

OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY INQUIRY PROJECT OUTLINE

Review Topic: Public Transport Issues in Chorley

Objectives:

To investigate how Chorley Council can influence improved bus transport services for residents

Desired Outcomes:

1. Improvement of subsidised routes across the borough including concessions and levels of fares.
2. Reliable rural bus services that will service Chorley and its surrounding areas providing sustainable community services to elderly, isolated and often vulnerable members of our community
3. Improved sources of information about transport services

Terms of Reference:

1. To review the new Subsidised Bus Services criteria following a recent consultation undertaken by Lancashire County Council.
2. Understanding current provision and identifying gaps in service
3. Investigating areas of best practice amongst other community transport schemes.
4. Influencing the proposed Parish Partnership scheme proposed by Lancashire County Council for community transport.
5. Looking at ways that we can better communicate transport availability to our residents.
6. Investigate the potential for using the Information Centre at Chorley Interchange. Continue to lobby Network Rail about individual rail issues by correspondence rather than through the Task Group

Equality and diversity implications:

Rural transport considerations
Social isolation issues

Risks:

Raising expectations that we can influence change with the public and other Councillors.

Venue(s):

Town Hall, Market Street, Chorley

Timescale: 5 months

Start: November 2014

Finish: March 2015

Information Requirements and Sources:

Documents/evidence: (what/why?)

- Lancashire County Council's new assessment criteria for subsidised routes across the borough to understand of the changes with affect provision in Chorley

Witnesses: (who, why?)

- Canvass Elected Members of the Council to build up their perceived picture of the current issues across Chorley.
- County Councillor John Fillis – Cabinet Member for Highways and Transport (Lancashire County Council) to understand current provision
- Tony Moreton, Assistant Director of Sustainable Transport (Lancashire County Council) to understand current provision
- Parish Council representatives to understand current rural provision and how it could be improved upon.
- Representatives from organisations such as Chorley and South Ribble Disability Forum an Dial a ride

Consultation/Research: (what, why, who?)

- Investigate and evaluate Community Transport Schemes elsewhere and to learn from areas of best practice.
- Research information about how services are communicated
- Consult with Parishes and Community Groups to understand rural transport needs

Site Visits: (where, why, when?)

Officer Support:

Lead Officer: Lesley-Ann Fenton

**Democratic &
Member Services Officer:** Dianne Scambler

Likely Budget Requirements:

Purpose

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Total

Target Body¹ for Findings/Recommendations

Executive Cabinet

¹ All project outcomes require the approval of Overview and Scrutiny Committee before progressing