
TITLE: EAST CAMBRIDGESHIRE BUS SERVICES REVIEW

Committee: Finance & Assets Committee

Date: 26th September 2019

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1.0 ISSUE

- 1.1 To establish a Member Working Party to oversee the East Cambridgeshire Bus Services Review and to approve the Terms of Reference for the group.

2.0 RECOMMENDATION(S)

- 2.1 It is recommended that the Committee appoints 5 Councillors to the Working Party.
- 2.2 Members are requested to approve the draft Terms of Reference for the Working Party attached as Appendix 1 to this report.

3.0 BACKGROUND/OPTIONS

- 3.1 In January 2019 the Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Combined Authority (CPCA) published its Strategic Bus Review report. The report identified a variety of existing and emerging opportunities which should be exploited to enhance the existing bus network. These include franchising, enhanced partnerships, advanced quality partnership schemes and advanced ticketing schemes.
- 3.2 The CPCA has established a cross-organisational 'Bus Reform Group' to consider the findings of the review and develop an implementation strategy based on the recommendations of the Strategic Bus Review.
- 3.3 The Review found that the existing system of services will not deliver on the Combined Authority's aspirations for improved and more integrated public transport across Cambridgeshire and Peterborough. There is still a trend of falling passenger numbers on certain types of routes, particularly in rural areas, meaning they only become viable with subsidy for local authorities.

4.0 ARGUMENTS/CONCLUSIONS

- 4.1 The Council is planning to carry out a consultation exercise to help inform the CPCA review of bus services across Cambridgeshire and Peterborough. It is envisaged that all Councillors will be involved in the consultation to identify key bus routes for local residents that meet one or more of the following journey purposes:

- Access to work
- Access to learning
- Access to healthcare and wellbeing support
- Access to food shopping
- Access to leisure

4.2 The aim of the consultation is to identify routes that are viable, or can become viable over a period of time, and to seek funding from the Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Combined Authority and other sources for a trial period to allow routes to become established and self-financing.

4.3 It is proposed that a Member Working Party be set up to guide this work. Its role will be to assist officers in carrying out the consultation and review. It will comprise 5 Members and report to this Committee. A draft Terms of Reference for the group is attached as Appendix 1.

5.0 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS/EQUALITY IMPACT ASSESSMENT

5.1 There are no additional financial implications arising from this report.

5.2 Equality Impact Assessment (INRA) not required at this stage. Recommendations arising from the Review may require an Equality Impact Assessment (INRA) to be completed.

6.0 APPENDICES

6.1 Appendix 1: East Cambridgeshire Bus Services Review Draft Terms of Reference.

<u>Background Documents</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Contact Officer</u>
None	Room 13 The Grange, Ely	Sally Bonnett Infrastructure and Strategy Manager (01353) 616451 sally.bonnett@eastcambs.gov.uk