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PayPoint launches multi-operator smart ticketing service in the Greater Manchester area

8 FEBRUARY: PayPoint has today launched its multi-operator smart ticketing service across the Greater Manchester area. The new service will allow passengers to purchase selected current System One travelcards to load onto a **get me there** or other ITSO compatible smart card at any of the 1,334 PayPoint retailers in the region.

The launch is the latest in a growing number of major smart transport services operated by PayPoint, using ACT's Cloud Ticketing Service. It follows successful launches in Merseyside and Cardiff over the past two years, bringing more value to retailers and giving customers extra reasons to do more at their local store.

The **get me there** travelcard is designed to make bus travel across Greater Manchester easy. Passengers using an ITSO smart card loaded with a 7-day or 28-day **get me there** travelcard have the flexibility to travel on the most convenient bus service using a single smart card. Passengers can purchase new travelcards to load onto their smart card whenever they need to travel.

Lewis Alcraft, Commercial Director at PayPoint, commented: *"We're excited to be launching our next multi-operator smart ticketing scheme with Greater Manchester Travelcard Limited (GMTL) and giving passengers greater choice and access to topping up their smart cards at a nearby store. Our relationship with ACT and our portfolio of smart ticketing services continues to grow and we're looking to add more regions in the near future."*

GMTL General Manager, Grady Thompson, says *"We are delighted to be working in partnership with PayPoint to extend the availability of **get me there** travelcards. Being able to purchase travelcards prior to boarding buses was a major element of the smart card scheme delivered by Greater Manchester's bus operators and Transport for Greater Manchester"*.

PayPoint integrated its payments service with ACT's Cloud Ticketing Service in order to offer passengers a convenient way to top up their smart cards using ACT's established, secure, ticketing platform.

Gary Watts, CEO, ACT, said: *"We're delighted to welcome GMTL and the **get me there** brand to our Cloud Ticketing Service, using PayPoint retail channels. Our smart ticketing platform services many of the country's largest smart ticketing and payment schemes. Our retail partnership with PayPoint has already proven popular with passengers in Cardiff and Merseyside and we look forward to continuing this service to passengers across Greater Manchester."*

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NOTES TO EDITORS

ABOUT PAYPOINT

PayPoint is an international leader in payment technologies, its solutions transforming payments for everyone from consumer and financial services companies to retailers, utilities, media and government clients.

PayPoint delivers payments and services through its unique combination of local shops, mobile and online distribution channels, delivered both through its owned businesses and by integrating the best services from more specialised suppliers. It handles almost £10 billion from over 694 million transactions annually.

With the backing of 24/7 operations centres with dual site processing, PayPoint is widely recognised for its leadership in payment systems, smart technology and service.

Retail networks

The PayPoint retail network across the UK numbers over 28,200 local shops (including Co-op, Spar, McColls, Costcutter, Sainsbury's Local, Tesco Express, One Stop, Asda, Londis and thousands of independents), where it processes energy meter pre-payments, bill payments, benefit payments, mobile phone top-ups, transport tickets, BBC TV licences, cash withdrawals and a range of other transactions. In Romania, the retail network numbers over 9,000 terminals in local shops, helping people to make cash bill payments, money transfers, road tax payments and mobile phone top-ups. In the Republic of Ireland, over 500 terminals in shops and credit unions process mobile top-ups and bill payments.

Collect+, a joint venture with Yodel, provides a parcel drop-off and pick-up service at more than 5,800 PayPoint retailers. PayPoint's ATM network numbers more than 3,900 'LINK' branded machines across the UK, and 9,700 PayPoint terminals enable retailers to accept credit and debit cards.

ABOUT ACT

ACT is a Fujitsu company and provides secure, enterprise class systems that enable the monetisation of complex transactions. ACT is a proven leader in the design, build and management of smart transaction systems that help people to make the best of their work, leisure

and travel time.

Clients use ACT technology solutions to speed commuters through public transport, to help shoppers earn rewards, to provide access to public services and to make it easy for visitors to explore new places. Its systems are trusted by retail, tourism, payments, public sector and transport organisations large and small, and are at the heart of major cities around the world.

The company's enterprise cloud platform already processes more than one billion digital transactions per annum and is in use by global transit operators, payments providers, retail and tourism brands worldwide including: Arriva Plc, First Group Plc, Go Ahead Plc, National Express Plc, sQuid, The Welsh Government, Transport Scotland, Southern Railways, c2c railways, Transport for Greater Manchester, Merseytravel and PayPoint Plc.