define the closure proposal in terms of the 'retention' option for comparison against the 'closure' option.

### 2.2 Policy / Strategy background

Manchester Metrolink was opened in 1992 operating between Bury and Altrincham with and spur to Manchester Piccadilly station. Phase 2, the extension between Eccles and Cornbrook, was opened in 2000. Metrolink has been a huge success in Manchester. It provides high frequency, fast and reliable services into and across the City Centre. The scheme was successful in attracting car users and passenger demand has continued to grow resulting in investment in additional rolling stock and lengthening trams.

Expansion of the Metrolink system is an important part of the future transport strategy of the region, to secure further transfer from cars and to provide higher quality transport to those without access to cars. GMPTE has secured Department for Transport funding for the expansion of the Metrolink network – termed Phase3A – and has recently secured a further package of transport investment in Greater Manchester including further Metrolink extensions – termed Phase 3B. Phase 3A includes capacity improvements on the initial routes including new rolling stock and investment in improved passenger facilities at stations. Phase3A / 3B include extending the network (see Figure 3);

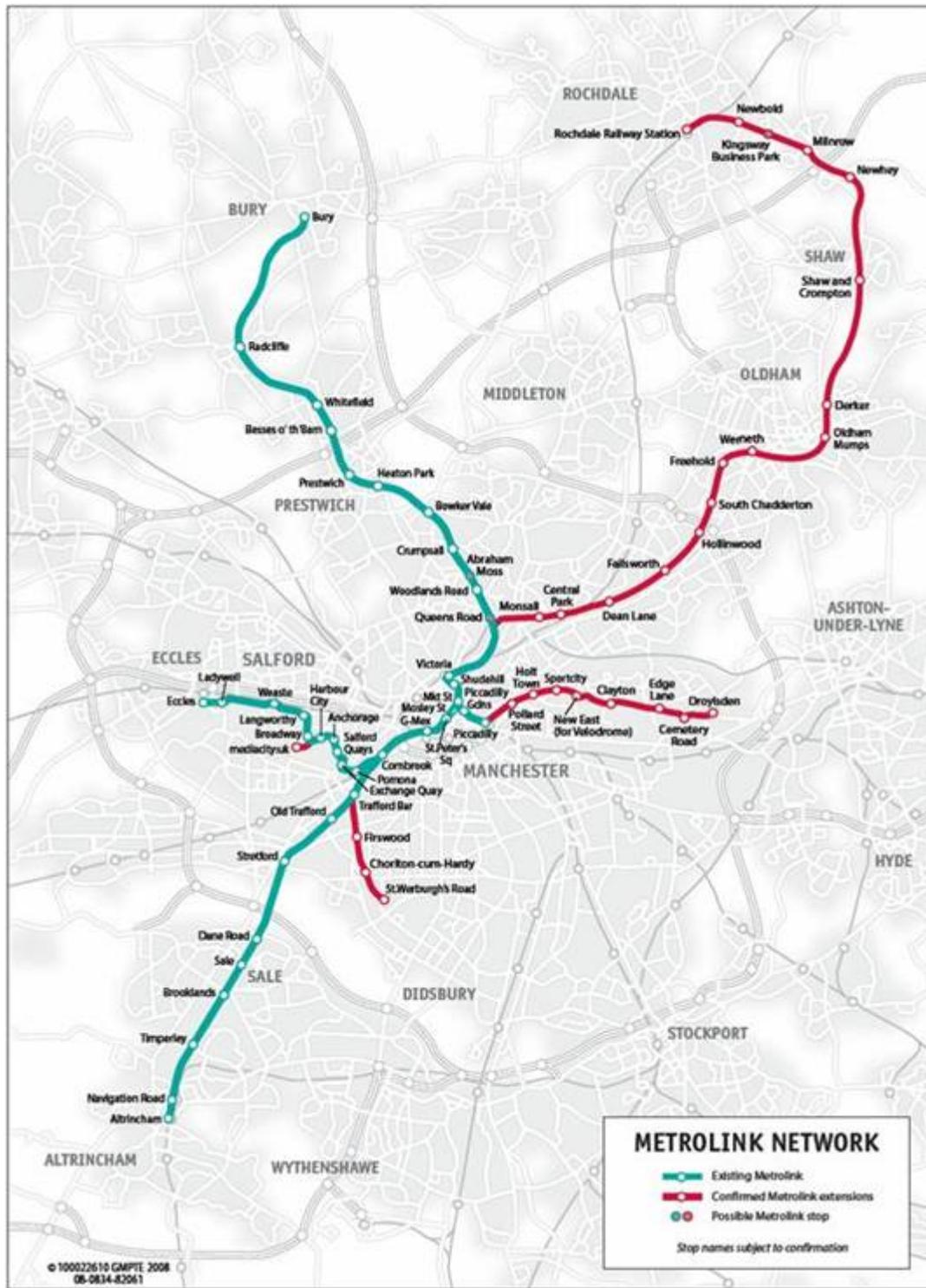
- Between Trafford Bar and Chorlton-cum-Hardy / Stockport;
- Between the Eccles branch and Media City;
- Between Piccadilly Station and Droylsden / Ashton, and;
- Between Victoria Station and Oldham / Rochdale.

As most of the Metrolink network operates over former rail lines a strategic decision was taken to retain the current 'high' platform operation. This minimises costs for the conversion / development of existing stations, but has implications for the provision of stations in City Centres and alongside highways where Metrolink runs on street either with other traffic or in pedestrian areas.

The investment in new rolling stock will enable double length Metrolink services to operate – to solve overcrowding problems. However, the Disability Discrimination Act 1995 (DDA), coupled with the decision that new Metrolink vehicles will not be provided with retractable steps, imposes standards for passenger access involving significant investment, particularly;

- Full Length Platform of 58m;
- Full width platform of at minimum 3.15m;
- Minimum stair width of 1.8m;
- Maximum ramp gradient of 1 in 20;
- Maximum ramp length between 'platforms' 10m;
- Minimum width between ramp handrails 2m.

**Figure 3 Metrolink Phase 3A Planned Network Extensions**



When these standards are applied to the Mosley Street Station practical difficulties arise as a result of the length of street wide enough for the stop. The resulting design requires ramps to the back of the platform and stairs at each end. The design reduces the pavement to the south of the platform to 2.2m wide.

### 2.3 Other Technical Options Assessed

It is understood that scoping technical assessments ruled out;

- Moving the platform to the east, as a result of the close proximity of the triangular junction giving access to Market Street and Piccadilly Gardens;
- Moving the platform to the west, as a result of the narrowness of the street beyond York Street, and;
- Moving the platform to the north, as a result of the impact on traffic and in particular bus access to the City Centre.

As there are alternative Metrolink stops in the immediate vicinity GMPTE have not investigated alternative forms of transport to replace Mosley Street Station.

Two initiatives have been suggested to mitigate the loss of the benefits currently provided by the station at Mosley Street;

- Altering the Metrolink service pattern such that Eccles service would operate through to Bury and Altrincham services would all operate through to Piccadilly Station / Droylsden. This would provide the full frequency of service at Piccadilly Gardens but reduce accessibility to the core shopping area (Market Street) from the Altrincham Line and reducing through journey opportunities.
- Providing real-time information displays at key strategic locations in Mosley Street, Piccadilly Gardens and Market Street to indicate from which station the next Altrincham Line tram will depart. This would increase the capital costs and operating / maintenance costs of the closure option.

### 2.4 Defined Closure Scenario

The base scenario for the evaluation is the Metrolink Phase 3A expansion scheme;

- Existing Metrolink services operating between Bury and Altrincham, Altrincham and Piccadilly Station and Eccles and Piccadilly station, plus;
- Extension of the services currently terminating at Piccadilly Station to Droylsden;
- Additional Metrolink services through the City Centre between Chorlton and Shaw / Rochdale, (operating every 6 minutes through the Centre) and;
- Additional Metrolink services between Cornbrook and Media City (every 12 minutes, providing a 6 minute interval between Cornbrook and Harbour City).

In this scenario Mosley Street Station is removed and the pavement replaced at the existing pavement level, providing a width of 7.5m, at a cost of £300,000.

As a mitigation measure to offset passenger disbenefits associated with station closure GMPTE plan to invest in additional passenger information displays at (the site of) Mosley Street station, as well as at Piccadilly Gardens and Market Street stations to indicate which station the next Altrincham Line tram will depart from.

## 2.5 Defined Retention Scenario

The retention option involves the service pattern describe above plus;

- Rebuilding Mosley Street Metrolink Station southbound platform at a cost of £1.2m and;
- All southbound Metrolink services calling at the station.

In this scenario there will also be additional operating costs associated with the additional station and short and long term maintenance and renewal of facilities and equipment.

## 3 ASSESSMENT OF STATION RETENTION OPTION

### 3.1 Introduction

This assessment has been undertaken in accordance with the Railways Closures Guidance in 2006<sup>3</sup> and meets the requirements of the 'objective test' which must be satisfied if closure is to be permitted and includes;

- A quantified Value for Money (VfM) assessment and;
- Presentation of other non-quantified matters that are required to be taken into account.

The basis of the assessment is the same benefit cost ratio (BCR) methodology used in assessing investment proposals, consistent with the New Approach to Appraisal (NATA) embodied within the Green Book, Appraisal and Evaluation in Central Government and Transport Policy, including the 'New Deal for Transport, Better for Everyone', as well as rail specific guidance provided by the DfT Appraisal Criteria. The assessment covers the five criteria with an appropriate amount of technical evidence;

- Environment – 10 sub-objectives including noise, atmospheric pollution, impacts on countryside, wildlife, ancient monuments and historic buildings;
- Safety – reducing accidents and improving security;
- Economy – economic efficiency, reliability and wider economic impacts;
- Accessibility – ability for people to reach different locations and facilities by different modes, and;
- Integration – transport interchange and integration with government policies.

The test to be assessed is defined as per Section 1.5 of the guidance. This states that the test to be assessed is that;

- 'if the benefit of retaining the service, station or network is 1.5 or over... the closure cannot be pursued'.

Section 2.3 of the guidance states that the authority / operation must be satisfied that;

- 'Retention of the rail service, station or network proposed for closure does not represent good value for money compared with the option of closure.'

In this case this is interpreted as the value for money of the retention option compared with the base (closure) scenario.

The assessment has sought to;

- Be independent and objective;
- Highlight any negative aspects of the scheme in comparison to any positive aspects of the scheme; and
- Identify the scale and nature of negative aspects enabling them to be properly taken into the decision making process.

<sup>3</sup> Railways Closures Guidance, 18 October 2006.

The assessment has utilised available data and information as much as possible, including published timetable information, passenger surveys and demand data provided by GMPTE. The qualitative assessment has been informed through a site visit undertaken on the 20th May 2009.

The appraisal of the closure option is described below and summarised in the Appraisal Summary Table (AST) in Appendix B.

### 3.2 Impacts on Metrolink Passengers

#### 3.2.1 Key Technical Assessment Issues

Figure 4 shows the existing Metrolink network.

**Figure 4 Existing Metrolink Network and Stops**



The services calling at Mosley Street Station (southbound only) are;

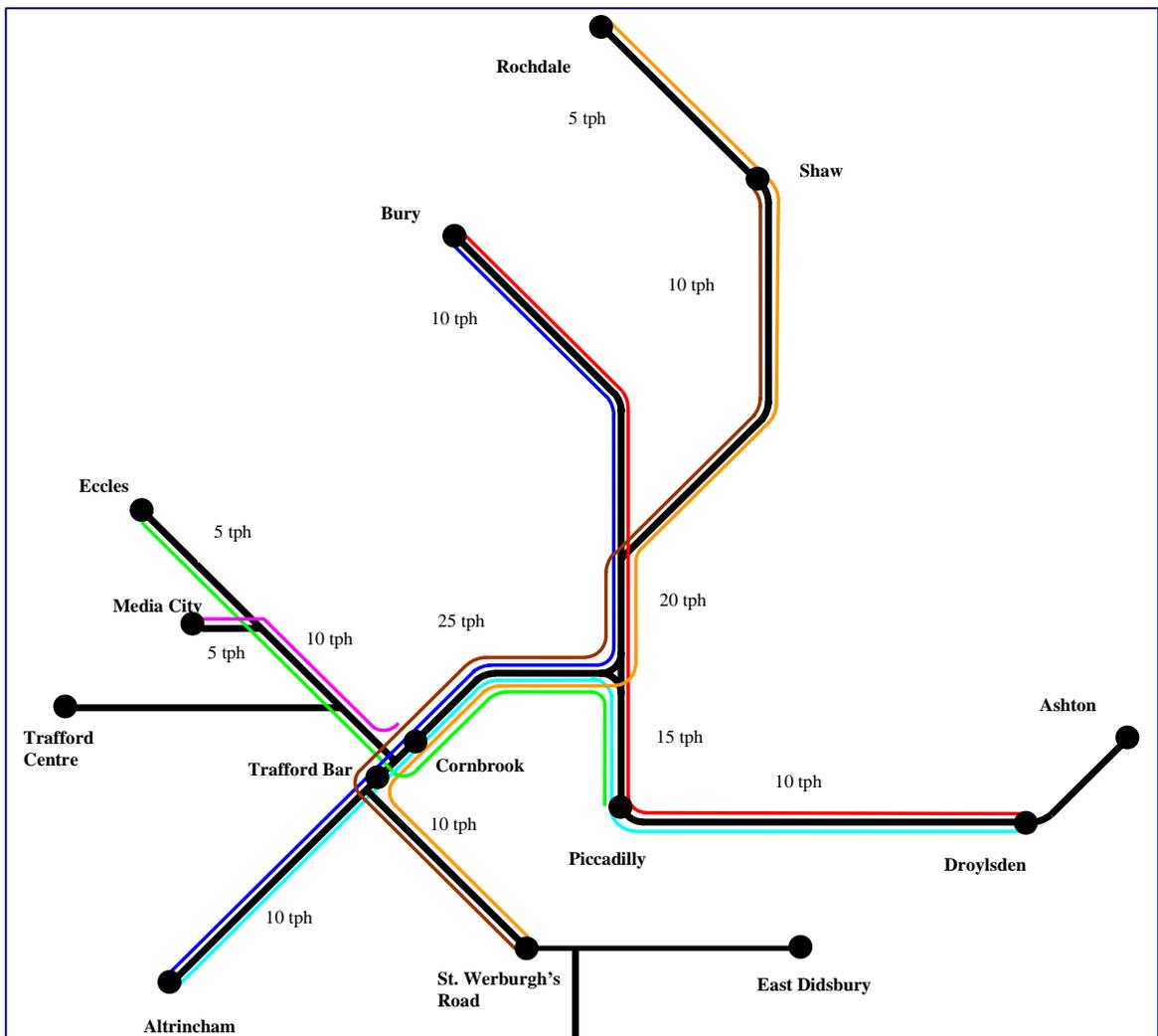
- Piccadilly Station – Altrincham every 12 minutes;
- Bury – Altrincham every 12 minutes; and,
- Piccadilly Station – Eccles every 12 minutes.

The existing split operation of Altrincham Line services between Piccadilly Station and Bury Lines results in Mosley Street being the first station with the combined frequency southbound.

