

Report of	Meeting	Date
Director of Policy and Governance	Overview and Scrutiny Committee	September 2019

SUBSIDISED BUS SERVICES UPDATE

PURPOSE OF REPORT

- To provide members with an update on the current position of the subsidised bus routes across the borough.

RECOMMENDATION(S)

- That the report be noted.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY OF REPORT

- Following an Executive Member Decision in July to continue subsidising bus routes in the borough, it was recommended that an update on the current subsidised services be brought to the Overview and Scrutiny Committee to review and consider the current position and the provision for residents in rural districts.
- At present, Chorley Council currently provide a contribution towards the delivery of the 118/119 and the 24A services. The contribution is split with LCC; with the Council providing 25% funding for the day services (LCC 75%) and 75% funding (LCC 25%) for the evening services. This approximate cost to the Council per annum is £65,731.
- This was agreed through an Executive Member decision and funding was committed towards these services for a 12-month period from 1st September 2019 - 31st August 2020.

Confidential report Please bold as appropriate	Yes	No
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CORPORATE PRIORITIES

- This report relates to the following Strategic Objectives:

Involving residents in improving their local area and equality of access for all	x	A strong local economy	
Clean, safe and healthy homes and communities		An ambitious council that does more to meet the needs of residents and the local area	

BACKGROUND

- The Council has been subsidising bus services since April 2016; this commenced with the Council stepping in to fund three services following LCC's budget cuts. These included; 109B which was an evening and weekend service for Astley Village, the 4A which was an

evening and weekend service through Wheelton, Brinscall and Abbey Village and the 6/6A which ran between Chorley and Coppull. These routes were funded until September 2018.

8. From February 2017 onwards, the Council began funding the temporary 7C service when the council stepped in to sustain the service following the announcement of the withdrawal of the number 7 service by the commercial operator. This route was funded until September 2018.
9. Following this, the Council worked with LCC to come up with a more viable solution that would incorporate the majority of the provision within these routes. From September 2018 onwards, the new 357 service was created to incorporate the majority of the old 7C and 6A and the 109B and 4A continued to be funded. These services were funded until September 2019 at approximately £93,416 per annum.
10. The table below captures the costs associated with the subsidised services over the last three years:

	2016/17 (£)	2017/18 (£)	2018/19 (£)
Stagecoach services	18,634	98,397	40,540
Lancashire County Council	113,396	127,423	89,167
Total costs	132,039	225,820	129,706

Current bus routes – September 2019

11. The daytime 109A service was withdrawn by Stagecoach in July 2019 due to a lack of commercial viability; this had implications for the services funded by Chorley Council (357, 109B and 4A). Therefore, Chorley Council worked with LCC to reconfigure existing services to deliver a replacement for the 109A within existing resources. The services created were the 118/119 and the 24A.
12. At present, Chorley Council currently provide a contribution towards the delivery of the 118/119 and the 24A services. Detail regarding these services is as below:

118/119

13. The 118 is a circular route which runs from Chorley Interchange via Collingwood Rd - Pilling Lane – Weld Bank Carr Lane - Eaves Green Rd - Collingwood Rd back through to Chorley Interchange.
14. The 119 is a circular route which runs from Chorley Interchange via Southport Road – Astley Village Chancery Road back through to Chorley Interchange. The service will operate generally every hour during Monday to Saturday daytime.
15. The revisions following the withdrawal of the 109A in July meant that the creation of the 118/119 routes results in some areas, Lower Burgh and Gillibrands, now receive a bus service every 2 hours rather than every hour.

24A

16. The 24A runs from Chorley through to Blackburn via Lower Wheelton, Abbey Village and Feniscowles. The service runs in the evenings on Monday – Saturday on an hour and half basis and runs a Sunday day service every hour.

Cost implications

17. The table below demonstrates actual breakdown of the estimated costs for each authority:

Services	LCC (75%)	CBC (25%)
118 & 119 Daytime Service	£50,966	£16,989
Services	LCC (25%)	CBC (75%)
24A, 118 & 119 Evening Service	£16,248	£48,743
	LCC total contribution	CBC total contribution
Proposed totals	£67,213	£65,731
Proposed change (+/-)	£4,935	-£27,685

18. The changes implemented in July 2019 have resulted in a reduction of £27,000 in funding for subsidised bus services compared to 2018/19.

