

AGENDA ITEM 5 (b)

Information from Peter Myers (Northern Rail) in Email on 16th December 2019

1. From December 2019 there are to be two new services between Whitby and Middlesbrough, giving an early morning and late evening service. Pacer trains are to be phased out.
2. May 2020 sees opening of a new station at Horden and minor improvements to the service. Also a plan to run two extra services from Middlesbrough to Newcastle.
3. Dec 2020, we look to provide an extra hourly service along Durham coast line with a slightly quicker time.
4. Northern Rail would like to open up a new service north to Durham via Stillington, but cannot get access to this line. The route on the coast is too long for a very fast service. Support here from the council to open up this line would help.
5. The introduction of smart ticketing is problematic because of the complex fare structure and resistance of the other train operators and bus operators. It is easier to develop the use debit or credit card payments. Some help here would be appreciated.
6. Rail usage in Middlesbrough is constrained by capacity issues. However, Redcar and Saltburn are popular in the season and Bishop Auckland is a potential growth area. The need here is for more line capacity which is the present problem.

David J Branson 18.12.19