Eccles line services all call at Piccadilly Station and Piccadilly Gardens and all stations to Cornbrook. However, a significant proportion of Mosley Street Station users will be using the Eccles line services as the service does not serve Market Street. People are likely to walk to Mosley Street in preference to Piccadilly Gardens as it is one stop closer to their destination and avoids the need to interchange.

Figure 5 shows that in the future the existing services are planned to remain and an additional service between Chorlton – cum – Hardy (St Werburgh’s Road) will operate at 6 minute intervals to Shaw / Rochdale via Market Street and Victoria. There will also be an additional service at 5 trains per hour between Media City and Cornbrook, increasing the frequency on the section of the Eccles Line to Harbour City to 10 trains per hour but reliant on interchange at Cornbrook to a combined frequency of 25tph from half of the services.

**Figure 5 Future Metrolink Service Pattern**



At least some passengers travelling south of Cornbrook Station, that would otherwise use Piccadilly Gardens or Market Street Station, currently walk to Mosley Street Station to take advantage of the increased service frequency. For some passengers the walk will be less than the walk to either of the other City Centre stations, while for others the additional walk of 1.5 to 2.0 minutes is made to secure the reduced waiting time – the difference between services every 6 minutes and every 12 minutes.

In addition, in the evening peak when trams are heavily loaded, some passengers that could otherwise use St Peter's Square station may choose to use Mosley Street Station to ensure getting on / getting a seat on the trams.

The removal of the station stop at Mosley Street will lead to a reduction in the journey time of the tram services on both the Altrincham and Eccles services and the future Chorlton service. This will result in time savings to passengers and could also lead to improved reliability of services, producing further passenger benefits. As well as slowing down, waiting at the stop and accelerating the trams currently have to move forward to 'call' the signal to cross York Street and wait for the signal to proceed. Without the station the call would be registered on departure of Piccadilly Gardens station and the combined time saving is estimated as 90 seconds.

The appraisal of the retention of Mosley Street Station needs to assess the impacts on specific groups of passengers;

- Walk time savings for passengers whose journey origins or destinations are closer to Mosley Street than either Piccadilly Gardens, Market Street or St Peter's Square stations.
- Reduced waiting time for Altrincham Line passengers who would otherwise use Piccadilly Gardens or Market Street Stations (minus the additional walk time involved).
- Reduced travel time for Eccles Line passengers who would walk to Mosley Street instead of Piccadilly Gardens or interchanging at St Peters Square or Cornbrook;
- Increased journey time for through passengers travelling beyond Mosley Street Station southbound; and
- Reduced reliability of Metrolink services as a result of the additional stop / potential delay point.

### **3.2.2 Summary of Demand Impacts**

Details of our analysis of demand and user benefit impacts are provided in Appendix A. Summary results are shown in Table 1 below.

Key conclusions from this analysis are that:

- The number of passengers passing through Mosley Street station (who would be adversely affected by the retention of the station) currently exceeds the number of station users (who will benefit) by a factor of between 2 and 3, and that this factor will grow as a result of the implementation of the Phase 3a Metrolink extensions to around 4.

- The average generalised journey time benefits gained by the station users as a result of retaining the station are higher than the average disbenefits experienced by the through passengers, but only by a factor of around 3. Part of the reason why the size of the average benefit for station users is lower than might be expected is that many current users are effectively making a fairly marginal decision in choosing to use this station even though it is not their nearest – i.e. trading off additional walk time against service frequency.
- This means that the net effect of retaining the station is an overall journey time **disbenefit** for Metrolink users. As a result of this, the overall forecast demand change arising from station retention is a small **reduction** in total Metrolink passenger volume, revenues and passenger kms.

**Table 1 Demand Impact Summary Effects**

|                                                                                    | <b>Board at Mosley Street</b> | <b>Alight at Mosley Street</b> | <b>Through passenger at Mosley Street</b> |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------|--------------------------------|-------------------------------------------|
| Base (2008) annual passenger volumes                                               | 1.18m                         | 0.14m                          | 3.40m                                     |
| Growth arising from Phase 3a implementation                                        | +34%                          | +142%                          | +120%                                     |
| Implied (approx) 2016 passenger volumes                                            | 1.58m                         | 0.34m                          | 7.48m                                     |
| Average Passenger Benefit associated with Mosley Street Retention (mins. Gen Time) | 4.9 mins                      | 2.6 mins                       | -1.5 mins                                 |
| Implied total passenger benefit (mins Generalised Time)                            | 7.9m mins                     | 0.93m mins                     | -11.22m mins                              |
| Estimated net demand change arising from Gen. Time effect (2016 passenger vols)    | +129k                         | +15k                           | -269k                                     |
| Implied change in passenger kms from demand change                                 | +1.12m km                     | +0.99m km                      | -2.30m km                                 |

### 3.3 Environment

A scoping qualitative assessment of the impact of the station retention option on the environment has considered all sub-headings specified in the NATA guidance with some quantified figures included for the main factors;

#### 3.3.1 Noise

The retention of the Metrolink Stop in Mosley Street will lead to an increase in noise levels associated with the deceleration and acceleration of the trams compared with through running of the trams in the base. However, the level of noise emission is relatively low and the station is surrounded by commercial premises limiting the potential for nuisance impact of additional noise.

In addition, the forecast increase in highway traffic resulting from the modal change forecasts will lead to an increase in traffic noise. However, the impacts are likely to be marginal in relation to background traffic levels and the impacts will be spread over several roads.

During construction there would be some noise in both the base case (to remove the platform and reinstate the pavement) and the retention option but there are no residential premises overlooking station site so the impact would be minimal.

The impact of the station retention is therefore considered to be neutral.

### 3.3.2 Local Air Quality / Greenhouse Gasses

The station retention will lead to a decrease in Metrolink use and a decrease in Metrolink passengerkms, some of which will involve people transferring to car travel, leading to an increase in vehicle emissions and reduction in local air quality and increase in greenhouse gasses.

The assessment of the quantity of the change in emissions has been made using the Metrolink demand forecasts and assumed proportion of passengers switched to / from road, in line with the Rail Closures Guidance and Webtag Unit 3.13 Guidance on Rail Appraisal. The change in pollutant emissions is shown in Table 2 and is based on the published data on emissions from UK transport sources 1999 (Source, DMRB Vol 11 section 3) and the average emission rates detailed in Transport Statistics Great Britain (2002 edition) and applied to the forecast increase in car kilometres of 259,000 kms per annum.

**Table 2 Estimated Change in Pollutant Emissions**

| Pollutant                | Reduction<br>Tonnes per annum |
|--------------------------|-------------------------------|
| Carbon Monoxide          | -1.83                         |
| Nitrogen Dioxide         | -0.40                         |
| Non Methane Hydrocarbons | -0.26                         |
| Particulates             | -0.02                         |
| Carbon Dioxide           | -63.59                        |

The important pollutants in local air quality impact assessment are Nitrogen Dioxide and Particulates. The station retention impacts are regarded as slightly adverse.

The value of the local air quality improvements and reduction in greenhouse gasses is based on the Rail Appraisal Guidance and detailed in Appendix A (section h). The financial impacts included in the non user benefits in the economic appraisal are;

- Local Air Quality: -£2,405 in 2008 reducing to -£1,794 in 2025, and;
- Greenhouse Gasses: -£957 in 2008 increasing to -£1,083 in 2025.

During construction there would be some additional emissions through the transport of materials and use of equipment on site. However, there would be some impact in both options.

Overall the assessment of the local air quality and greenhouse gases objective of the station retention option is considered slightly adverse.

### 3.3.3 Landscape / townscape

In the base scenario the removal of Mosley Street Station will create a 7.5m wide pavement outside the commercial premises. It is assumed that the space under the existing canopy will be utilised for on street café seating outside the commercial premises.

Retention of the station will create a 1m high platform with ramped access for the majority of the length of Mosley Street between Parker Street and York Street. This will form a barrier to movement and force people to cross the streets at either end. The raised platform would be a visual barrier across the street.

In addition, the raised platform would create a relatively narrow 'tunnel' between the Metrolink Stop and the premises to the south and will remove the on-street café seating outside the commercial premises.

Whilst the modern design of Metrolink stops and associated facilities would not be out of character with the commercial premises to the immediate south, it would be out of character with the Victorian premises on the north side of the street.

The retention of the stop is therefore considered to have a significant negative impact on the townscape and no impact on landscape.

### **3.3.4 Heritage of Historic Resources**

The most significant visual impact of retention of the stop would relate to the premises to the south of the platform. These are relatively modern glass-fronted premises so the impact would be negligible. However, to the north of the platform there is a variety of Victorian and more modern premises, 3 of which have ornate architecture of value. The raised platform would present some visual intrusion but have no direct impact on the historic resources.

Within sight of the station – one 'block' to the west is the Portico Library (now a restaurant) with a colonnaded façade. This is a significant distance from the station site so there is no real impact.

There is therefore a neutral impact on the heritage of historic resources.

### **3.3.5 Biodiversity**

As the street is fully paved there would be no identifiable impact on biodiversity of retention of the station.

### **3.3.6 Water Environment**

The street is fully paved and drained at either side of the road. There would be no increased run-off from the station. There would be no identified pollutants.

During construction there is a risk of additional dust and pollutants entering the drainage system, depending on the materials used and construction methods. However, there would be some works in both the base case and retention options and therefore minimal difference.

### **3.3.7 Physical Fitness**

The technical assessment forecast a reduction in use of Metrolink as a result of retaining the station leading to a loss of through journeys greater than the increase in Mosley Street Station use by around 125,000 passengers per annum. Some of these passengers will transfer to car (around a fifth) and is likely to lead to a decrease in walking to access stations at either end of the journey. This will have a slight impact on the physical fitness of those travellers.

The key factor in the assessment of physical fitness is encouraging people to walk for 30 minutes per day. Many passengers who choose to use Metrolink instead of driving to their destination would have walked to and from the stations at both ends of their journeys. From the assessment of lost patronage and assumed modal split we have estimated that around 138 persons per day would lose this health related benefit. Overall this is a slight adverse impact.

### **3.3.8 Journey Ambience**

The Transport Appraisal Guidance for the assessment of this objective focuses on measures under the control of network providers and operators;

- Traveller Care
- Travellers' Views, and
- Traveller Stress

#### **(a) Traveller Care**

The guidance notes that improvement to stations is covered by the Interchange objective and the measure of this objective is therefore on vehicles and covers cleanliness, facilities, information and environment. The station closure will have no impact on the quality of the vehicles.

#### **(b) Travellers' Views**

This relates to the attractiveness of the general travelling environment. In the base scenario the removal of Mosley Street Station will remove the stop point and also the delays due to the junction at York Street providing a smooth through journey between Piccadilly Garden and St Peter's Square.

The retention option will result in the slowing of the trams in Mosley Street to call at the station and call for the priority through the signal junction. This will apply to all through passengers (totalling 3m in 2006 and estimated as 6m per annum in the future with the expansion of the network). There will be slightly worsened travellers views, which will have a small overall impact on the travelling environment.

#### **(c) Traveller Stress**

This relates to the mental and physiological effects including frustration, fear of potential accidents and route uncertainty.

The retention of Mosley Street Station means that;

- Some passengers will have a shorter walk to access Metrolink;
- Some passengers will walk further to access Metrolink to secure a higher level of service – and reducing waiting times with inherent stress;
- Some passengers will walk further to access Metrolink to avoid the need to interchange to complete their journey, and therefore reduce travel stress associated with connection times and risks;
- Many passengers will have a longer journey time as a result of the extra stop and resultant delays;
- There will be a reduction of stress associated with missing the first service to passengers' destinations as a result of having to choose a station in the base – retention of the stop would produce an increase in route certainty;

Some of the benefits of the retention of Mosley Street Station can be secured in the base through the provision of Real-Time Passenger information at stations and at strategic locations in the City Centre proposed as part of the scheme.

Table 3 summarises the journey ambience impacts.

**Table 3 Journey Ambience Impact Worksheet – Station Retention Option**

| Factor            | Sub-Factor                  | Better | Neutral | Worse |
|-------------------|-----------------------------|--------|---------|-------|
| Traveller Care    | Cleanliness                 |        | ✓       |       |
|                   | Facilities                  |        | ✓       |       |
|                   | Information                 |        | ✓       |       |
|                   | Environment                 |        | ✓       |       |
| Travellers' Views | -                           |        |         | ✓     |
| Traveller Stress  | Frustration                 | ✓      |         |       |
|                   | Fear of potential accidents |        | ✓       |       |
|                   | Route Uncertainty#          | ✓      |         |       |

# It is possible that the 'nearest station' real-time passenger information screens around Piccadilly Gardens could have the effect of reducing this impact to 'neutral'.

Given the estimated passenger numbers involved (around 3,500 per day), this leads to an assessment of the journey ambience benefit of the retention option as being moderate (significant), although this could be reduced to a slight effect with the proposed Passenger Information Displays.

### 3.4 Safety

There are two sub-headings to consider under this objective, accidents and security;

#### 3.4.1 Accidents

There is a forecast decrease in Metrolink use as a result of retention of the stop and therefore transfer of trips to the highway network and a consequent increase in the incidence of road traffic accidents. The value of these is included within the non-user benefits of the economic appraisal but the methodology employed does not produce a quantified value for the number of accidents. The assessment also includes for a decrease in Metrolink accidents as a result of reduced Metrolink use.

#### 3.4.2 Security

Whilst some passengers will have reduced walk distances to reach the Metrolink station others would walk further to take advantage of the combined frequency at Mosley Street Station. However, there is no perceived security concern at Mosley Street Station or the alternative locations. It is concluded that there is no appreciable impact on passenger security.

## 3.5 Economy

There are three sub-objectives to consider, transport economic efficiency, reliability and wider economic impacts;

### 3.5.1 Transport Economic Efficiency

The quantification of the transport economic efficiency has been based on the analysis of Mosley Street Station passenger surveys undertaken in February 2008, analysis of existing passenger data for 2006 and analysis of forecast Metrolink Phase 3a passenger data. The quantified economic appraisal is detailed in Appendix A and reveals a Benefit to Cost Ratio of -1.24 which suggests that the retention option does not represent good value for money and does not meet the DfT's requirements for scheme investment.

### 3.5.2 Reliability

The introduction of the additional Metrolink stop, and lack of priority expected at the signals at York Street, is expected to lead to an increase in the probability of delays and therefore reduction of reliability in the retention option. However, passenger surveys reveal 90% satisfaction with Metrolink reliability so this is not a critical issue and the impact is considered only likely to be slightly adverse.

### 3.5.3 Wider Economic Impacts

The local and regional policy is focused on securing sustainable development, regeneration and reduction of congestion through encouragement of the use of public transport. This objective relates to wider economic impacts resulting from the retention option.

It is noted that there are existing commercial premises alongside the Mosley Street Station which probably benefit from the passing trade that the stop generates. However, without the stop there would be a wide pavement outside these premises and the ability to create pavement seating outside the cafés. With the retention of the stop an unattractive narrow and enclosed pavement will be created outside the commercial premises which may put companies off investment.

