
Report to: Transport Committee

Date: 15 March 2019

Subject: **Bus Service Matters Referred From District Consultation Sub-Committees**

Director: Dave Pearson, Director Transport Services

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Is this a key decision?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
Is the decision eligible for call-in by Scrutiny?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
Does the report contain confidential or exempt information or appendices?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
If relevant, state paragraph number of Schedule 12A, Local Government Act 1972, Part 1:	

1. Purpose of this report

- 1.1 To consider matters relating to bus services referred from the Kirklees District Consultation Sub-Committee.

2. Information

Service 253

- 2.1 The Combined Authority has recently reviewed and re-procured the supported bus network in North Kirklees in line with Transport Committee guidelines. This resulted in minor changes to the network from the weekend of 23/ 24 February enabling a saving to the Combined Authority in line with budget. The procurement process resulted in the movement of some contracts away from Arriva.
- 2.2 In parallel Arriva Yorkshire also reviewed its North Kirklees commercial network and also made changes to services in the area from 23 February. These changes increased the frequency of some services, but also reduced and withdrew others as well as breaking some current links. Overall the

company have slightly increased bus resources and had stated that it was focussing on routes with greater commercial potential.

- 2.3 The initial proposals resulted in some communities losing their bus service. The Combined Authority invited tenders to fill those gaps and have awarded Arriva a contract to do so at a marginal cost, partly offset by savings in evening service contracts with Arriva arising from the company's service changes.
- 2.4 As part of the changes, Arriva has withdrawn service 253 which operated hourly between Bradford – Birkenshaw – Cleckheaton - Mirfield – Dewsbury. A petition was submitted to the Kirklees District Consultation Sub-Committee on 6 February headed "Save The 253"
- 2.5 The guidelines set by the Transport Committee at its meeting in July 2018 are aimed at providing bus services to communities who would not otherwise have a service. Whilst accepting that withdrawal 253 will make it more difficult for people to make some journeys, all of the communities served by the 253 will continue to have a bus service.
- 2.6 It is not therefore recommended that the Combined Authority funds the reinstatement of service 253. Combined Authority officers will nevertheless continue to work with bus companies to address the issues arising from the withdrawal of this service.

3. Financial Implications

- 3.1 There are no financial implications directly arising from this report.

4. Legal Implications

- 4.1 There are no legal implications directly arising from this report.

5. Staffing Implications

- 5.1 There are no staffing implications directly arising from this report.

6. External Consultees

- 6.1 No external consultations have been undertaken.

7. Recommendations

- 7.1 That the Transport Committee notes the representations submitted to the Kirklees District Consultation Subcommittee regarding bus service 253
- 7.2 That the Director, Transport Services advises the petitioners that the Combined Authority is unable to provide a replacement of service 253 for the reasons described in this report.

8. Background Documents

8.1 Petition submitted to the Kirklees District Consultation Sub-Committee.

9. Appendices

None.