Area provision

19. The table below demonstrates the main areas which the current subsidised bus services are operating:

Route	Wards covered
118	Chorley North West Chorley South West Chorley South East
119	Chorley North West Astley and Buckshaw
24A	Chorley North East Pennine Wheelton and Withnell

20. The table also shows the approximate current bus provision within the rural areas into the town centre and surrounding:

Wards	Existing bus provision
Chisnall	Served by the 362; frequent service
Eccleston and Mawdesley	Served by the 337/347
Heath Charnock and Rivington	Served by the 362; frequent service
Lostock	Served by the 337/347
Pennine	Minimal service provision, includes walking distance to nearest service
Wheelton and Withnell	Served by the 24 service; frequent

IMPLICATIONS OF REPORT

21. This report has implications in the following areas and the relevant Directors' comments are included:

Finance		Customer Services	
Human Resources		Equality and Diversity	
Legal		Integrated Impact Assessment required?	
No significant implications in this area	x	Policy and Communications	

COMMENTS OF THE STATUTORY FINANCE OFFICER

22. No comment.

COMMENTS OF THE MONITORING OFFICER

23. No comment.

DIRECTOR OF POLICY AND GOVERNANCE

Background Papers		
Document	Date	File
Funding for the replacement of the 7C bus service EMD	3 February 2017	http://mod/ieDecisionDetails.aspx?ID=6497
Bus subsidy extension June 17 EMD	29 June 2017	http://mod/ieDecisionDetails.aspx?ID=6767
Bus subsidy extension July 17 EMD	26 July 2017	http://mod/ieDecisionDetails.aspx?ID=6805
Bus services- extension of subsidy arrangements until 31 March 2018 EMD	30 October 2017	http://mod/ieDecisionDetails.aspx?ID=6994
Bus services – extension of existing subsidy arrangements until 30 September 2018 EMD	24 April 2018	http://mod/ieDecisionDetails.aspx?ID=7295
LCC Transformation fund 18/19 and 19/20- request for additional funding Full Council report	15 May 2018	http://mod/documents/s86208/LCC%20Transformation%20Fund%20-%20additional%20budget%20request.pdf
Bus services – award of 357 contract and 12 month subsidy for 357 and 109B/4A services EMD	14 June	https://democracy.chorley.gov.uk/documents/s99482/bus%20services%20-%20funding%20for%20201920.pdf

Report Author	Ext	Date
Rebecca Aziz-Brook	5348	26/09/19

CHORLEY TOWN CENTRE, Bus Station (Stand C)	09:28	10:28	11:28	12:28	13:28	14:28	15:28	16:28	17:28	18:28	19:28
EAVES LANE, St Peters Street (by)	09:35	10:35	11:35	12:35	13:35	14:35	15:35	16:35	17:35	18:35	19:35
LOWER WHEELTON, Red Lion Hotel (opp)	09:43	10:43	11:43	12:43	13:43	14:43	15:43	16:43	17:43	18:43	19:43
BRINSCALL, War Memorial (opp)	09:48	10:48	11:48	12:48	13:48	14:48	15:48	16:48	17:48	18:48	19:48
ABBEY VILLAGE, Hare and Hounds (opp)	09:51	10:51	11:51	12:51	13:51	14:51	15:51	16:51	17:51	18:51	19:51
FENISCOWLES, Feildens Arms (opp)	09:58	10:58	11:58	12:58	13:58	14:58	15:58	16:58	17:58	18:58	----
BLACKBURN TOWN CENTRE, Arrival Stand (Stand 0)	10:07	11:07	12:07	13:07	14:07	15:07	16:07	17:07	18:07	19:07	----

118

CHORLEY - CHORLEY via Collingwood Rd, Pilling Lane, Carr Lane, Eaves Green Rd, Collingwood Rd (inbound)

