

DERBYSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

**MEETING OF CABINET MEMBER – JOBS, ECONOMY AND
TRANSPORT**

17 June 2014

Report of the Strategic Director – Economy, Transport and Environment

**PETITION FOR DERBYSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL TO PROVIDE
PREVIOUSLY WITHDRAWN COMMERCIAL SERVICE 11
EVENING AND SUNDAY JOURNEYS**

(1) **Purpose of the Report** To report on the County Council's response to two petitions received, both requesting the reinstatement of previously withdrawn commercial Service 11 evening and Sunday journeys.

(2) **Information and Analysis**

Background

At the meeting of the Cabinet Member on 21 January 2014, a petition was received requesting the County Council to provide replacements for previously withdrawn commercial evening and Sunday journeys which formed part of local bus Service 11. A second, online petition also requesting reinstatement of the same journeys was reported to the meeting of Cabinet Member 11 February 2014.

Service 11 operates between Derby and Ilkeston, via West Hallam, and is a wholly commercial service provided by bus operator Notts & Derby. The service is currently hourly in each direction during the daytime from Monday to Saturday. Until the commercial withdrawals in December 2013, there was also an hourly Monday to Saturday evening service with a two hourly Sunday daytime service.

There are two commercial bus services (Ilkeston Flyer and Y3) operating between Ilkeston and Derby, providing evening journeys with shorter travel times than offered by service 11. Increased competition, particularly from the Y3 service, abstracted most of the through passengers from Service 11 resulting in the evening and Sunday journeys becoming unviable for the operator. Notts & Derby subsequently cancelled those journeys with effect from 1 December 2013.

Public

Current Situation

Since 1 December 2013, the reduction of Service 11 has left the communities around Stanley and West Hallam in Derbyshire and areas of Chaddesden and Oakwood in Derby City with no Monday to Saturday evening service from Derby after 1930 hours and no service at all on Sundays.

Following discussion with Derby City Council, an agreement has been reached that the City Council will contribute 40% of the cost to restore a 90 minute evening service (three journeys in each direction) and a two hourly Sunday service (four journeys in each direction). It should be noted that the contribution from Derby City Council has been secured for one year only as Derby City Council is unable to commit to any contribution for future years at this time.

In view of the offer of a contribution from Derby City Council, a report was submitted to the meeting of the Cabinet Member on 6 May 2014 and approval was given to recommence Sunday journeys from 29 June 2014 and evening journeys from 30 June 2014 (Minute No. xxx/14 refers). Sunday journeys will be operated by Notts & Derby with evening journeys operated by Yourbus.

Conclusions

The petitioners' requests have been fulfilled and the reinstatement of Monday to Saturday evening and Sunday journeys will soon be in place.

This will be on a trial basis for one year and the continuation of evening and Sunday journeys on Service 11 after the year's trial will be dependent upon either sufficient passenger use of these journeys for them to be viable for the operator to continue without subsidy, or sufficient funding being available to maintain a subsidised service.

Local Member comment

Councillor Carol Hart has said how pleased and relieved she is to know they are getting the service back, even if only guaranteed for a year. After campaigning on behalf of residents for the return of the evening and Sunday journeys, Councillor Hart knows how pleased they will be.

(3) **Financial Considerations** The cost of this provision has previously been agreed by the Cabinet Member at the meeting on 6 May 2014.

(4) **Transport Considerations** As set out in the report. The actions taken will provide additional journey opportunities for all members of the community in the areas served.

Public

In preparing this report the relevance of the following factors has been considered: legal, prevention of crime and disorder, equality and diversity, human resources, environmental, health, property and considerations.

(5) **Key Decision** No.

(6) **Call-In** Is it required that call-in be waived in respect of the decisions proposed in the report? No.

(7) **Background Papers** Held on file within the Economy, Transport and Environment Department. Officer contact details – Janet Pickersgill, extension 36734.

(8) **OFFICER'S RECOMMENDATIONS** That:

- 8.1 The Cabinet Member notes the measures taken to provide an evening and Sunday bus service for Stanley and West Hallam.
- 8.2 The local Member and lead petitioner be advised of the actions taken by the Authority.

Mike Ashworth
Strategic Director – Economy, Transport and Environment