

Report of	Meeting	Date
Chief Executive	Overview and Scrutiny Committee	6 October 2016

PUBLIC TRANSPORT ISSUES IN CHORLEY: FIRST MONITORING REPORT

PURPOSE OF REPORT

1. To provide an update on progress in delivering against the recommendations made in the Overview and Scrutiny review of public transport issues in Chorley.

RECOMMENDATION(S)

2. That the report be noted

Confidential report Please bold as appropriate	Yes	No
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CORPORATE PRIORITIES

3. This report relates to the following Strategic Objectives:

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

BACKGROUND

4. During 2015/16, a task group of Overview and Scrutiny undertook a review of public transport issues in Chorley. In November 2015, the Executive Cabinet accepted the recommendations in the final report of the task group. This report provides an update on progress in delivering against the recommendations.

PROGRESS IN DELIVERY

5. The table below sets out the original recommendations from the Task Group, the Executive's response and an update on the progress in delivery.

Task Group recommendation	Executive Cabinet response	Update
1. That when the revised Lancashire County Council (LCC) criteria is applied to subsidised services operating in	Agreed. Executive Cabinet anticipate the revised criteria is likely to be applied as part of LCCs budget planning	The position is now different than when the review took place. In essence unless commercially viable,

<p>Chorley and appear to be detrimental, any issues or concerns will be referred to full Council requesting approval to lobby LCC to minimise the impact in Chorley.</p>	<p>from 2016/17 and beyond.</p>	<p>no service will be subsidised in Chorley. The Council has temporarily agreed to subsidise two services whilst a sustainable solution is identified.</p>
<p>2. Should LCC take forward the 'Parish Partnership Offer' it is recommended that LCC consult and work with Cumbria County Council to explore how a Community Wheels type scheme could be undertaken and fully funded by LCC in Lancashire.</p>	<p>Agreed. It is currently unclear whether this offer will be pursued by LCC. However, should this proposal from LCC be taken forward, the Executive Cabinet or its representative will notify LCC and encourage them to engage with Cumbria CC.</p>	<p>Unclear if LCC have or will pursue this option.</p>
<p>3. That Chorley Council contact Cumbria County Council to gather more information on their approach to recruiting volunteer drivers and to work with LCC and parishes to implement best practice in Chorley.</p>	<p>Agreed.</p>	<p>Completed but no schemes yet worked up with Parish Councils, no Parish has come forward to highlight the removal of bus services as particularly detrimental to their residents. The offer and opportunity, is still there if Parishes so wish.</p>
<p>4. That the 'Parish Partnership Offer' (should it be progressed by LCC in the future) and the recruitment of volunteer drivers should be included as projects in the Rural Communities Action Plan and monitored accordingly.</p>	<p>Agreed.</p>	<p>£3k funding awarded to cover insurance, DBS checks and subsidise costs for volunteers.</p> <p>Council officers have been working with Dial A ride to identify and train volunteers.</p>
<p>5. That Chorley Council write to Lancashire County Council and all relevant operators to progress any issues raised by the parishes that have not already been covered as part of this review.</p>	<p>Agreed. Public Transport Issues can be included as a discussion item at a future Parish Liaison meeting.</p>	<p>Completed</p>
<p>6. To explore the offer from Stagecoach to meet on a</p>	<p>Agreed.</p>	<p>Not progressed, although the council</p>

<p>regular basis to develop better working relations and improve communications and include Lancashire County Council Representatives.</p>		<p>has developed relationships with Stagecoach through its work to maintain the two subsidised bus services.</p>
<p>7. That upon completion of the West Coast Strategic Studies process (expected April 2016) the Council will seek an update from, and continue to lobby Lancashire County Council and Network Rail on the establishment of a railway station in Coppull.</p>	<p>Agreed.</p>	<p>For future consideration but will continue to lobby</p>
<p>8. That Chorley Council follows up Northern Rail's Commitment to looking at the lighting at Adlington station and if necessary also follow-up the delivery of the Customer Information Screens if installation does not take place in Summer 2015.</p>	<p>Agreed.</p>	<p>Northern secured the new rail franchise in April 2016 and their Station Improvement Fund (SIF) is being signed off in September 2016 for implementation by 2020. Works include LED lighting, CCTV and automated ticket vending machines at all stations and help points, digital customer information and PA systems at selected stations. We have yet to receive formal notification of what will be allocated to each of Chorley's stations, but will continue to press for improvements should it not match our expectations.</p>
<p>9. Once the Council is aware of the new franchise holder (from February 2016), the Executive Cabinet to continue to lobby and raise the current rail issues, in particular to include additional rail services to Manchester Airport from Adlington</p>	<p>Agreed.</p>	<p>Not progressed</p>

<p>from December 2016.</p>		
<p>10. That consideration is given to including railway station enhancements and other public transport infrastructure across the borough in the Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) 123 list revisions and be monitored by the Council to ensure funding is allocated and commitments are fulfilled.</p>	<p>Agreed. The CIL 123 list is to be reviewed shortly.</p>	<p>CIL review not yet started.</p>
<p>11. That any conditions made through the Buckshaw Village S106 agreement regarding the up-grading and re-opening of Alker Lane Bridge which will improve access to Buckshaw Railway Station from Astley Village is followed up by the Council to ensure commitments are fulfilled.</p>	<p>Agreed.</p>	<p>Some initial scoping work by BAE but no progress to date will follow up.</p>
<p>12. That the Future Governance Viability Working Group notes the contents of the report on the benefits and potential areas of focus for a Combined Transport Authority for Lancashire in order to improve public transport for Chorley residents and the Council to use the findings to influence any future discussions regarding the establishment of a Combined Authority and its role in transport provision.</p>	<p>Agreed. A report to November Council is expected on the formation of a Combined Authority for Lancashire, part of which will include a Combined Transport Authority.</p>	<p>Completed</p>
<p>13. That Lancashire County Council re-considers the displaying of bus timetables at all bus stops and shelters across</p>	<p>Agreed. Executive Cabinet or its representative will inform LCC and encourage them to consider this</p>	<p>Completed</p>

the borough and explores the possibilities of funding this service by the use of advertising by local companies.	recommendation.	
14. That Lancashire County Council in conjunction with the operators explores better ways of communicating increased bus fares to its customers.	Agreed. Executive Cabinet or its representative will inform LCC and encourage them to consider this recommendation.	Not progressed yet
15. To highlight to the Executive Cabinet the importance of considering all public transport needs for its residents when undertaking all relevant Council projects. For example, the provision of bicycle racks and storage units and positioning of bus stops as part of the Market Walk development proposals.	Agreed.	No action required

IMPLICATIONS OF REPORT

6. 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	✓	Policy and Communications	

COMMENTS OF THE STATUTORY FINANCE OFFICER

7. No comments

COMMENTS OF THE MONITORING OFFICER

8. No comments

GARY HALL
CHIEF EXECUTIVE

There are no background papers to this report.

Report Author	Ext	Date	Doc ID
Gary Hall	5104	29 September 2016	O and S Transport first monitoring report