

Sustainability and Transport O&S Committee

January 2021

CrossCountry

Head of Safety, Security & Environment

Head of Fleet

Operations Manager

Regional Driver Team Manager

Environment Manager

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Context

- CrossCountry's network is the most geographically extensive passenger rail franchise in Britain. Calling at over 100 stations, it connects seven of Britain's ten largest cities.
- Operating long distance services between Scotland and the North East of England through to the South West of England and Bournemouth. Services also operate between Birmingham, Leicester and Stansted Airport, Cardiff and Nottingham.
- CrossCountry operates a diesel only fleet and does not manage any stations or own any properties.
- CrossCountry Trains has signed a new agreement with government to continue to operate the franchise until October 2023.

Collaboration & Partnership working

- **Collaboration** with Network Rail, TOCs, ORR & Maintainers
- Member of Birmingham New St Stakeholder Air Quality Meetings since commencement
 - Representatives from the Driver, Fleet and Environment team
- **Improvements** linked to reduction in train idling to result in an improvement in air quality. Ensure the WEL's limits are met
- **Partnerships** with DfT, ROSCO's RSSB, ORR, RDG, NR & TOCs senior leaders & station management teams work closely to share information to implement improvements
- **Decarbonisation Industry Plans** (WMRE/NR/TOCs) - Long term strategy



Operational Management

- **CrossCountry Engine Shut Down and Idling Policy.** *“The policy stipulates that when a vehicle is to be stopped for greater than 15 minutes then the engines should be shut down. Engines may be restarted 10 minutes before departure, to ensure operational performance is not compromised. Business-specific instructions regarding station duties and the need to maintain heating and lighting are catered for.”*
- **Regular planned and unplanned audits** are completed by the Driver Team Managers and senior colleagues to ensure compliance to the internal Engine Shut Down and Idling Policy and any station specific instructions. Vehicles found to be idling are fully investigated to understand if and why the vehicle was running. Driver Team Management have focused on areas where there are peaks with an emphasis on the early units.
- **Driver Advisory Systems.** The Crosscountry Drivers who have “opted in” under the agreement for DAS is now over 70% which reflects in an increase in Drivers utilising DAS. Continuous information is provided to drivers detailing route information, station stops, and assistance for running trains to time.

Fleet Initiatives

- **Auto Shutdown (Voyagers)** Implemented May 2019 - TMS software update which incorporates station mode
- **Depot Mode (Voyagers)** Reducing emissions at depots to support net zero strategy
- **Shore Supply** CrossCountry will trial the use of electrical shore supplies when its Turbostar fleet is in depots for cleaning, which will reduce the use of diesel engines to reduce diesel emissions and support the net zero strategy
- **Hybrid Voyager**. Supporting the DfT, CrossCountry will work with the owners of the Voyager trains to trial the use of on-train batteries when they enter and leave stations, so that engines are turned off when they're at platforms, further improving air quality



Timetabling & Diagram Improvements

- **Diagram change** has been introduced to include an instruction for all drivers to turn the engine off at the end of their journey. The instruction in the diagram will eliminate this issue and ensure vehicles are turned off as per the CrossCountry Engine Shut Down and Idling Policy
- **Timetable changes.** May & December 2019 changes linked to reductions in idling (Birmingham New Street & Derby). Modal shift initiatives which aims to support an alternative transport mode to congested motorways therefore improving overall emissions
- **Terminations** Quick turnaround of starting/ending services at Birmingham New Street
- **COVID response** minimising redundant mileages and reducing double sets to single set during lockdown v.3



Monitoring

- **Monitoring of platform and station** staff was completed at Birmingham New Street and Edinburgh during the summer. Results indicated compliance against WELs (August 2018) with peaks throughout the day
- **2021 planned monitoring** to take place at Birmingham New Street and Edinburgh Waverly
- Working & sharing plans with **RSSB and DfT** to support industry emission monitoring plans
 - Air quality personal monitoring (T1191) Survey of rail workers exposure to DEEE and best practise guide for further studies. (Monitoring from Feb 2020, due to be released March 2020)



Staff Briefing

- **Information** about air quality has been included in staff briefing including reinforcing the engine shut down/idling policy and the link between idling and air quality
- **Competency Assessment** Periodic/annual assessments, monitoring activity using OTDR downloads, process confirmation of idling policy
- **Control measures**
 - Limit time on platforms & staff to wait for services on the concourse
 - Noise monitoring to support the introduction of the fan system at Birmingham New Street

THANK YOU.

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