Metrolink provides high quality public transport access to and from the regional centre and the retention of the stop has three impacts;

- Lengthening the southbound through journeys for people travelling out of the regional centre and;
- For those travelling on the Altrincham Line with journey origin in the vicinity of the stop the stop creates an access point with the combined frequency – reducing waiting times.
- For those travelling on the Eccles Line with journey origins outside the immediate vicinity the stop removes the need to interchange.

The economic appraisal suggested that the through trips at least balance the other trips leading to a net neutral impact.

Some of the adverse economic impact could be overcome through improved signing in the city centre – specifically, additional electronic real-time information displays enabling people to know which stop the next tram will depart from.

## **3.6 Accessibility**

There are three aspects to consider – option values, severance and access to the transport system;

### **3.6.1 Option Values**

As the trams currently serving Mosley Street Station call at Piccadilly Gardens or Market Street Stations around 200m away the option to travel by tram to locations on the Metrolink network remains. Therefore there is little impact on option values produced by the station closure / retention.

### **3.6.2 Severance**

The railway closures guidance notes that severance is unlikely to be relevant to closure proposals and need not be included in assessments.

There will be a local severance impact in the retention option as passengers will be forced to cross Mosley Street at either end between York Street and Parker Street.

### **3.6.3 Access to the Transport System**

The measurement of the change in access to the transport system is defined as non car owning households living within 800m (2km in rural areas) of the station proposed for closure and without alternative public transport provision.

Appendix A shows the catchment analysis and analysis of alternative public transport services. The analysis showed that all locations within 800m of Mosley Street Station lie within 800m of an alternative Metrolink station. There are also substantial alternative public transport services available to all of the destinations served by the Metrolink services. The overall impact of closure / retention is considered minimal.

In terms of accessibility for mobility impaired passengers, the additional access point to the Metrolink network in the retention option represents a slight improvement. The retained stop would be designed to the accessibility standards required by the Disability Discrimination Act and would provide level access to all doors of the Metrolink vehicles. This would also be a slight improvement.

## **3.7 Integration**

This objective has three sub-objectives – interchange; land-use policies and proposals, and; wider Government Policy such as environmental sustainability, health and rural policy.

### **3.7.1 Interchange**

Improving interchange is a major factor in achieving a truly integrated transport system – a key objective of UK transport policy. This qualitative assessment of the Interchange sub-objective has been undertaken in line with the transport appraisal guidance<sup>4</sup>. The guidance lists a series of passenger indicators and standards which are summarised in Table 4 in terms of the base (closure) option and the retention of Mosley Street Station, assuming that the retention of the station would redistribute Metrolink passengers in the City Centre.

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<sup>4</sup> WebTAG unit 3.7.1

There is very little difference between the options according to the description of the issues to be considered in the guidance. Whilst the ‘connection time and risk of missing a connection’ indicator relates to timetables, the table shows a slight difference relating to the convenience of the combined timetable offer closer to the core of the city centre by the retention option and potential for improved onward journeys (for example interchanging to rail at Altrincham).

**Table 4 Integration – Passenger Interchange Assessment**

| Passenger Interchange Indicator                  | Base (Closure) option | Retention Option |
|--------------------------------------------------|-----------------------|------------------|
| Waiting Environment                              | Moderate / high       | Moderate / high  |
| Level of facilities                              | Moderate              | Moderate         |
| Level of Information                             | Moderate / high       | Moderate / high  |
| Visible Staff Presence                           | Poor                  | Poor             |
| Physical linkage for next stage of journey       | High                  | High             |
| Connection time and risk of missing a connection | Moderate              | High             |

There is therefore slight overall improvement in interchange quality for passengers wishing to travel between the City Centre and stations between Trafford Bar and Altrincham. There is also a slight improvement for passengers travelling to the Eccles Line from the Market Street area – walking to Mosley Street Station to avoid the need to interchange. However, the improvement of service frequencies following the Phase 3 investment offsets this existing benefit for some passengers.

### 3.7.2 Land-use Policy

The qualitative assessment is undertaken against the local, regional and national policies in terms of the number of policies supported compared to those that would be adversely affected.

#### (a) National Policies

In November 2008 the Department for Transport (DfT) published their transport strategy – ‘Delivering a Sustainable Transport System (DaSTS), including specification of the Governments’ five goals for transport;

- to **support** national **economic** competitiveness and **growth**, by delivering reliable and efficient transport networks;
- to reduce transport’s emissions of carbon dioxide and other greenhouse gases, with the desired outcome of **tackling climate change**;
- to **contribute to better safety, security and health** and longer life expectancy by reducing the risk of death, injury or illness arising from transport, and by promoting travel modes that are beneficial to health;
- to **promote** greater **equality of opportunity** for all citizens, with the desired outcome of achieving a fairer society; and
- to **improve quality of life** for transport users and non-transport users, and to promote a **healthy natural environment**.

Appraisal against the DfT’s objectives is effectively covered by the NATA assessment.

## **(b) Regional Policies**

The Government Office for the North West published the Regional Spatial Strategy (RSS) for North West England in 2008. This encompasses the Regional Transport Plan (RTP). It provides a framework for development and investment in the region over the next fifteen to twenty years and establishes a broad vision for the region and its sub-regions, priorities for growth and regeneration, and policies to achieve sustainable development across a wide range of topics – from jobs, housing and transport to climate change, waste and energy.

Policy DP 1 presents the 'Spatial Principles' which underpin the RSS;

- promote sustainable communities;
- promote sustainable economic development;
- make the best use of existing resources and infrastructure;
- manage travel demand, reduce the need to travel, and increase accessibility;
- marry opportunity and need;
- promote environmental quality;
- mainstreaming rural issues;
- reduce emissions and adapt to climate change.

The Regional Transport Strategy (RTS) embraces the spatial principles and the regional and sub-regional spatial frameworks (policy RDF1) and sub regional policies. In particular it seeks to:

- maintain existing transport infrastructure in good order;
- improve journey time reliability, tackle congestion and overcrowding in the region's main transport corridors shown on the Key Diagram, particularly within and between City Regions;
- secure a shift towards the use of more sustainable modes of transport;
- secure safe and efficient access between residential areas and key destinations, including centres of employment, schools, shops and other services;
- improve surface access and interchange arrangements at the international, national and regional gateways;
- reduce the adverse impacts of transport, in terms of safety hazards, climate change, environmental degradation, residential amenity and social exclusion;
- integrate the management and planning of transport systems.

Policy RT1 relates to Integrated Transport Networks including improving journey time reliability in key inter-regional transport corridors and enhancing the accessibility of the regions gateways and interchanges.

Reliability is covered under the Economy heading. In terms of enhancing accessibility of the regions gateways and interchanges the retention of the stop does not significantly alter the level of accessibility of the regional centre by Metrolink and the stop is not an identified key interchange. There will be some positive and negative local and regional impacts of the closure but overall of small impact against the objective.

Policy RT2 relates to Managing Travel Demand, in particular reduction in the proportion of car-borne commuting.

The retention of the stop is forecast to lead to a loss of Metrolink trips compared to the closure option and an increase in car use. The impact on congestion will be slightly adverse.

Policy RT3 relates to the Public Transport Framework and defines the North West's main regional public transport corridors and hierarchy of gateways and interchanges. Manchester Piccadilly Station and other Central Manchester Railway and bus stations are identified as important regional gateways. The policy 'encourages local authorities to introduce measures to enhance accessibility by public transport to the regional centres. Proposals should include priority measures to improve journey time reliability' (though the corridors identified do not include the Metrolink corridors). 'Interchange and service improvements should be supported by better information provision, marketing and integrated ticketing.'

The retention of the station at Mosley Street can be seen as contributing the enhancing accessibility by public transport though the benefit in the locality is offset by the disbenefit in journey time for people with origins outside the immediate vicinity of the stop.

### (c) Local Policies

Local Policies are presented in the Second Greater Manchester Local Transport Plan (LTP) (2006) and include a vision statement and 8 policy themes;

"Sharing the Vision, A Strategy for Greater Manchester", was published in 2003 by the Association of Greater Manchester Authorities. It has a shared agenda for the future of Greater Manchester and is supported by all the key agencies in the conurbation. By 2020, Greater Manchester aims to be:

- a creative and successful European Regional Centre with a strong knowledge driven economy recognised as a great place to build a business, to live in and to visit.
- a conurbation which is leading the wider north west region to greater levels of prosperity and which is helping to close the gap in prosperity between the north and the south.
- a place with a quality of environment, both built and natural, second to none.

'Sharing the Vision' is founded on eight key themes;

#### **Theme 1. Promoting a dynamic economy** – Key actions include:

- Reviewing the location of sites and their access requirements to nurture and attract growth-sector industries, with a particular emphasis on seeking to develop strategic sites in such a way as to minimise their impact on transport networks and to be accessible by the more sustainable modes.
- Improving surface access by the more sustainable modes to Manchester Airport to support the growth forecasts and policy direction set out in the Aviation White Paper, and support the development of its ground transport strategy.
- Improving accessibility so that the benefits and opportunities of new development and economic growth are available to all parts of the community.
- Improving awareness and take-up of e-commerce to help to reduce the need to travel.

The Mosley Street Station retention would have little impact on these actions.

#### **Theme 2. Enhancing the Regional Centre** – Key actions include:

- Improving access to Manchester Airport by more sustainable modes to support a critical mass of internationally competitive growth sectors.
- Improving the radial bus, Metrolink and rail corridors to support the Regional Centre's potential to become the physical location of a world-class Knowledge Capital.

- Improving connectivity, particularly by public transport, between the Regional Centre and other key centres to ensure that the benefits of economic growth in the Regional Centre are spread across Greater Manchester. This will be achieved through the Corridor Partnership approach which seeks to develop an integrated public transport and congestion management strategy for each corridor through partnership working of stakeholders. This should improve the efficiency and effectiveness of public transport.

The Mosley Street Station retention would have both positive and negative impacts on the action to improve radial Metrolink corridors to support the regional centre.

**Theme 3. Promoting culture, sport and tourism** - Key actions include:

- Improved access to Manchester Airport (which will be important to facilitate increases inbound tourism), the Regional Centre and to District Centre destinations by public transport to facilitate sustainable tourism, retail and leisure movements.
- High quality public transport access to football and cricket stadia and other sports complexes to encourage more sustainable travel Improvements in public transport access to river valleys, forest parks and open countryside close to the urban area and development of Rights of Way Improvement Plans.
- Improved accessibility by more sustainable modes to local leisure centres or community centres.

Mosley Street Station is convenient for access to the Portico Library and Art Gallery and Chinatown from the North and for interchange from buses at Piccadilly Gardens for travel south to Old Trafford and Salford Keys. The increase in the frequency of service proposed in Phase 3 will offset some of these impacts, however, retention of the station will have a slight positive impact on this action.

**Theme 4. Improving Connectivity** - Key actions include:

- Partnership with regional bodies, and other agencies, leading to the identification of strategic transport priorities for the North West region.
- Improving surface access to support the growth of Manchester Airport's role as an economic key driver for the city-region and the North West.
- Development of affordable options for increasing rail capacity for commuters.
- Delivery of a continued programme of public transport improvements including extensions to Metrolink and Quality Bus measures.
- Promoting local transport solutions to problems of access to healthcare, education and training, leisure and culture, job opportunities and to meet specific community needs in partnership with local authorities, communities, health, education and training providers, employers and regeneration agencies.
- Working with the Government and transport operators to seek solutions to enable bus provision to better meet the needs of socially excluded communities.
- Developing a Greater Manchester e-Government Strategy.

Retention of Mosley Street Station will add to the costs of extending the Metrolink network but will provide benefits for passengers on the Altrincham line interchanging with buses at Piccadilly Gardens and Cross Street.

**Theme 5. Raising levels of education and skills** - Key actions include:

- Improving access to jobs and training opportunities, for example to the Knowledge Capital area.
- Reducing transport barriers to new businesses.
- Improving accessibility by more sustainable modes to and reducing the impacts of travel to school and further education.

Retention of Mosley Street Station will have a slight impact on passengers from The University of Salford through improving interchange for travel to locations on the Altrincham Line.

**Theme 6. Creating sustainable communities** - Key actions include:

- Contributing to the creation of better living and working environments which are sustainable, for example Neighbourhood Renewal, Housing Market Renewal and other housing action areas, by land-use planning which minimises the need to travel and by enhancing accessibility by non-car modes.

Retention of Mosley Street Station will have no impact on this objective.

**Theme 7. Reducing Crime** - Key actions include:

- Introducing measures which combat fear of crime in design of local transport networks and on public transport.
- Implementing a range of safety measures.

Retention of Mosley Street Station will have no impact on this objective.

**Theme 8. Improving Health and Healthcare services**- Key actions include:

- Ensuring good access by more sustainable modes to existing and re-organised health facilities, including travel planning and parking control measures, and by encouraging more walking and cycling as healthier forms of travel.
- Working with Health Authorities to ensure that transport is considered when they develop their plans and programmes.

Retention of Mosley Street Station will have limited impact on this objective.

### **3.7.3 Other Government Policies**

The scheme has no impact on rural policy.

## 4 CONCLUSIONS

The Station Closure Assessment appraises retention of Mosley Street Station against the base (closure) scenario. The Appraisal Summary Table (AST) in Appendix B summarises the quantifiable and non quantifiable impacts and reveals slight or significant beneficial and adverse impacts against most of the identified indicators.

Whilst the retention of Mosley Street Station would produce some benefits against some policy headings, for Altrincham Line users in particular, there will be adverse impacts for through passengers. The adverse impacts are forecast to outweigh the benefits implying that retention of the station is not justified, and supporting the case for closure of the station.

There will be a significant increase in through passengers generated from the Metrolink Phase 3 investment, further outweighing the benefits to Altrincham Line users of station retention in the future.

The economic appraisal does not support retention of Mosley Street Station in the future and the technical assessment has shown that for some groups of passengers the adverse impacts may be offset from the increased services and connections that will be offered in future.

In addition, GMPTE propose to increase the costs of the base case (closure) option slightly to mitigate the main adverse impacts of the station closure, through the provision of additional real-time information screens in the vicinity of Mosley Street, Piccadilly Gardens and Market Street to indicate where the next Altrincham Line services will depart. This will enable passengers to choose to walk to the most appropriate stop to minimise overall travel times. The additional capital cost estimated as around £10,000, would have no significant impact on the economic appraisal and would represent an overall worthwhile investment within the Station Closure scenario – helping to offset passenger criticism and enabling GMPTE to maximise the benefits of the Metrolink Phase 3 investments.

## APPENDIX A TECHNICAL ASSESSMENT

### A1 Introduction

This technical assessment provides the quantification of the key aspects of the appraisal including the assessment of the key demand and revenue impacts, benefits / costs and economic appraisal for the value for money assessment.

### A2 Existing station demands

In February 2009 GMPTE commissioned passenger interviews and boarding and alighting counts at Mosley Street Station to provide the base data for the analysis of the station closure issues . This was also used to assist in the disaggregation of the ticket sales data as the City Centre stations are treated as one destination. Table 5 shows the key station flow data from the surveys.

