



Tram and Bus Division

OPERATIONS NEWSLETTER

FIRST EDITION

This is the first "Operations Newsletter", a regular report to all staff in the Tram and Bus Operations Group, on present and future activities in the Group.

ORGANISATION REVIEW

As you may be aware, the Managing Director has advised that from 1 August 1986 a number of interim appointments have been made in the Group as part of the ongoing Tram and Bus Division organisation review:

- Dave McCabe - Manager, Operations Development
- Ray Stock - Manager, Revenue Systems
- John Woolhouse - Manager, Control Systems
- Brian Moore - Regional Operations Manager, Southern
- Dennis Griffiths - Regional Operations Manager, Northern
- Graeme White - Regional Operations Manager, Eastern
- Ken Poynton - Regional Operations Manager, Western

The main changes in duties relate to area management in which the Regional Operations Managers are now responsible for both traffic and revenue activities. And a key objective is that Depot Managers will assume responsibility for all matters relating to traffic and revenue staff in the depots. Further development and consultation in relation to the final arrangement to be adopted beneath these management positions has already commenced with a view to completing the process by the end of the year.

CURRENT MAJOR ACTIVITIES

- * Articulated Buses - Proposals are well advanced for the introduction of six articulated buses over the next four months to operate the Doncaster - Freeway - City routes. The chief benefits will result from the transfer of several rigid buses from these routes to relieve overcrowding and improve services in the Doncaster area. Investigations are also proceeding into the potential for using articulated buses in other areas.
- * Bus Route Improvements - An increased emphasis on improving road conditions and providing better bus stopping facilities over the next few years is intended. Continued close consultation with the Road Construction Authority, Road Traffic Authority and Councils should ensure safer and more comfortable bus operations.
- * Fairways - The provision of tram priority treatments, mainly at traffic signals, is proceeding. Tram priority was recently "switched on" at most of the traffic signals along the Coburg Routes. Emphasis is still being placed on installing safety zones and improving major road intersections.

- * Technological Change Projects - One of the most significant change projects planned is the introduction of computer terminals to depots for improved communication with Head Office. Within a few months it is expected that suitable equipment will be installed at Doncaster and Camberwell Depots as a first stage of equipping all depots. Key advantages in the future will be more rapid processing of tram and bus performance information to enable management monitoring of the system and better accessibility to stored data, for example on timetables, rosters and wages. A detailed program for installation and operation of the equipment is being developed in consultation with staff and union representatives.

- * Papal Visit - Arrangements for tram and bus involvement in the Papal Visit to Melbourne in November are well advanced. Our major input will be in the provision of a bus shuttle service to Flemington Race Course.

COMMENTS

Any comments or feedback on items covered in this "Operations Newsletter" will be gratefully accepted and should be raised with your supervisor for action or forwarding on to more senior managers as appropriate.

CLOSING REMARKS

As incoming Group Manager I have appreciated the support I have received to date from people within the Group. I look forward to eventually meeting each of you in the months to come.

I am sure that with your continued commitment and dedication we can build upon the strengths of the past and continually improve upon the efficiency and reliability of our tram and bus services to the public.

Gordon Anderson

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