

meeting	ADMINISTRATION COMMITTEE draft		
date	25th May 2011	agenda item number	7 (a)

REPORT OF THE SERVICE DIRECTOR (Transport, Property and Environment)

Traveline East Midlands - Systems Supplier Meeting in Munich 2011

Purpose of the Report

To seek approval for the Traveline East Midlands Regional Manager to travel to Munich on 4th July 2011 for a review meeting with the Traveline systems supplier.

Information and Advice

Traveline is a partnership of bus operators and local authorities set up to provide impartial public transport information in the UK to meet the legal obligations and strategic objectives contained in the Transport Act 2000.

Traveline in the East Midlands is an example of a successful partnership between local authorities and commercial organisations. It impartially promotes the use of public transport on a scale which no individual local authority or bus operator is able to do.

The organisation operates on a regional basis. David Simpson is the Regional Manager who is responsible for the management, development, operation and provision of the systems and services of Traveline in the East Midlands.

The post of Regional Manager is hosted by Nottinghamshire on behalf of the 12 local transport authorities that make up the East Midlands region and is based at Trent Bridge House in the Transport, Property and Environment Division, Transport and Travel Services.

All the local authorities in the region make an annual contribution to a central budget which covers the cost of the Regional Manager, travel costs and all systems related expenditure. Each authority contributes a share which is calculated in proportion to population size. The contribution for Nottinghamshire in this financial year is £17,600.

Nottinghamshire is the lead authority for a joint contract between Traveline East Midlands and Traveline East Anglia. The same system is also used by Traveline South East and the three regions have joint quarterly review meetings with the supplier, one of which is at the supplier's offices in Germany.

The trip has the agreement of all the local authorities in the region and has been authorised by the Head of Passenger Transport at Leicestershire County Council who is the chair of the regional group. The estimated cost, including travel, accommodation and expenses is £330 which is funded from the Traveline East Midlands budget.

Statutory and Policy Implications

This report has been compiled after consideration of implications in respect of finance, equal opportunities, personnel, crime and disorder and those using the service and where such implications are material they have been described in the text of the report.

RECOMMENDATION

That approval be given to the East Midlands Regional Manager's attendance at the Traveline Review meeting on 4 and 5 July 2011 in Munich.

Comments of the Service Director – Finance

The financial implications are brought out in the body of this report and are funded from the Traveline East Midlands budget.

{DJK 13.04.11}

Legal Services Comments (SLB 20/04/2011)

The Council's Travel and Accommodation Policy requires all Officer travel outside the UK to be approved by Administration Committee. Paragraph 10.3 of the Delegation to Administration Committee which is set out in Part 3 of the Constitution confirms that the Committee has authority.

Background Papers Available for Inspection

Nil

Electoral Division(s) and Member(s) Affected

All

Appendix

Traveline East Midlands - Systems Supplier Meeting in Munich 2011

Background Paper

Traveline was created 11 years ago as a partnership between local authorities and local bus operators. The service has grown from conception to one that is a nationally recognised brand with 17m UK enquiries for public transport information each year.

This region handles over 1m enquiries every year via a dedicated telephone call centre, a regional public website, SMS text enquires and mobile internet applications.

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The regional Traveline system was recently upgraded with a solution procured from mdv, a leading global supplier of transport planning who are based in Munich. Economies were achieved by having a joint contract with East Anglia and the success of this has developed into a joint working arrangement with London and the South East region, sharing development opportunities and recently merging the call centre operations into a single unit.

Nottinghamshire is the lead authority in the joint contract for the 12 authorities in Traveline East Midlands and the 3 authorities in Traveline East Anglia and is now a collaboration with Transport for London and Traveline South East's 22 authorities and is about to embrace Traveline South West (18 authorities) and Traveline West Midlands (8 authorities).

The contract is managed through regular contact by e-mail and conference calls on a day to day basis. Formal review meetings involving representatives of all the regions involved are held in London and Munich where there is better access to a wide range of staff involved in providing all aspects of the systems being used.

There is an extensive agenda of business at each meeting – and the meetings in Munich cover two full days, travelling out on Sunday and returning overnight on Tuesday to make best use of the available time.