**Table 5 Existing Mosley Street Station Flows**

| Time Period | Weekday Boarders | Weekday Alighters | Time Period | Saturday Boarders | Saturday Alighters |
|-------------|------------------|-------------------|-------------|-------------------|--------------------|
| 0700 – 1000 | 808              | 184               |             |                   |                    |
| 1000 – 1300 | 455              | 74                | 0900 – 1200 | 3112              | 82                 |
| 1300 - 1600 | 745              | 59                | 1200 – 1500 | 656               | 112                |
| 1600 – 1900 | 1,508            | 75                | 1500 - 1800 | 1,056             | 118                |
| Total       | 3,516            | 392               |             | 2,024             | 312                |

Table 6 shows the top 10 flows from Mosley Street Station from the ticket sales data adjusted on the basis of the February 2009 boarding and alighting counts provided by GMPTE. The top 10 flows represent 75% of all trips southbound from Mosley Street Station.

**Table 6 Top 10 Flows from Mosley Street Station**

| Destination Station | Annual Trips |
|---------------------|--------------|
| Altrincham          | 152,600      |
| Sale                | 124,876      |
| Stretford           | 96,678       |
| Brooklands          | 90,825       |
| Old Trafford        | 76,791       |
| Trafford Bar        | 69,180       |
| Eccles              | 64,921       |
| Salford Quays       | 44,817       |
| Navigation Road     | 44,046       |
| Timperley           | 42,816       |

### A3 Station Catchment Assessment

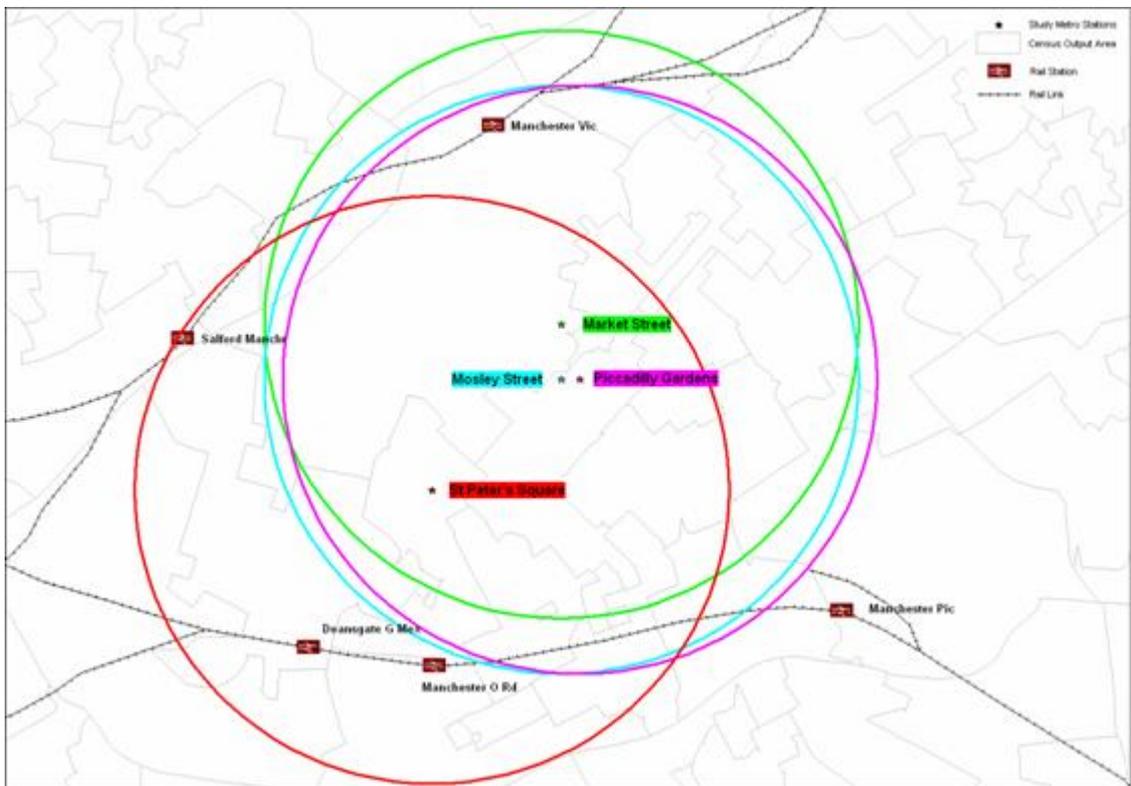
Table 7 shows the results of the station catchment assessment which used Mapinfo GIS to assess the 2001 Census information for 800m catchment of Mosley Street Station.

**Table 7 Station Catchment Area Data**

|                                     | Mosley Street Station |
|-------------------------------------|-----------------------|
| 0 car owning households within 800m | 962                   |
| Households within 800m              | 1,666                 |
| Population within 800m              | 3,131                 |

Figure 6 below indicates the 800m catchment of Mosley Street Station. The catchment covers most of the core of the City Centre between Manchester Victoria, Piccadilly and Oxford Road stations. Whilst there are almost 1,000 households without access to a car within the catchment of the station, Figure 5 shows that all of the 800m catchment for Mosley Street Station is covered by the 800m catchments of the other Metrolink stations. There is therefore no identified severance issue related to the station closure.

**Figure 6 Metrolink Stations 800m catchments.**



**A4 Existing Bus Network**

Table 8 shows the termini and frequency of buses serving the stations between Trafford Bar and Altrincham from Manchester City Centre. Most buses operate from Piccadilly Gardens via Portland Street with the 264 operating from Shude Hill via Corporation Street and Cross Street to the northwest of the City Centre. The 263 service which serves the catchments of all stations in the Metrolink corridor operates at a similar frequency to Metrolink. In addition, most stations are served by a number of other radial services showing that the catchment of Mosley Street Station has significant other travel opportunities.

**Table 8 Existing Bus Services**

| Station         | Bus Service | Terminus           | Frequency |           | Via                      |
|-----------------|-------------|--------------------|-----------|-----------|--------------------------|
|                 |             |                    | Peak      | Interpeak |                          |
| Trafford Bar    | 84          | Piccadilly Gardens | 2         | 2         | Portland Street          |
|                 | 253         | Piccadilly Gardens | 2         | 0         | Portland Street          |
|                 | 250         | Piccadilly Gardens | 0         | 4         | Portland Street          |
|                 | 263         | Piccadilly Gardens | 5         | 6         | Portland Street          |
| Old Trafford    | 84          | Piccadilly Gardens | 2         | 2         | Portland Street          |
|                 | 255         | Piccadilly Gardens | 2         | 2         | Portland Street          |
|                 | 256         | Piccadilly Gardens | 5         | 6         | Portland Street          |
|                 | 250         | Piccadilly Gardens | 0         | 4         | Portland Street          |
|                 | 263         | Piccadilly Gardens | 5         | 6         | Portland Street          |
|                 | 290         | Piccadilly Gardens | 1         | 0         | Portland Street          |
|                 | 264         | Shude Hill         | 2         | 0         | Cross St, Corporation St |
| Stretford       | 15          | Piccadilly Gardens | 3         | 4         | Portland Street          |
|                 | 255         | Piccadilly Gardens | 2         | 2         | Portland Street          |
|                 | 256         | Piccadilly Gardens | 5         | 6         | Portland Street          |
|                 | 16          | Piccadilly Gardens | 3         | 2         | Portland Street          |
|                 | 263         | Piccadilly Gardens | 5         | 6         | Portland Street          |
|                 | 264         | Shude Hill         | 2         | 0         | Cross St, Corporation St |
| Dane Road       | 16          | Piccadilly Gardens | 3         | 2         | Portland Street          |
|                 | 263         | Piccadilly Gardens | 5         | 6         | Portland Street          |
|                 | 99          | Piccadilly Gardens | 0         | 1         | Portland Street          |
| Sale            | 16          | Piccadilly Gardens | 3         | 2         | Portland Street          |
|                 | 263         | Piccadilly Gardens | 5         | 6         | Portland Street          |
|                 | 41          | Piccadilly Gardens | 5#        | 5         | Portland Street          |
|                 | 99          | Piccadilly Gardens | 0         | 1         | Portland Street          |
|                 | 264         | Shude Hill         | 2         | 0         | Cross St, Corporation St |
| Brooklands      | 99          | Piccadilly Gardens | 0         | 1         | Portland Street          |
|                 | 41          | Piccadilly Gardens | 5         | 5         | Portland Street          |
|                 | 263         | Piccadilly Gardens | 5         | 6         | Portland Street          |
| Timperley       | 16          | Piccadilly Gardens | 3         | 2         | Portland Street          |
|                 | 41          | Piccadilly Gardens | 5         | 5         | Portland Street          |
|                 | 263         | Piccadilly Gardens | 5         | 6         | Portland Street          |
| Navigation Road | 16          | Piccadilly Gardens | 3         | 2         | Portland Street          |
|                 | 41          | Piccadilly Gardens | 5         | 5         | Portland Street          |
|                 | 263         | Piccadilly Gardens | 5         | 6         | Portland Street          |
|                 | Train       | Piccadilly Station | 1         | 1         |                          |
| Altrincham      | 16          | Piccadilly Gardens | 3         | 2         | Portland Street          |
|                 | 263         | Piccadilly Gardens | 5         | 6         | Portland Street          |
|                 | 41          | Piccadilly Gardens | 5         | 5         | Portland Street          |
|                 | 264         | Shude Hill         | 2         | 0         | Cross St, Corporation St |
|                 | Train       | Piccadilly Station | 1         | 1         |                          |

# Run by Finglands & Stagecoach, uneven interval between peak services.

## A5 Comparison of Metrolink and Bus Journey Times

Table 9 provides a comparison of Metrolink and bus journey times for key destinations in the corridor. Metrolink provides a significant journey time advantage over buses, however, as buses have more stops, they could provide a shorter distance to the real destination of many trips. Passengers choosing to use Metrolink will take into account access and egress to Metrolink stops compared to buses.

For example, the addition of a 5 minute walk at either end of the Metrolink journey would outweigh the journey time advantage at Stretford and the perceived journey times (with walking time doubled) would make a significant difference to the decision making at Sale and Altrincham, especially when fares are taken into consideration.

**Table 9 Existing Bus and Metrolink Journey Characteristics**

|            | Metrolink (Mosley St) | Bus Service 263 | Bus Service 16 |
|------------|-----------------------|-----------------|----------------|
| Stretford  | 11 mins               | 20 mins         | 30 mins        |
| Sale       | 14 mins               | 31 mins         | 39 mins        |
| Altrincham | 22 mins               | 51 mins         | 68 mins        |

## A6 Passenger Survey Results

In February 2009 GMPTE commissioned passenger interviews and boarding and alighting counts at Mosley Street Station to establish origins and destinations for assessing the impact of the potential station closure. Table 10 shows the summary statistics;

**Table 10 Passenger Survey Summary**

| Date                           | Boarding Interviews (sample rate) | Alighting Interviews (sample rate) |
|--------------------------------|-----------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| 12 <sup>th</sup> February 2009 | 410 (12%)                         | 22 (6%)                            |
| 14 <sup>th</sup> February 2009 | 331 (16%)                         | 23 (7%)                            |

Using the grid references of the Metrolink station locations (Market Street, Piccadilly Gardens, Mosley Street and St Peters' Square) and the grid references of the postcodes within the passenger journey data, the distance between the Metrolink stations for the origins of passengers boarding at the station and the destinations of passengers alighting at the station were computed. It was noted that some passengers' origins / destinations were outside the immediate catchment of the stations. These were analysed and most concluded to be interchange trips. However, some passengers provided their origin instead of destination (and vice versa). Table 11 shows the records assessed and records deleted from the analysis.

**Table 11 Passenger Data Cleaning**

| Survey Date                    | Flow      | Survey Records | Not within 1km of Central stations | Deleted Records |
|--------------------------------|-----------|----------------|------------------------------------|-----------------|
| 12 <sup>th</sup> February 2009 | Boarding  | 410            | 32                                 | 4               |
|                                | Alighting | 22             | 1                                  | 1               |
| 14 <sup>th</sup> February 2009 | Boarding  | 331            | 9                                  | 4               |
|                                | Alighting | 23             | 1                                  | 0               |

The interview records were expanded to represent the total trips in the boarding counts taking account of the group size, time period and direction in the weekday survey. The alighting records were expanded by group size and an average factor for the survey day due to the smaller number of records.

The records were ordered by line according to the stated destination stations. The breakdown is shown in Table 12.

**Table 12 Breakdown of Mosley Street Station Users by Line**

|                           | Weekday | Saturday |
|---------------------------|---------|----------|
| Eccles Line Boarders      | 1,194   | 705      |
| Combined Section Boarders | 185     | 151      |
| Altrincham Line Boarders  | 2,133   | 1,129    |
| Other Boarders            | -       | 32       |
| Total Boarders            | 3,513   | 2,019    |
| Alighters                 | 392     | 312      |

Tables 13 and 14 shows the breakdown of the passenger boarding data according to the closest existing station and closest station if Mosley Street Station is closed for Weekdays and Saturdays. The distances were calculated based on the straight line distances (using the postcode and station grid references). Interchange trips were adjusted to reflect the closest station to their bus stop.

**Table 13 Weekday Boarders' Nearest Station With and Without Mosley St**

| Line Section     | Closest Existing Station |       | Without Mosley St  |     |
|------------------|--------------------------|-------|--------------------|-----|
| Altrincham Line  | Market Street            | 366   |                    |     |
|                  | Piccadilly Gardens       | 220   |                    |     |
|                  | Mosley Street            | 375   | Market Street      | 70  |
|                  |                          |       | Piccadilly Gardens | 188 |
|                  |                          |       | St Peters Square   | 116 |
|                  | St Peters Square         | 1,172 |                    |     |
| Combined Section | Market Street            | 33    |                    |     |
|                  | Piccadilly Gardens       | 23    |                    |     |
|                  | Mosley Street            | 5     | Market Street      | 0   |
|                  |                          |       | Piccadilly Gardens | 5   |
|                  |                          |       | St Peters Square   | 0   |
|                  | St Peters Square         | 124   |                    |     |
| Eccles Line      | Market Street            | 329   |                    |     |
|                  | Piccadilly Gardens       | 90    |                    |     |
|                  | Mosley Street            | 265   | Market Street      | 63  |
|                  |                          |       | Piccadilly Gardens | 127 |
|                  |                          |       | St Peters Square   | 75  |
|                  | St Peters Square         | 512   |                    |     |

**Table 14 Saturday Boarders' Nearest Station With and Without Mosley St**

| Line Section     | Closest Existing Station |     | Without Mosley St  |     |
|------------------|--------------------------|-----|--------------------|-----|
| Altrincham Line  | Market Street            | 472 |                    |     |
|                  | Piccadilly Gardens       | 45  |                    |     |
|                  | Mosley Street            | 128 | Market Street      | 0   |
|                  |                          |     | Piccadilly Gardens | 120 |
|                  |                          |     | St Peters Square   | 9   |
|                  | St Peters Square         | 483 |                    |     |
| Combined Section | Market Street            | 44  |                    |     |
|                  | Piccadilly Gardens       | 5   |                    |     |
|                  | Mosley Street            | 0   | Market Street      | 0   |
|                  |                          |     | Piccadilly Gardens | 0   |
|                  |                          |     | St Peters Square   | 0   |
|                  | St Peters Square         | 102 |                    |     |
| Eccles Line      | Market Street            | 222 |                    |     |
|                  | Piccadilly Gardens       | 52  |                    |     |
|                  | Mosley Street            | 92  | Market Street      | 0   |
|                  |                          |     | Piccadilly Gardens | 92  |
|                  |                          |     | St Peters Square   | 0   |
|                  | St Peters Square         | 340 |                    |     |

Half of Mosley Street Station boarders' origins lie closer to St Peters Square. Mosley Street Station is the closest station for only 18% of weekday boarders and 11% of Saturday boarders. Market Street is the closest station for a fifth of weekday boarders and over a third of Saturday boarders, reflecting the higher proportion of shopping trips on Saturdays.

