



## A65 Kirkstall Road Quality Bus Initiative - Scheme Update 1 - May 2009

In October 2008, Newsletter 2 was circulated to approximately 8000 residents in the Kirkstall Valley area. This introduced Carillion as the Contractor, appointed to assist Leeds City Council in the final stages of the design, and then to construct the Quality Bus proposals.

Over the last 4 months, the detailed design has progressed well with the specialist design skills of other disciplines, such as Structures and Traffic Signals, being introduced.

Consultation has also continued with the utility companies (Gas, Electric, Water etc.) in order to identify any diversion works that will be required.

By working closely with Carillion in the latter stages of the design, Leeds City Council has been able to utilise their experience in order to look at the buildability of the scheme and how disruption can be kept to a minimum during construction. This will also ensure that Leeds gets the best value for money possible.

By the end of May 2009, the design should be sufficiently complete to allow Carillion to prepare an up to date cost for the construction of the scheme. This figure will be used in the next approval submission that will be sent to the Department of Transport, who will be providing the funding.

Alongside these activities, negotiations have been ongoing to acquire the necessary land to allow the scheme to be built.

In order to protect the Council's position, a Compulsory Purchase Order was made on two small parcels of land. This led to a Public Inquiry being held in October 2008. As negotiations are nearing completion, the outcome of the Inquiry may not be relevant.

Another general update will be posted following the next approval submission in June 2009.