Monday to Friday

CHORLEY TOWN CENTRE, Bus Station (Stand H)	21:49	23:19										
COLLINGWOOD ROAD, Whitworth Drive (opp)	----	----										
WELDBANK, Weld Avenue (adj)	----	----										
RED BANK, Kirkstall Road (opp)	----	----										
EAVES GREEN ROAD, St Gregorys School (by)	----	----										
COLLINGWOOD ROAD, Collingwood Road (by)	21:55	23:25										
CHORLEY TOWN CENTRE, Bus Station (Stand H)	22:03	23:33										

**119
CHORLEY - CHORLEY via Southport Road (inbound)**

Monday to Friday

<i>Operator</i>	<i>RST</i>	<i>RST</i>	<i>RST</i>	<i>RST</i>	<i>RST</i>	<i>RST</i>	<i>RST</i>	<i>RST</i>	<i>RST</i>	<i>RST</i>	<i>RST</i>	<i>RST</i>
CHORLEY TOWN CENTRE, Bus Station (Stand H)	07:04	08:08	09:18	10:25	11:25	12:25	13:25	14:25	15:26	16:30	17:40	18:45

ASTLEY VILLAGE,Village Centre (by)	07:14	08:20	09:29	10:35	11:35	12:35	13:35	14:35	15:37	16:42	17:52	18:55
CHORLEY TOWN CENTRE,Bus Station (Stand H)	07:26	08:36	09:42	10:47	11:47	12:47	13:47	14:47	15:50	16:56	18:05	19:07
<i>Operator</i>	<i>STG</i>	<i>STG</i>	<i>STG</i>									
CHORLEY TOWN CENTRE,Bus Station (Stand H)	19:55	21:25	22:55									
ASTLEY VILLAGE,Village Centre (by)	20:05	21:35	23:05									
CHORLEY TOWN CENTRE,Bus Station (Stand H)	20:15	21:45	23:15									

Saturday

<i>Operator</i>	<i>RST</i>	<i>RST</i>	<i>RST</i>	<i>RST</i>	<i>RST</i>	<i>RST</i>	<i>RST</i>	<i>RST</i>	<i>RST</i>	<i>RST</i>	<i>RST</i>	<i>RST</i>
CHORLEY TOWN CENTRE,Bus Station (Stand H)	07:20	08:20	09:20	10:20	11:20	12:25	13:25	14:25	15:30	16:30	17:40	18:45
ASTLEY VILLAGE,Village Centre (by)	07:30	08:30	09:30	10:30	11:30	12:35	13:35	14:35	15:40	16:40	17:50	18:55
CHORLEY TOWN CENTRE,Bus Station (Stand H)	07:42	08:42	09:42	10:42	11:42	12:47	13:47	14:47	15:52	16:52	18:02	19:07

<i>Operator</i>	<i>STG</i>	<i>STG</i>	<i>STG</i>								
CHORLEY TOWN CENTRE, Bus Station (Stand H)	19:55	21:25	22:55								
ASTLEY VILLAGE, Village Centre (by)	20:05	21:35	23:05								
CHORLEY TOWN CENTRE, Bus Station (Stand H)	20:15	21:45	23:15								

Sunday

<i>Operator</i>	<i>STG</i>	<i>STG</i>	<i>STG</i>	<i>STG</i>	<i>STG</i>	<i>STG</i>	<i>STG</i>	<i>STG</i>	<i>STG</i>	<i>STG</i>	<i>STG</i>
<i>Notes</i>	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$
CHORLEY TOWN CENTRE, Bus Station (Stand H)	09:55	10:55	11:55	12:55	13:55	14:55	15:55	16:55	17:55	18:55	19:55
EUXTON, Tesco (o/s)	10:02	11:02	12:02	13:02	14:02	15:02	16:02	17:02	----	----	----
ASTLEY VILLAGE, Village Centre (by)	10:05	11:05	12:05	13:05	14:05	15:05	16:05	17:05	18:05	19:05	20:05
EUXTON, Tesco (o/s)	10:08	11:08	12:08	13:08	14:08	15:08	16:08	17:08	----	----	----
CHORLEY TOWN CENTRE, Bus Station (Stand H)	10:16	11:16	12:16	13:16	14:16	15:16	16:16	17:16	18:15	19:15	20:15