Half of weekday passengers' and almost all Saturday passengers' closest alternative station to Mosley Street is Piccadilly Gardens.

Table 15 shows the journey time and frequency differences that would result from the closure of Mosley Street Station for each demand segment. The walk times are observed values. In-vehicle times are based on published journey time information – taking account of the 1.5 minutes journey time saving of not stopping at Mosley Street Station and resultant reduced traffic signal delays. The generalised time differences assume that walking and waiting times are factored by 2.0 in line with appraisal guidance. The generalised time differences will be a smaller proportion of longer distance trips on each line section.

For the Combined Section (St Peters Square to Trafford Bar), following the introduction of the Metrolink Phase 3 extensions, there will be trams every 7 minutes from Market Street and every 4 minutes from Mosley St / St Peters Square. As a result there will be no journey time benefits of walking to Mosley Street from Market Street. However, there will be journey time savings through walking from Piccadilly Gardens to Mosley Street, which would offer more than twice the service frequency. Without Mosley Street Station passengers with origins close to Piccadilly Gardens would be expected to walk to Market Street to secure the frequency benefit. Passengers in the vicinity of Mosley Street would be expected to walk to St Peters' Square to secure the combined frequency advantage.

**Table 15 Journey Time and Frequency Impacts of Station Closure, Borders**

| Line Section     | Closest Existing Station | Without Mosley St | Walk Time (mins) | Wait Time (mins) | In-Vehicle Time (mins) | Generalised Time Difference (mins) |       |
|------------------|--------------------------|-------------------|------------------|------------------|------------------------|------------------------------------|-------|
| Altrincham Line  | Market Street            |                   | - 2.0            | + 5.0            | +1.5                   | +7.5                               |       |
|                  | Piccadilly Gdns          |                   | -1.5             | +5.0             | -0.5                   | +6.5                               |       |
|                  | Mosley Street            | Market St         |                  | +2.0             | +5.0                   | +1.5                               | +15.5 |
|                  |                          | Piccadilly Gdns   |                  | +1.5             | +5.0                   | -0.5                               | +12.5 |
|                  |                          | St Peters Sq      |                  | +4.5             | 0                      | -1.5                               | +7.5  |
|                  | St Peters Sq             |                   |                  | -4.5             | 0                      | -1.5                               | -10.5 |
| Combined Section | Market Street            |                   | -                | -                | -                      | -                                  |       |
|                  | Piccadilly Gdns          |                   | +0.5             | +3.0             | +3.0                   | +10.0                              |       |
|                  | Mosley Street            | Market St         |                  | +2.0             | +3.0                   | +3.0                               | +13.0 |
|                  |                          | Piccadilly Gdns   |                  | +2.0             | +3.0                   | +3.0                               | +13.0 |
|                  |                          | St Peters Sq      |                  | +4.5             | 0                      | -1.5                               | +7.5  |
|                  | St Peters Sq             |                   |                  | -4.5             | 0                      | -1.5                               | -10.5 |
| Eccles Line      | Market Street            |                   | -2.0             | +5.0             | +1.5                   | +7.5                               |       |
|                  | Piccadilly Gdns          |                   | -1.5             | +5.0             | -0.5                   | +6.5                               |       |
|                  | Mosley Street            | Market St         |                  | +2.0             | +5.0                   | +1.5                               | +15.5 |
|                  |                          | Piccadilly Gdns   |                  | +1.5             | +5.0                   | -0.5                               | +12.5 |
|                  |                          | St Peters Sq      |                  | +4.5             | 0                      | -1.5                               | +7.5  |
|                  | St Peters Sq             |                   |                  | -4.5             | 0                      | -1.5                               | -10.5 |

For the Eccles Line the introduction of a service from Media City to Cornbrook will result in a reduction in the journey time benefits of using Mosley Street Station from around 29 minutes to only 5 / 6 minutes through interchanging at Cornbrook station for some passengers, assuming an interchange penalty of 10 minutes (and no benefits if the interchange penalty is only 5 minutes which may be justified by the reliability of Metrolink services). Therefore only around half of Eccles Line passengers would experience the disbenefits of the station closure (or benefit of station retention) given in Table 15.

Tables 13 and 14 showed a substantial number of passengers with origins closer to St Peters Square using Mosley Street Station. Table 15 suggests that they would receive benefits as a result of the station closure. This is illogical and further analysis of the survey data revealed that a significant proportion of these trips were transferring from bus stops. The postcodes suggested that the stops were on Princess Street and Booth Street / Nicolas Street either side of Mosley Street. However, the public transport network map for the City Centre suggests that the Booth St / Nicolas St stops could be on Charlotte St and York St – closer to Mosley Street Station. Table 16 shows the numbers of trips involved on weekdays and Saturdays. Without Mosley Street Station these passengers might walk to Market Street or Piccadilly gardens or walk to St Peters Square. It is assumed that retention of Mosley Street Station would result in 5 minute time saving for these passengers.

Other passengers using Mosley Street Station with an origin closer to St Peters Square must be securing some marginal advantage in using Mosley Street Station, such as securing a seat or being able to board the first tram in congested periods. The Phase 3 investment will provide significant additional capacity south of St Peters Square so the analysis excludes these trips.

**Table 16 Analysis of Bus Interchange Trips**

| Line Section     | Nearest Stn<br>St Peters<br>Square | Origin 'Bus<br>Stop' | Possible York St /<br>Charlotte St |
|------------------|------------------------------------|----------------------|------------------------------------|
| <b>Weekdays</b>  |                                    |                      |                                    |
| Altrincham Line  | 1172                               | 798                  | 550                                |
| Combined Section | 124                                | 89                   | 39                                 |
| Eccles Line      | 512                                | 435                  | 267                                |
| <b>Saturdays</b> |                                    |                      |                                    |
| Altrincham Line  | 483                                | 453                  | 303                                |
| Combined Section | 102                                | 92                   | 51                                 |
| Eccles Line      | 340                                | 308                  | 208                                |

Tables 17 and 18 present the breakdown of passengers alighting at Mosley Street for weekdays and Saturdays. The tables also show the breakdown of St Peters Square data split by origin Bus Stops.

**Table 17 Weekday Alighters' Nearest Station With and Without Mosley St**

| Closest Existing Station |     | Without Mosley St               |    |
|--------------------------|-----|---------------------------------|----|
| Market Street            | 60  |                                 |    |
| Piccadilly Gardens       | 120 |                                 |    |
| Mosley Street            | 30  | Market Street                   | 0  |
|                          |     | Piccadilly Gardens              | 15 |
|                          |     | St Peters Square                | 15 |
| St Peters Square         | 180 |                                 |    |
|                          |     | Princess St Bus Stop            | 15 |
|                          |     | York St / Charlotte St Bus Stop | 75 |

**Table 18 Saturday Alighters' Nearest Station With and Without Mosley St**

| Closest Existing Station |     | Without Mosley St               |     |
|--------------------------|-----|---------------------------------|-----|
| Market Street            | 108 |                                 |     |
| Piccadilly Gardens       | 0   |                                 |     |
| Mosley Street            | 48  | Market Street                   | 0   |
|                          |     | Piccadilly Gardens              | 48  |
|                          |     | St Peters Square                | 0   |
| St Peters Square         | 156 |                                 |     |
|                          |     | Princess St Bus Stop            | 48  |
|                          |     | York St / Charlotte St Bus Stop | 108 |

Only 8% of weekday and 15% of Saturday alighters destinations are closest to Mosley Street Station. It is likely that passengers' whose nearest station is Piccadilly Gardens have alighted from the Bury Line Metrolink service that does not stop at Piccadilly Gardens. Similarly, passengers' whose nearest station is Market Street may have used the Altrincham Line service from Piccadilly Station. Half of weekday and all of Saturday passengers whose closest station is St Peters Square are interchanging with bus services. It is assumed that the remainder have destinations between Mosley Street and St Peters Square stations.

Applying these assumptions the impacts of the closure of Mosley Street Station have been assessed for each user group in Table 19.

**Table 19 Journey Time and Frequency Impacts of Station Closure, Alighters**

| Closest Existing Station                    | Without Mosley St                 | Walk Time (mins) | Wait Time (mins) | In-Vehicle Time (mins) | Generalised Time Difference (mins) |
|---------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|------------------|------------------|------------------------|------------------------------------|
| Market Street                               | Piccadilly Gardens                | +2               | 0                | -1.0                   | +3.0                               |
| Piccadilly Gdns                             | Market Street                     | +2               | 0                | -3.0                   | +1.0                               |
| Mosley Street                               | Market St                         | +2               | 0                | -3.0                   | +1.0                               |
|                                             | Piccadilly Gdns                   | +1.5             | 0                | -2.0*                  | +1.0                               |
|                                             | St Peters Sq                      | +2.0             | 0                | +2.0                   | +6.0                               |
| St Peters Sq<br>Non interchange             | St Peters Square                  | +2.0             | 0                | +2.0                   | +6.0                               |
| St Peters Sq –<br>Princess Street           | St Peters Square                  | +1.0             | 0                | +2.0                   | +4.0                               |
| St Peters Sq –<br>York/Charlotte<br>Streets | Market St / Piccadilly<br>Gardens | +2.0             | 0                | -2.0                   | +2.0                               |

\* average between Market Street to Mosley Street and Piccadilly Gardens to Mosley Street

## **A7 Passenger and Revenue Demand Forecasts**

### **A7.1 Mosley Street Station Users**

The result of the assessment of the journey time and frequency impacts of the closure of Mosley Street Station have been used to assess the demand and revenue impacts of the station retention option through application of generalised time assumptions for each line section. The average generalised journey times between stations on the line sections that would be affected by the station closure were calculated from published journey time information, interchange time including interchange penalty, origin wait time based on the service frequency in the Phase 3 network scenario and 12 minutes access / egress time. Interchange waiting time, origin waiting time and access / egress times are doubled to reflect passenger perceptions.

The journey time and frequency impacts were applied to the average generalised costs for each line section including a journey time elasticity assumption of -0.9 and applied to the interview data. Expansion factors of 1.07 weekday and 1.3 Saturday were applied to expand to the whole day<sup>5</sup> and expansion factors of 5 for weekdays and 1.5 for weekend and 52 weeks per annum were applied. These factors were checked through analysis of ticket sales and season tickets for equivalent ‘survey days’ and all trips in 2006.

Table 20 shows the resultant additional patronage and revenue for Weekdays and Saturdays and annually – excluding the St Peters Square data and including a revenue factor of £1.37 per journey based on 2006 Metrolink ticket sales and season ticket data for Metrolink Phase 1/2.

These estimates ignore the potential for additional real-time information screens in the City Centre to reduce passenger walking and waiting times and therefore reflect a cautious scenario.

<sup>5</sup> Based on MOIRA Rail Orcats Profiles for short distance Provincial City services

**Table 20 Mosley Street Station Retention - Demand and Revenue Impacts**

| Line Section     | Weekday Survey Additional Demand | Saturday Survey Additional Demand | Combined |
|------------------|----------------------------------|-----------------------------------|----------|
| <b>Boarders</b>  |                                  |                                   |          |
| Altrincham Line  | 177                              | 110                               |          |
| Combined Section | 10                               | 7                                 |          |
| Eccles Line      | 97                               | 55                                |          |
| <b>Alighters</b> | 17                               | 12                                |          |
| Total Survey Day | 301                              | 184                               |          |
| Annual Demand    |                                  |                                   | 102,801  |
| Annual Revenue   |                                  |                                   | £140,837 |

The results represent an 8% demand impact on the Weekday survey data and 9% impact on the Saturday survey data.

GMPTE provided demand matrices for station to station flows from their transport models for the Phase 1 / 2 network and Phase 3a network. The model forecasts an increase in trips boarding southbound from Mosley Street Station of around 34% in 2016 as a result of the new services / extensions providing new travel opportunities. The model also forecasts an increase in Mosley Street Station alighters of 142%.

As the retention of the station would be applied as part of the Phase 3a Metrolink scheme these factors are applied to the demand, revenue, benefits and non-user benefits relating to Mosley Street station users.

### **A7.2 Through Trips**

The demand forecasts need to take account of the impact of the additional station stop in the retention option. The generalised time analysis was applied to the trips passing through the station using the station to station matrix provided by GMPTE. The analysis assumed a 90 second delay through the need to decelerate, dwell at the stop, accelerate and wait for the traffic signal at the York Street junction.

The model forecasts a patronage loss of 122,261 per annum and £167,498 revenue loss, a 3.6% decrease for the affected flows (flows between Bury and the City Centre travelling to stations south of Mosley Street). However, account needs to be taken of the planned investment in additional Metrolink services. GMPTE's forecasts of station to station flows following Phase 3a implementation the increase in through trips passing Mosley Street Station represent an increase of 120%.

### **A8 Costs, Cost Savings and Residual Liabilities**

In the base (closure) option there will be costs associated with the removal of Mosley Street Station and creation of a wide pedestrian footway in its place. The costs are estimated as £300,000.

In the retention option there will be costs associated with the rebuilding of Mosley Street Station to the new design standards including ramped access and steps. The costs are estimated as £1,200,000. There is thus a net increase in capital costs of £900,000 in the retention option.

The capital costs are assumed to be equivalent to Network Rails GRIP Level 3 with 35% risk and assumed to be based on qtr 4 2008 prices. An Optimism Bias factor of 40% has been assumed.

In the retention option there will be ongoing station maintenance costs related to upkeep of the infrastructure including passenger shelters, lighting, CCTV, passenger help facility, real-time passenger information and fixed information including timetables, ticket machines (including regular cash handling and restocking tickets). A broad estimate of £20,000 per annum (2007 prices) has been assumed<sup>6</sup> including contribution to periodic renewal / replacement costs through the economic appraisal period.

**A9 Cost Benefit Analysis Assumptions**

There are a number of economic benefits calculated for the evaluation;

- User Time Savings – existing and new Metrolink passengers;
- External – non-user benefits relating to;
  - Traffic decongestion impacts – as a result of the change in Metrolink demand some of which will have transferred to / from making journeys by private car;
  - Infrastructure maintenance cost savings / costs as a result of the change in traffic on the highway network;
  - Accident changes – resulting from the change in trips on the highway as a result of the mode shift to / from Metrolink, and;
  - Environment impacts attributed to changes in local air quality and greenhouse gasses relating to the mode switch to / from Metrolink.
- Indirect costs to Government as a result of changes in revenues from fuel taxes;
- Increase in operating costs and revenues above inflation over the project life.

