

**13 February 2014****Agenda Item:7****REPORT OF THE SERVICE DIRECTOR TRANSPORT, PROPERTY AND  
ENVIRONMENT****CHANGES TO THE LOCAL / COMMERCIAL BUS SERVICE NETWORK****Purpose of the Report**

1. To inform Committee of recent changes to the local and commercial bus service network and the actions taken by the Group Manager, Transport and Travel Services to cancel, vary or replace services.

**Information and Advice**

2. The County Council has a duty (Transport Act, 1985) to consider local needs and which supported bus services are necessary where there are no commercial services available. In 2013/14 £6m will be spent on supported bus services across the County.
3. Local bus services across the County are provided in two ways:
  - a. Commercial services which operate without funding support
  - b. Supported services which are subsidised by the Council

All bus services must be registered, giving a minimum of 56 days' notice to the Traffic Commissioner, who administers and manages the local bus service registration and performance service. Bus operators must also send copies of the new registrations, variations and cancellations at the same time to the County Council. On most occasions bus operators give the County Council advance notice of their intentions so that decisions on any intervention can be taken and the public notified at the earliest opportunity.

4. This regular report advises Committee of changes to the local bus network and provides information of related operational decisions made by the Group Manager, Transport and Travel Services to replace vary or cancel services. The Committee should note that these operational decisions are due to the urgency involved in reacting to the decisions made by bus companies particularly when they impact on local bus and school transport services. Furthermore, any decisions made in this regard have followed discussions with local County Councillors and other stakeholders. Appendix 1 attached lists the most recent changes to the bus network for Committee to note.

5. Doyles Coaches who operate a number of contracted and commercial services in Nottinghamshire have now ceased trading and entered administration. Doyles operated 8 local bus and 4 dedicated school routes on behalf of the County Council. Emergency replacements have been secured with a number of operators, and permanent replacements will be procured as part of the budget efficiencies programme due to commence in August 2014.
6. An amended route and timetable on Yourbus service Y10 was introduced on 20<sup>th</sup> January 2104, the service no longer operates through Moorgreen. An alternative service will be provided as part of the replacement to Doyles service 332

### **Reasons for Recommendations**

7. The recommendation and continued financial support meets the objectives of promoting public transport, reducing congestion, promoting economic recovery and offers travel choice.

### **Statutory and Policy Implications**

9. This report has been compiled after consideration of implications in respect of crime and disorder, finance, human resources, human rights, the NHS Constitution (Public Health only), the public sector equality duty, safeguarding of children and vulnerable adults, service users, sustainability and the environment and ways of working and where such implications are material they are described below. Appropriate consultation has been undertaken and advice sought on these issues as required.

### **Implications for Service Users**

10. The provision of local bus services enables users to access key services, jobs, training and leisure. The emergency arrangements detailed in Appendix 1 have been made to ensure access to the key priorities of employment, education, health and essential shopping.

### **Financial Implications**

11. The costs (£44k in 2013/14 and £88K in 2014/15) relating to the changes to local bus services outlined in this report, including the emergency replacement services for Doyles, have been contained within the allocated budget for 2013/14 and 2014/15.

## **RECOMMENDATIONS**

It is recommended that Committee:

- 1) Note the report regarding changes to the supported and local and bus service networks.

**Mark Hudson,  
Group Manager, Transport and Travel Services**

**For any enquiries about this report please contact:**

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**Constitutional Comments (SHB 23.01.14)**

12. This Report is for noting only so no Constitutional comments are required.

**Financial Comments (TMR 23.01.14)**

13. The financial implications are set out in paragraph 11 of the report.

**Background Papers**

Except for previously published documents, which will be available elsewhere, the documents listed here will be available for inspection in accordance with Section 100D of the Local Government Act 1972.

Registration and timetables for the new or varied services: December 2013-January 2014

**Electoral Divisions and Members Affected**

All