

**28 November 2013**

**Agenda Item:**

**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 £5.9m 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. Nottingham Minibus and Coaches have announced some minor changes to their Netherfield shopper services to make the services more efficient. These will take effect from January 2014.
6. Service 331 operated by Doyles was revised on the 28<sup>th</sup> October. This will mean that passengers for Nottingham will now have to change at Eastwood or Underwood on to the TrentBarton Rainbow 1 service as there will be no off-peak direct service from Alfreton to Nottingham. The peak time direct journeys will still operate.
7. Centrebus, Stagecoach, YourBus and TrentBarton have announced some changes to their commercial services as detailed in the appendix.

### **Reasons for Recommendations**

8. 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 majority of the service changes described in Appendix 1 are minor timetable route changes which should have no major impact for the service users, with the exception of the changes to service 331 which will mean that passengers wishing to travel off-peak from Alfreton to Nottingham will now have to change at Eastwood.

### **Financial Implications**

11. The costs relating to the changes to local bus services outlined in this report have been contained within the allocated budget for 2013/14.

## **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:**

**Mark Hudson, Group Manager, Transport and Travel Services  
Chris Ward, Team Manager North, Transport and Travel Services**

**Constitutional Comments (SHB 07.11.13)**

12. Committee have power to decide the Recommendation.

**Financial Comments (TMR 12.11.13)**

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: September-November 2013

**Electoral Divisions and Members Affected**

All