**A10 Existing and New User Time Saving Benefits**

These benefits were forecast using the generalised time analysis of the survey data for Mosley Street Station users and the through trips analysis, expanded by the factors used for the demand and revenue forecasts. For new users the rule of half has been applied. The results are shown in Table 21.

**Table 21 Existing and New User Time Savings, per annum.**

| Line Section                    | Existing User Time Savings (mins) | New User Time Savings (Mins) | Total             |
|---------------------------------|-----------------------------------|------------------------------|-------------------|
| Mosley Street Station Boarders  | 7,627,064                         | 273,474                      | 7,900,538         |
| Mosley Street Station Alighters | 910,987                           | 14,503                       | 925,490           |
| Through Journeys                | -11,226,156                       |                              | -11,226,156       |
| <b>Total</b>                    |                                   |                              | <b>-2,400,128</b> |

<sup>6</sup> Based on an internal Light Rail operating cost model

Over half of the user time savings accrue to Altrincham Line Users and over a third to Eccles Line Users.

The time savings are converted to monetary figures using the value of time assumptions given in the appraisal guidance<sup>7</sup>, including the specified light rail proportions of work, commuting and other trips. The value of time applied is £4.13 per hour in 2002 prices. The journey time impacts of the retention of Mosley Street Station are therefore valued as -£166,207 per annum in 2002 prices.

The estimates ignore the potential for passengers to minimise walking and waiting time in the base (closure) scenario as a result of the additional real-time passenger information displays. This is therefore a cautious assessment.

### **A11 Rail Safety Benefits (costs)**

The economic evaluation takes account of the change in road accidents as a result of the change in highway traffic (see external benefits below) and the change in Metrolink accidents as a result of the change in Metrolink use. Table 22 shows the calculation – utilising the rail accident rates in the Rail Closures Guidance 2006 and the values of fatal and serious accidents from HEN1 2007.

**Table 22 Rail Safety Benefits (costs)**

| <b>Element</b>                                      | <b>Values</b> |
|-----------------------------------------------------|---------------|
| Cost per Fatality (2005 prices)                     | £1,428,180    |
| Cost per serious injury (2005 prices)               | £160,480      |
| Casualty Rate (Fatalities) accidents per passkm     | 0.000000005   |
| Casualty Rate (Serious Injury) accidents per passkm | 0.000000018   |
| 2008 New Metrolink Passenger km                     | -1.1m         |
| 2008 Rail Safety benefits (2005 prices)             | -£6,212       |

### **A12 External Benefits**

The non-user benefits have been assessed using the DfT Guidance on Rail Appraisal<sup>8</sup> and associated spreadsheets. This procedure produced recommended values for congestion, infrastructure, accident, local air quality, noise and greenhouse gases impacts resulting from the assumed transfer of trips to / from car for 2008 and 2025.

The change in Metrolink passengerkms was computed for the new Mosley Street Station users through application of the weighted average trip length for each section of line. The station – station distance matrix was applied to the change in through trips. The change in car travel was computed assuming 20% transfer from car based on the results of the Metrolink Blockade Evaluation Study<sup>9</sup> and assuming a car occupancy factor of 1.2.

<sup>7</sup> TAG Unit 3.5.6 Values of Time and Operating Costs, DfT, April 2009

<sup>8</sup> WebTAG Unit 3.13.2, Guidance on Rail Appraisal, External Costs of Car Use, DfT, April 2007)

<sup>9</sup> GMPTE Metrolink Track Renewal and Blockade Evaluation Study, Jacobs Consultancy June 2008

The new Mosley Street Station users would create almost 73,000 additional Metrolink passenger kilometres per annum. However, the lost through journeys is forecast to remove 4.2m passkms leading to a net decrease of 4.1m passkms per annum. Application of the above assumptions resulted in an estimated increase of almost 1m car kms per annum.

The rates used and values derived for the external impacts are shown in Table 15, based on the DfT Guidance<sup>10</sup> assuming car trips removed from / added to A-roads, in conurbations and assuming congestion band 3 on average (on a scale 0 – 5).

**Table 23 External Costs of Car Use (Non-user benefits) rates / values.**

| Marginal External Cost | Rate p/pass car unit 2008 | Rate p/pass car unit 2025 | Value (£) 2008 | Value (£) 2025 |
|------------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|----------------|----------------|
| Congestion             | 15.00                     | 19.90                     | -£38,798       | -£61,654       |
| Infrastructure         | 0.05                      | 0.05                      | -£129          | -£155          |
| Accident               | 2.80                      | 3.85                      | -£7,242        | -£11,910       |
| Local Air Quality      | 0.93                      | 0.58                      | -£2,405        | -£1,794        |
| Noise                  | 0.21                      | 0.29                      | -£543          | -£897          |
| Greenhouse Gasses      | 0.37                      | 0.35                      | -£957          | -£1,083        |
| Total                  |                           |                           | -£50,075       | -£77,493       |

**A13 Indirect Tax Cost to Government**

The transfer of journeys from Metrolink to private car results in an increase in government revenue as a result of the increase in fuel sales and the resulting increase in fuel tax income. For this appraisal the value of this factor was estimated using the DfT Guidance on Rail Appraisal<sup>11</sup> spreadsheet which suggested values of 3.7p / car km in 2008 and 2.7p / car km in 2025 (which incorporates the DfT’s assumption that vehicles become more fuel efficient over time). While the use of this spreadsheet value in this context does not strictly follow WebTAG guidance, we feel that this represents a suitable simplified approach for this relatively minor scheme. Application of these factors to the increased carkms, results in estimated benefits of £9.5k in 2008 and £8.4k in 2025. The change being due to the demand growth assumptions, see economic appraisal assumptions section below.

**A14 Operating costs and Revenue Growth**

The appraisal assumes planned growth in Metrolink fares of RPI +1% and the assumed rise in operating costs of the same level. A revenue elasticity of 0.4 is applied to the fares increase to determine revenue growth.

<sup>10</sup> DfT Guidance on Rail Appraisal: External Costs of Car Use (WebTAG Unit 3.13.2, April 2007)  
<sup>11</sup> DfT Guidance on Rail Appraisal: External Costs of Car Use (WebTAG Unit 3.13.2, April 2007)

## **A15 Economic Appraisal Assumptions**

The economic appraisal has been undertaken in accordance with the Rail Closure Guidance and the associated Guidance on Rail Appraisal, though some simplifications were made in relation to the assessment of taxation implications. Key assumptions were;

- 2002 price base and 2002 prices, deflating values using RPI factors;
- Risk factor of 35% applied to Capital Costs;
- Optimism bias factor of 40% applied to Capital Costs and 41% applied to operating costs.
- Discounted over 60 years of operation from 2012 to a 2002 base assuming a discount rate of 3.5% from 2002 to 2037 and 3.0% for the remaining years;
- Assuming a Metrolink passenger growth factor of 2% per annum for 2008 and 2009 growth and 1% per annum for all other years from the 2006 base of the model based on GMPTE advice;
- Assuming value of time growth from 2002 to 2071 in accordance with appraisal guidance<sup>12</sup>;
- Interpolation of the growth in external costs of car use (non-user benefits) between the forecasts for 2008 and 2025 with only rail passenger and value of time growth thereafter;
- Application of the 20.9% market price adjustment factor to the Capital Costs, operating costs, revenues and benefits assuming 1.2% business use<sup>13</sup>.

## **A16 Cost Benefit Analysis Results**

The value for money assessment based on the benefit – cost ratio (BCR) as specified in the Guidance on Rail Appraisal (section 3.10.1) and is summarised in Table 19.

The BCR is the Present Value of the Benefits (PVB) divided by the Present Value of the Costs (PVC) where;

- $PVB = \text{Net private revenues} - \text{private costs} + \text{subsidies} + \text{grants} + \text{user benefits} + \text{non user benefits}$  and;
- $PVC = \text{cost to government}$
- $NPV = \text{Net Present Value}$

<sup>12</sup> WebTAG Unit 3.5.6, Values of Time and Operating Costs, DfT, April 2009, Table 3 Non-Work

<sup>13</sup> WebTAG Unit 3.5.6, Values of Time and Operating Costs, DfT, April 2009, Table 7 Light Rail All week average.

**Table 24 Benefit – Cost Ratio**

| Element                       | Present Values<br>£m |
|-------------------------------|----------------------|
| Capital Costs                 | £1.26                |
| Operating / Maintenance Costs | £0.71                |
| Indirect Tax Costs            | -£0.20               |
| Rail Safety Costs             | -£0.29               |
| Revenues                      | -£5.25               |
| User benefits                 | -£6.74               |
| Non-user benefits             | -£2.26               |
| PVB                           | -£8.71               |
| PVC                           | £7.01                |
| BCR                           | -1.24                |
| NPV                           | -£15.72              |

Whilst the retention of Mosley Street Station produces some user and non-user benefits for users of the station there is a net reduction in user and non user benefits and revenues leading to a negative BCR and forecast economic loss.

The Tables summarising the economic efficiency, public accounts and analysis of monetised costs and benefits are provided in Appendix C.

### **A17 Sensitivity Analysis**

A number of sensitivity tests were undertaken to establish the sensitivity of the BCR to economic appraisal assumptions. These are summarised in Table 25. This shows that the appraisal is relatively insensitive to changes in capital costs, operating costs and taxation factors, but more sensitive to the Metrolink Phase 3a factors applied to the base year flows.

**Table 25 Sensitivity Analysis Results**

| Test                                                        | BCR   |
|-------------------------------------------------------------|-------|
| Base                                                        | -1.24 |
| 50% increase in capital costs                               | -1.14 |
| Removal of operating costs                                  | -1.38 |
| Removal of Metrolink Phase 3a factors                       | 1.08  |
| Reduction of Phase 3a through trips factor to 1.5           | 0.73  |
| Increase of Mosley Street Boarding phase 3 factor to 2.0    | 0.72  |
| Removal of Market Price Adjustment and Indirect Tax Factors | -1.46 |

The appraisal assumed the Phase 3a investment only. GMPTE has secured further additional funding to extend the network further to the south and east and additional through trips could therefore be expected in the future. Even if the level of through trips is significantly reduced, there is no economic case for retention of Mosley Street Station.

APPENDIX B APPRAISAL SUMMARY TABLE

| Description: Retention of Mosley Street Station within Metrolink Phase 3a |                                | Problems: Proposed removal of station results in longer access times for some passengers and split service between Piccadilly Gardens and Market Street stops                                           | PVC Cost: £7.08m                                                        |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| OBJECTIVE                                                                 | SUB-OBJECTIVE                  | QUALITATIVE IMPACTS                                                                                                                                                                                     | QUANTITATIVE MEASURE (year 2005)                                        |
| ENVIRONMENT                                                               | Noise                          | Slight increase in noise through deceleration and acceleration to stop at Mosley Street but no significant sensitive receptors.                                                                         | N/A                                                                     |
|                                                                           | Local Air Quality              | Change in mode split as a result of net change in Metrolink passengers and trip lengths                                                                                                                 | +0.40 NO <sub>x</sub> tonnes/year<br>+0.02 PM <sub>10</sub> tonnes/year |
|                                                                           | Greenhouse Gasses              | Reduced CO <sub>2</sub> emission levels due to Modal Shift                                                                                                                                              | +63.59 CO <sub>2</sub> tonnes/year                                      |
|                                                                           | Landscape                      | No Impact                                                                                                                                                                                               | N/A                                                                     |
|                                                                           | Townscape                      | Removal of pedestrian footway space / café outside facilities, Creation of unattractive narrow / enclosed pedestrian walkway south of platform                                                          |                                                                         |
|                                                                           | Heritage of Historic Resources | No Impact                                                                                                                                                                                               | N/A                                                                     |
|                                                                           | Biodiversity                   | No Impact                                                                                                                                                                                               | N/A                                                                     |
|                                                                           | Water Environment              | No Impact                                                                                                                                                                                               | N/A                                                                     |
|                                                                           | Physical Fitness               | Slight decrease due to net loss of Metrolink passengers accessing stations by walking.                                                                                                                  |                                                                         |
|                                                                           | Journey Ambience               | Reduced traveller stress including reduced frustration and route uncertainty for Mosley Street Station users, additional stress associated with stopping and reduced reliability for through passengers |                                                                         |
| SAFETY                                                                    | Accidents                      | Road accidents increased through modal shift                                                                                                                                                            | N/A                                                                     |
|                                                                           | Security                       | No Impact                                                                                                                                                                                               | N/A                                                                     |
| ECONOMY                                                                   | Transport Economic Efficiency  | Return on investment                                                                                                                                                                                    | NPV = <b>£-15.77m</b>                                                   |
|                                                                           | Reliability                    | Reduction through additional stop and lack of priority through York Street signals                                                                                                                      | N/A                                                                     |
|                                                                           | Wider Economics Impacts        | Loss of passing trade at Mosley Street may affect local business. Net reduction in Metrolink use indicates overall reduction in public transport quality and negative impacts in wider area.            | N/A                                                                     |
| ACCESSIBILITY                                                             | Option Values                  | Other Metrolink Stations within 200m                                                                                                                                                                    | N/A                                                                     |
|                                                                           | Severance                      | No Impact                                                                                                                                                                                               | N/A                                                                     |
|                                                                           | Access to the Transport System | Other stations within 200m. Extra access point to DDA standards provided benefits to mobility impaired.                                                                                                 | N/A                                                                     |
| INTEGRATION                                                               | Transport Interchange          | Slight improved access to combined frequency of service southbound                                                                                                                                      | N/A                                                                     |
|                                                                           | Land-Use Policy                | No impact                                                                                                                                                                                               | N/A                                                                     |
|                                                                           | Other Government Policies      | Slight net contribution to promoting culture, sport and tourism, improving connectivity and access to education.                                                                                        | N/A                                                                     |
|                                                                           |                                |                                                                                                                                                                                                         | ASSESSMENT                                                              |
|                                                                           |                                |                                                                                                                                                                                                         | No Impact                                                               |
|                                                                           |                                |                                                                                                                                                                                                         | Slightly Adverse                                                        |
|                                                                           |                                |                                                                                                                                                                                                         | Slightly Adverse                                                        |
|                                                                           |                                |                                                                                                                                                                                                         | No Impact                                                               |
|                                                                           |                                |                                                                                                                                                                                                         | Significant Adverse                                                     |
|                                                                           |                                |                                                                                                                                                                                                         | No Impact                                                               |
|                                                                           |                                |                                                                                                                                                                                                         | No Impact                                                               |
|                                                                           |                                |                                                                                                                                                                                                         | No Impact                                                               |
|                                                                           |                                |                                                                                                                                                                                                         | Slightly Adverse                                                        |
|                                                                           |                                |                                                                                                                                                                                                         | Significantly Beneficial                                                |
|                                                                           |                                |                                                                                                                                                                                                         | Slightly Adverse                                                        |
|                                                                           |                                |                                                                                                                                                                                                         | No impact                                                               |
|                                                                           |                                |                                                                                                                                                                                                         | BCR = <b>-1.24</b>                                                      |
|                                                                           |                                |                                                                                                                                                                                                         | Slightly Adverse                                                        |
|                                                                           |                                |                                                                                                                                                                                                         | Neutral                                                                 |
|                                                                           |                                |                                                                                                                                                                                                         | No Impact                                                               |
|                                                                           |                                |                                                                                                                                                                                                         | No Impact                                                               |
|                                                                           |                                |                                                                                                                                                                                                         | Slightly Beneficial                                                     |
|                                                                           |                                |                                                                                                                                                                                                         | Slightly Beneficial                                                     |
|                                                                           |                                |                                                                                                                                                                                                         | No Impact                                                               |
|                                                                           |                                |                                                                                                                                                                                                         | Slightly Beneficial                                                     |

Note: does not take account of provision of Real-Time information displays in Manchester City Centre to advise of 'next station to Altrincham' which would impact on the Journey Ambience factor.

**APPENDIX C TEE TABLE, PUBLIC ACCOUNTS AND AMCB TABLE**

**Mosley Street Metrolink Station Retention**

**Table 1: Economic Efficiency of Transport System** (revenues are scored as positives, costs as negatives)

|                                                     | Total              | Cars, LGVs and goods vehicles | Bus & Coach | Rail Total | Rail Company e.g. NR | Rail Other TOC/FOC | Rail e.g.  |
|-----------------------------------------------------|--------------------|-------------------------------|-------------|------------|----------------------|--------------------|------------|
| Consumers user benefits                             |                    |                               |             |            |                      |                    |            |
| - travel time saving                                | - 8,545,531        | 1,801,633                     | -           | 6,743,898  |                      |                    | -6,743,898 |
| - Vehicle opcost                                    | -                  |                               |             |            |                      |                    |            |
| - user charges                                      | -                  |                               |             |            |                      |                    |            |
| - during construction & maintenance                 | -                  |                               |             |            |                      |                    |            |
| Net (1)                                             | <b>- 8,545,531</b> | 1,801,633                     | -           | 6,743,898  | -                    | -                  | 6,743,898  |
| Business                                            |                    |                               |             |            |                      |                    |            |
| User benefits                                       |                    |                               |             |            |                      |                    |            |
| - Travel time                                       | -                  |                               |             |            |                      |                    |            |
| - Vehicle opcost                                    | -                  |                               |             |            |                      |                    |            |
| - user charges                                      | -                  |                               |             |            |                      |                    |            |
| - during construction & maintenance                 | -                  |                               |             |            |                      |                    |            |
| Net (2)                                             | <b>-</b>           | -                             | -           | -          | -                    | -                  | -          |
| Private sector provider impact                      |                    |                               |             |            |                      |                    |            |
| - revenue                                           | - 5,247,926        |                               |             | 5,247,926  |                      |                    | -5,247,926 |
| - opcost                                            | - 711,388          |                               |             | 711,388    |                      |                    | -711,388   |
| - investment cost                                   | -                  |                               |             |            |                      |                    |            |
| - grant/subsidy                                     | 5,959,314          |                               |             | 5,959,314  |                      |                    |            |
| - revenue transfer                                  | -                  |                               |             |            |                      |                    |            |
| Sub total (3)                                       | <b>-</b>           | -                             | -           | -          | -                    | -                  | 5,959,314  |
| Other impacts                                       |                    |                               |             |            |                      |                    |            |
| - Developer contribution (4)                        | <b>0</b>           | -                             | -           | -          | -                    | -                  | -          |
| Net business impact (5 = 2+3+4)                     | <b>0</b>           | -                             | -           | -          | -                    | -                  | -          |
| Total, PV of transport econ eff. Benefits (6 = 1+5) | <b>-8,545,531</b>  |                               |             |            |                      |                    |            |

Note that subtotals (1) and (5) flow into the AMCB table. Subtotal (6) does not.

**Table 2 Public Accounts** (costs should be recorded as a positive number, surpluses as a negative one)

|                                     | All Modes Total  | Road Infrastructure | Bus & Coach | Rail      |
|-------------------------------------|------------------|---------------------|-------------|-----------|
| Local Government funding            |                  |                     |             |           |
| - Direct Revenue                    | -                |                     |             |           |
| - Op costs                          | -                |                     |             |           |
| - Investment costs                  | - 4,520          | -4,520              |             |           |
| - Developer and other contributions | -                |                     |             |           |
| - Grant/Subsidy (k)*                | -                |                     |             |           |
| - Revenue transfer                  | -                |                     |             |           |
| Net (7)                             | <b>- 4,520</b>   | 4,520               | -           | -         |
| Central Government funding          |                  |                     |             |           |
| - Direct Revenue                    | -                |                     |             |           |
| - Op costs                          | -                |                     |             |           |
| - Investment costs*                 | 1,258,270        |                     |             | 1,258,270 |
| - Developer and other contributions | -                |                     |             |           |
| - Grant/Subsidy (k)*                | 5,959,314        |                     |             | 5,959,314 |
| - Indirect Tax Revenues             | - 204,317        | -204,317            |             |           |
| - Revenue transfer                  | -                |                     |             |           |
| Net (8)                             | <b>7,013,267</b> | 204,317             | -           | 7,217,584 |
| Total PV of costs (9 =7+8)          | <b>7,008,747</b> |                     |             |           |

\*The public sector costs in these boxes should exclude developer contribution e.g. developer contribution is subtracted from these figures to give Net (8)

**Table 3: Analysis of Monetised Costs and Benefits (AMCB)**

|                                                                         | Total             | Road      | Bus & Coach | Rail      |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------|-----------|-------------|-----------|
| Noise                                                                   | - 26,215          | -26215    |             |           |
| Local air quality                                                       | - 52,431          | -52431    |             |           |
| Greenhouse gases                                                        | - 31,639          | -31639    |             |           |
| Journey ambience (incl. rolling stock quality, and in vehicle crowding) | -                 |           |             |           |
| Accidents (incl. safety)                                                | - 53,177          | -348032   |             | £294,855  |
| Consumer users (sub-total 1, Table 1)                                   | - 8,545,531       | 1,801,633 | -           | 6,743,898 |
| Business users and providers (sub-total 5, Table 1)                     | -                 |           |             |           |
| Reliability (incl. performance & reliability)                           | -                 |           |             |           |
| Option values                                                           | -                 |           |             |           |
| Interchange (station quality and crowding)                              | -                 |           |             |           |
| <b>PVB (a = sum of all benefits)</b>                                    | <b>-8,708,993</b> |           |             |           |
| <b>PVC (b = sub-total 9, Table 2)</b>                                   | <b>7,008,747</b>  |           |             |           |
| Overall impact, total                                                   |                   |           |             |           |
| - NPV (a-b)                                                             | -15,717,740       |           |             |           |
| - BCR (a/b)                                                             | -1.24             |           |             |           |

**CONSULTATION ON PROPOSAL TO CLOSE MOSLEY ST  
STATION ON MANCHESTER METROLINK NETWORK**

**Contents**

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How to respond

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## Executive Summary

The Department is consulting on a proposal by the Greater Manchester Passenger Transport Executive (GMPTE) to discontinue passenger services at Mosley St station on the Metrolink light rail network.

## How to Respond

The consultation period began on 10 November 2010 and will run until 9 February 2011. Please ensure that your response reaches us by that date. If you would like further copies of this consultation document it can be found at [www.dft.gov.uk/consultations/open](http://www.dft.gov.uk/consultations/open) or you can contact David Pope (see below) if you would like alternative formats (Braille, audio CD, etc).

Please send consultation responses to

Name David Pope

Address Department for Transport, RLMP Division, Zone 3/18

Great Minster House, 76 Marsham St London SW1P 4DR

Phone number 020 7944 5854

Fax number 020 7944

Email address [david.pope@dft.gsi.gov.uk](mailto:david.pope@dft.gsi.gov.uk)

When responding, please state whether you are responding as an individual or representing the views of an organisation. If responding on behalf of a larger organisation please make it clear who the organisation represents, and where applicable, how the views of members were assembled.

## Freedom of Information

Information provided in response to this consultation, including personal information, may be subject to publication or disclosure in accordance with the access to information regimes (these are primarily the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (FOIA), the Data Protection Act 1998 (DPA) and the Environmental Information Regulations 2004).

If you want information that you provide to be treated as confidential, please be aware that, under the FOIA, there is a statutory Code of Practice with which public authorities must

comply and which deals, amongst other things, with obligations of confidence.

In view of this it would be helpful if you could explain to us why you regard the information you have provided as confidential. If we receive a request for disclosure of the information we will take full account of your explanation, but we cannot give an assurance that confidentiality can be maintained in all circumstances. An automatic confidentiality disclaimer generated by your IT system will not, of itself, be regarded as binding on the Department.

The Department will process your personal data in accordance with the DPA and in the majority of circumstances this will mean that your personal data will not be disclosed to third parties.

## **Consultation Questions**

Do you agree that passenger services at Mosley Street should cease? If you do not agree, please provide reasons for your view. Do you have any other comments on the proposals?

## **The proposals**

### Background

The Greater Manchester Passenger Transport Executive (GMPTE) is the owner of the Metrolink light rail network in Manchester. As part of its plans to expand and upgrade the network, GMPTE wishes to discontinue passenger services at Mosley St station in the city centre. GMPTE is obliged to carry out closure procedures under the Railways Act 2005. As part of those procedures the Department must conduct a public consultation.

GMPTE has obtained funding to expand and upgrade the Metrolink network ('Phase 3'). The plans include the purchase of over 90 new trams.

The existing trams on the Metrolink network are fitted with retractable steps, to enable passengers to board easily where the platforms are well below the floor of the tram. The steps have had significant reliability issues requiring considerable expenditure to maintain them in a functional condition. The cost of fitting them to the new trams during manufacture was identified as £150,000 per

vehicle and maintenance was estimated to cost an additional £6,000 per tram per year. This could lead to an additional cost of £18 million for the full fleet of vehicles over their 30 year life. Therefore GMPTE decided to purchase trams without retractable steps.

There are only two stops on the system where the platforms are so far below the tram floor that retractable steps are required: St Peters Square which has been re-developed as part of the City Centre Track Upgrade Project, thus eliminating the need for the steps; and Mosley Street.

### Mosley Street station

Mosley Street Station is served by southbound Metrolink services on the Eccles and Altrincham lines. It is single sided and thus does not provide northbound services. It was strategically positioned to provide an access point to the combined service frequency towards Altrincham within the City Centre. It is also the closest stop to the main shopping area for Eccles Line users, without interchanging.

The Rail Vehicle Accessibility Regulations do not prescribe a maximum step height but do require level boarding for wheelchair users (unless a ramp is provided – as on national rail). The maximum height of the first step into the tram vehicle is not prescribed by the Regulations but the Department recommends that it should not be more than 250mm above the platform.

The Mosley Street platform is above street level but varies in height along its length in a "whale back" fashion. It allows level boarding access to trains consisting of single trams. GMPTE intends to operate double length trains comprising two trams at peak hours in future. These will not be able to use the stop, as the step between the platform and the rear tram would be too great, even for able bodied users. There will be no access between the two vehicles, so passengers wishing to alight at Mosley Street would have to ensure they were in the first tram. Those catching the tram at the last moment might not hear announcements and inevitably, some would get in the rear vehicle. This might lead to them using the emergency door release.

To accommodate level boarding access at each door of a double length train, there would need to be further "ramps" to supplement the level boarding point that exists at present. GMPTE has stated that it would not be possible to introduce a series of ramps, one after the other.

### Options considered by GMPTE

Passenger operations could be made possible at Mosley St by building a new platform above street level. Metrolink's design standards require provision of a full length (58m) platform with a minimum width of 3.15m. This would cover the length of Mosley Street between York Street and Parker St (see plan at Annex A). It would result in a restricted pavement 2.2m wide and a 'tunnel' effect between the platform and adjacent commercial businesses. This is considered undesirable in terms of townscape and accessibility. GMPTE estimates that it would also cost an estimated £1.2m, compared to a cost of £0.3m to close the station.

Therefore GMPTE has sought the Department's agreement to the closure of the station. As there are alternative Metrolink stops in the immediate vicinity (200m away, see plan at Annex A) that would also provide southbound services, GMPTE has not investigated alternative forms of transport to replace Mosley Street Station. Their scoping assessments ruled out building a platform nearby, due to the road layout and the likely impact on traffic.

### Assessment of the proposals

As required by the Railways Act 2005 GMPTE has produced an assessment of the benefits and adverse impacts of retaining the station. There would of course be benefits for those that currently find the station most convenient for them. There would also be improved service frequency for Altrincham line users. There will be adverse impacts for through passengers, in that their journeys would be delayed by the stop at Mosley St. As the investment in Metrolink will result in a significant increase in the number of through passengers, the adverse impacts of retaining the station will outweigh the benefits.

The Metrolink Phase 3 investment will result in a significant increase in the relative numbers of through passengers – meaning that the adverse impacts for through passengers of retaining the

station will outweigh the benefits to Altrincham Line users to a much greater extent. GMPTE believes that the number of passengers passing through Mosley Street currently exceeds the number of station users by a factor of between 2 and 3; and that this factor will grow as a result of the implementation of the Phase 3 extensions to around 4.

GMPTE's economic appraisal therefore **does not support retention** of Mosley Street Station in the future. Furthermore, the technical assessment has shown that for some groups of existing passengers any adverse impacts of station closure are likely to be offset by the increased services and connections that will be offered in future.

#### The likely effects on passengers

GMPTE proposes to mitigate the adverse impacts of closing the station by providing additional real time information screens in the vicinity of the current station, as well as at Piccadilly Gardens and Market Street stations, indicating where the next Altrincham Line services will depart from. These will enable passengers to walk to the most appropriate stop, thus minimising overall travel times.

Although there are time savings for through passengers with the removal of Mosley Street, there are also disbenefits to those boarding and alighting as passengers will have to walk further to alternative stations. The average generalised time increase is 4.9 minutes for those boarding and 2.6 minutes for those alighting. There is a net increase in passenger numbers.

#### Existing public transport provision in the area

Mosley Street station is in the centre of Manchester and there is a large number of bus services available nearby. For example, there are twelve buses serving the stations between Trafford Bar and Altrincham from Manchester City Centre. Most buses operate from Piccadilly Gardens via Portland Street. The 263 service which serves the catchments of all stations in the Metrolink corridor operates at a similar frequency to Metrolink. In addition, most stations are served by a number of other radial services showing that the catchment of Mosley Street Station has significant other travel opportunities.

As noted above, there are existing Metrolink stops within 200 metres.

### The Department's consideration of the assessment

The promoters have estimated that closing Mosley Street would produce a saving of 1.5 minutes travel time for through passengers. The Department's view is that 1.25 minutes is more realistic. Using this, our judgement is that the Benefit Cost Ratio of retaining the station is minus 0.55, which is very low.

We have assessed the impacts on Journey Ambience, Access to the Transport System, Reliability and Townscape. The net impact of the closure on these is considered to be slight and overall broadly neutral.

The Department's view of the proposal is that retaining the station would be **poor value for money**.

In addition the Department believes the benefits of closing the station, which will facilitate the wider improvement plans for the Metrolink system, outweigh the dis-benefits to users of the station. Therefore the Department supports the proposal to close the station but would welcome comments on the proposal before making its final recommendation.

### **Next steps**

A summary of responses, including the next steps will be published by 28 March 2011 on our website ([www.dft.gov.uk](http://www.dft.gov.uk)). Paper copies will be available on request.

If, after the consultation exercise, we decide that the closure should be allowed we will seek ratification from the Office of Rail Regulation. If we decide that it should not be allowed, we will inform GMPTE accordingly.

### **The Consultation criteria**

The consultation is being conducted in line with the Government's Code of Practice on Consultation. The criteria are listed at Annex B. A full version of the Code of Practice on Consultation is available on the Better Regulation Executive web-site at:

<http://www.berr.gov.uk/files/file47158.pdf>

If you consider that this consultation does not comply with the criteria or have comments about the **consultation process** please contact:

Giada Covallero  
Consultation Co-Ordinator  
Department for Transport  
Zone 2/25  
Great Minster House  
London SW1P 4DR

Email address [consultation@dft.gsi.gov.uk](mailto:consultation@dft.gsi.gov.uk)

## **Mosley Street Station Closure VfM Statement**

GMPTE are proposing closure of the Mosley Street Metrolink station. Railway closures guidance has been used to assess the value for money of this closure. Under this guidance a closure cannot be pursued if the BCR of retaining the station or is 1.5 or over. GMPTE have used NATA<sup>1</sup> to assess this closure.

Although there are time savings for through passengers with the removal of Mosley Street, there are also dis-benefits to those boarding and alighting as passengers will have to walk further to alternative stations. The average generalised time increase is 4.9 minutes for those boarding and 2.6 minutes for those alighting. There is a net increase in passenger numbers.

The promoters have used an estimate of 1.5 minutes travel time saving for through passengers with trams no longer stopping at Mosley Street. With this estimate the BCR of retaining the station is -1.23. Having undertaken some sensitivity tests the BCR is very sensitive to changes in travel time savings. We feel that 1.5 minutes is too high and have therefore tested the impact of a lower time saving. Our central case is a travel time saving of 1.25 minutes for through passengers if the station is removed, which we feel to be more realistic. The BCR of retaining the station is therefore judged to be -0.55.

Our best judgement is that retaining the station is **poor value for money**.

The non monetised impacts have also been considered.

Beneficial: Journey Ambience, Access to the Transport System

Adverse: Reliability, Townscape

All of the non monetised impacts are considered to be slight. The net impact of these is considered to be broadly neutral.

**Department for Transport**  
**23 March 2011**

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<sup>1</sup> This was consistent with VfM guidance at the time of the decision in March 2011.

# Summary of responses to consultation on proposed closure of Mosley Street Metrolink station in Manchester and Government reply

## Introduction

On the Department for Transport issued a public consultation on a proposal by the Greater Manchester Passenger Transport Executive (GMPTE), now Transport for Greater Manchester, to cease passenger services at Mosley Street station on the Manchester Metrolink tram network. Under the provisions of the Railways Act 2005, proposals to close stations and cease passenger services on light rail networks must be referred to DfT. The replies received and DfT's response are summarised below.

## Next steps

Following consideration of the replies, Ministers are minded to allow the proposed closure to proceed. The closure is first subject to ratification by the Office for Rail Regulation, which is not automatic.

## Replies and response

1. 80 replies to the consultation were received. 68 were from members of the public, three were from local authorities, two were from commercial organisations and seven were from organisations representing passengers and other transport interests.
2. 27 responses argued that the proposed closure would result in a poorer service for passengers journeying to Altrincham, since ten trains an hour travel to this destination from Mosley Street. If the closure proceeds, there will be five trains an hour from each of the two nearest stations – Piccadilly Circus and Market Street.

### *Response*

The Government believes this will be overcome by the installation of information screens in the vicinity, advising passengers of the appropriate station from which to catch their train.

3. 18 responses believed that passengers would be inconvenienced by having to walk further and/or having insufficient time to reach the appropriate station and thus will miss trains. Seven said that St Peter's Square (the next stop offering ten trains an hour to Altrincham) was too far to walk.

### *Response*

The two alternative stations (Piccadilly Gardens and Market Street) are just 250 metres from Mosley Street. In addition, surveys by the Greater Manchester Passenger Transport Executive suggest that Mosley Street is the nearest station for only 18% of passengers boarding there.

4. Ten respondents felt that passengers would be at risk by crossing roads and tramlines to reach alternative stations.

*Response*

The Government accepts GMPTE's answer that this happens already and in any case, most passengers boarding at Mosley Street begin their journeys at a location nearer another station.

5. 12 responses felt that passengers with mobility problems or carrying heavy shopping or with children would be disadvantaged by having to go to another station.

*Response*

As previously stated, most passengers begin their journey nearer another station.

6. 12 responses stated that information screens had been installed before and then withdrawn due to unsatisfactory results. 15 responses doubted that they would be installed, or said that installation should be a condition of the closure.

*Response*

GMPTE will install the latest technology at several occasions in the vicinity of Mosley Street, Piccadilly Gardens and Market Street. Furthermore, GMPTE has undertaken not to close Mosley Street until all the screens are in operation.

7. 22 responses suggested that the increase in the number of passengers would make the platforms at Piccadilly Gardens, Market Street and St Peter's Square dangerously crowded.

*Response*

The use of double trams when Phase 3A of Metrolink opens should prevent this. In addition the platforms at Piccadilly Gardens and St Peter's Square have been extended and the one at Market Street is already longer than usual.

8. 14 responses disputed GMPTE's estimate of £1m to upgrade the existing platform at Mosley Street so that it is suitable for double trams.

*Response*

The Government has been advised that this estimate is based on the costs of upgrading platforms at other locations. It also includes ancillary costs such as design, traffic management and temporary bus services.

9. Two responses believed that closure of the stop would result in a loss of trade for nearby businesses.

*Response*

It is difficult to disprove this but it should be noted that one respondent, the owner of a number of commercial and retail premises in the vicinity, believed that closure would result in increased trade arising from the wider pavement.

10. Five respondents stated that there had been insufficient publicity of the consultation.

*Response*

The consultation complied with the requirements of the Railways Act 2005, which are that notices should be placed in two national and one local newspapers in each of two consecutive weeks; that copies of the notice should be sent to various organisations including those representing passenger interests; and that notices should be displayed at stations in the area affected by the proposed closure. In addition GMPTE included details on their website and issued a news release.

11. Three responses stated that removing a station on the exit side of a delta junction was a flawed concept.

*Response*

GMPTE say given that the overall number of trams exiting the junction will increase from 15 an hour to 25, the stop at Mosley Street will cause bunching with a knock-on effect for other services.

12. Five responses said that the platform at Mosley Street did not need to be of the full length or width; one felt that it would be a simple matter to raise the platform or the neighbouring shops; three suggested that the stop should be moved nearer York St or the signal loop should be moved. Two responses said that removal of the large signal poles in the middle of Mosley St would allow construction of a wider platform. Three said that diverting buses from Mosley St would allow construction of a larger island platform. One said that the existing platform could be used as it is and one other doubted whether double trams would be used.

*Response*

GMPTe has pointed out that moving the platform would not address the problem of bunching and the track alignment has already been optimised. Extending the platform would impinge on pedestrian crossing points.

13. Eight responses disputed GMPTe's figures for the number of passengers boarding at Mosley Street.

*Response*

GMPTe say these were based on passenger surveys. Their appraisal utilised their demand forecasts for Phase 3A to determine the future demand for stop and through trips.

14. Seven disputed GMPTe's figures for the amount of time taken to stop at Mosley Street; two others said that delays were caused by the traffic signals at York St and three more said that buses crossing tram lines were the main cause of delays. One said that the use of tram signals would prevent congestion and one said that as trams usually had to stop at the York St traffic signals, there was sufficient time to allow passengers to board at Mosley Street.

*Response*

GMPTe say that their figure of 90 seconds for a stop at Mosley Street includes slowing down, dwelling at the stop, accelerating away, decelerating for traffic signals at the junction with York St, waiting for a green signal and then accelerating away. The Government thinks a figure of 75 seconds is more realistic but we agree fundamentally that stopping at Mosley Street will cause a significant delay for through passengers. GMPTe say that their appraisal does not support the suggestion that buses are the cause of delays.

15. Four responses said that alternative bus services were inadequate to cope with passengers abandoning Metrolink if Mosley Street is closed.

*Response*

GMPTe's assumption is that all passengers will continue to use Metrolink.

16. Three responses said that co-ordination between services arriving and leaving at Piccadilly Gardens needed to be improved, for passengers changing from one service to another. One said that publishing a timetable would help.

*Response*

GMPTe say that it is impossible to guarantee that trams leaving Piccadilly gardens for Altrincham will wait for passengers changing from trams bound elsewhere, as it would cause delays and disruption.

17. Three responses said that the second city crossing should be funded instead of the stop being closed and one said that the closure should be postponed and reassessed after Phase 3A was fully open.

*Response*

The second city crossing is not scheduled to open until 2016 and will not solve the problems caused by the increased number of trams exiting the delta junction.

18. Three responses supported the closure and one supported the introduction of double trams. One was opposed to the tunnel effect caused if the platform at Mosley Street was raised. Two raised no objection.

19. Five responses said that GMPTE's assessment of the closure was biased or flawed in some way.

*Response*

The assessment was carried out in accordance with Government guidance.

20. Two responses said that the economic appraisal supported retention of the stop.

*Response*

GMPTE has pointed out that their economic appraisal took account of three factors – the quantified economic appraisal, reliability impacts and wider economic impacts. The latter was broadly neutral but the quantified economic appraisal was negative.

21. One passenger suggested a 'skip and stop' service at Mosley Street.

*Response*

This would not be practical, as stopping would recreate the bunching problem that GMPTE wishes to avoid.

Carl Williams  
Stagecoach  
Metrolink House  
Queens Road  
Manchester  
M8 0RY

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Our Ref: LTPOL 001/20/23

17 November 2010

*By e-mail*  
*carlwilliams@metrolink.co.uk*

Dear Mr Williams

## **CLOSURE OF MOSLEY ST METROLINK STATION**

In accordance with the provisions of the Railways Act 2005, I am writing to inform you that the Secretary of State has launched a public consultation on a proposal by the Greater Manchester Passenger Transport Executive to discontinue passenger services at Mosley Street station on the Manchester Metrolink light rail network.

I enclose for your information copies of the statutory notice published in the press last week, the consultation document and GMPTE's assessment of the proposed closure.

The statutory notice must be displayed at Mosley Street station until the end of the 'interim period'. Section 45 of the railways act 2005 defines this as a period ending

Any comments you have on the proposed closure should be sent to me by 9 February 2011.

Yours sincerely

David Pope

**DAVID POPE**

Sir Howard Bernstein  
Chief Executive  
Manchester City Council

*By e-mail*  
*h.bernstein@manchester.gov.uk*

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17 November 2010

Dear Sir Howard

### **CLOSURE OF MOSLEY ST METROLINK STATION**

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Any comments you have on the proposed closure should be sent to me by 9 February 2011.

Yours sincerely

David Pope

**DAVID POPE**

Mark Sanders  
Chief Executive  
Bury Council

*By e-mail*  
*m.sanders@bury.gov.uk*

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17 November 2010

Dear Mr Sanders

### **CLOSURE OF MOSLEY ST METROLINK STATION**

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Any comments you have on the proposed closure should be sent to me by 9 February 2011.

Yours sincerely

David Pope

**DAVID POPE**

*Department for*  
**Transport**

Ann Morley  
Secretary  
Disabled Persons Transport Advisory  
Committee

*By e-mail*

Ann.morley@dft.gsi.gov.uk

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Our Ref: LTPOL 001/20/23

18 November 2010

Dear Ann

**CLOSURE OF MOSLEY ST METROLINK STATION**

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Any comments you have on the proposed closure should be sent to me by 9 February 2011.

Yours sincerely

David Pope

**DAVID POPE**

*Department for*  
**Transport**

Janet Callender  
Acting Chief Executive  
Trafford Council

*By e-mail*  
*janet.callender@trafford.gov.uk*

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17 November 2010

Dear Ms Callender

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Any comments you have on the proposed closure should be sent to me by 9 February 2011.

Yours sincerely

David Pope

**DAVID POPE**

David Sidebottom  
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17 November 2010

Dear Mr Sidebottom

### **CLOSURE OF MOSLEY ST METROLINK STATION**

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Any comments you have on the proposed closure should be sent to me by 9 February 2011.

Yours sincerely

David Pope

**DAVID POPE**



Barbara Spicer  
Chief Executive  
Salford City Council

*By e-mail*  
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17 November 2010

Dear Ms Spicer

### **CLOSURE OF MOSLEY ST METROLINK STATION**

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Yours sincerely

David Pope

**DAVID POPE**

The Statutory Notice was advertised on the following dates:

10 November 2010, The Daily Telegraph

10 November 2010, Daily Mail

17 November 2010, The Daily Telegraph

17 November 2010, Daily Mail

Job Number:298517003

Proof No: 1

Time Stamp: 03/Nov/10 15:54

Operator: Deepa Kashap

Client Contact: T1526 / Ray Oldfield

Media: Manchester Evening News

Insertion date: 10/Nov/10

Class/Section: PNO - COI /

Size (DxW): 110 x 57.0mm (11 X 2)

Purchase order or ref:

SCC rate: £45.00

**Media cost: £990.00**

The addition and consideration of on-line media as a cost effective option has been offered by us to enhance and make best use of your recruitment budget.

Your confirmation via e-mail or fax is required as final sign off of this proof and all its contents.

Client Checked

Signed: .....

## Public Notice

### STATUTORY NOTICE

This notice is made in compliance with the statutory requirements in Schedule 7 to the Railways Act 2005.

The Greater Manchester Passenger Transport Executive (GMPTE) has notified the Department for Transport that it proposes to cease passenger services at Mosley Street station on the Manchester Metrolink light rail system with effect from 28 February 2011.

As required by Section 25 of the Railways Act 2005 (proposal to discontinue excluded services) and in accordance with the Department's Railways Closures Guidance 2006 [this may be viewed by following the link at [www.dft.gov.uk/pgr/rail/legislation/](http://www.dft.gov.uk/pgr/rail/legislation/)] the GMPTE has prepared an initial assessment of the effect of ceasing the services at this station.

Anyone wishing to see the initial assessment or a summary of it may inspect either document at GMPTE's offices at 2 Piccadilly Place, Manchester M1 3BG. Alternatively, they may obtain copies by writing to Jim Critchley, Planning, Stakeholder and Approvals Manager at the same address or by e-mail from [James.Critchley@gmpte.gov.uk](mailto:James.Critchley@gmpte.gov.uk)

Representations about the proposal should be sent to the Department for Transport, RLMP division, Great Minster House, 76 Marsham St London SW1P 4DR no later than 9 February 2011.

The proposals may also be viewed on the Department for Transport's website at [www.dft.gov.uk/consultations/open](http://www.dft.gov.uk/consultations/open)

GOVERNMENT OFFICES FOR THE REGIONS.



This photograph shows the Statutory Notice.