

Regeneration & Transport Select Committee

A meeting of Regeneration & Transport Select Committee was held on Wednesday, 3rd June, 2009.

Present: Cllr Maurice Perry(Chairman), Cllr Dick Cain(Vice-Chairman), Cllr John Fletcher, Cllr Paul Kirton, Cllr Bill Noble, Cllr Fred Salt, Cllr Michael Smith

Officers: Roland Todd, Mike Robinson, Kellie Hopkins,(DNS) Andy Bryson, Elizabeth Bird(CESC), Judith Trainer, Michelle Jones, Kirsty Wannop(LD)

Also in attendance:

Apologies: Cllr Steve Walmsley

RTS 6/09 Declarations of Interest

Cllr John Fletcher declared a personal non-prejudicial interest in the item entitled - Efficiency, Improvement and Transformation Review of Commissioning and Provision of Public and Community Transport as he was the chairman of the Bus Users Forum.

RTS 7/09 Minutes of the Meeting held on 5th January 2009 and 9th March 2009

Minutes of the meeting held on 5th January 2009 and 9th March 2009 were signed by the Chairman as a correct record.

RTS 8/09 Minutes of the Meeting held on 20th April 2009

Consideration was given to minutes of the meeting held on 20th April 2009.

CONCLUDED that the minutes of the meeting held on 20th April 2009 be agreed and forwarded to Council for consideration.

RTS 9/09 Monitoring of Previously Agreed Recommendations

Members were presented with the Monitoring Report on previously agreed recommendations for the review of Employability.

R. Todd (Labour Market Coordinator) was in attendance at the meeting and detailed the evidence of progress to date. Members were then given the opportunity to ask detailed questions on the monitoring report, and requested figures for the Entry 2 Employment (E2E) and apprentice schemes. R. Todd was also requested to research the effectiveness of the 'Slivers of Time' initiative where used by other local authorities.

Overall, Members were pleased with the progress that had been made on the recommendations.

CONCLUDED that the assessment of progress contained in the report be agreed and further update be received as appropriate

RTS 10/09 Monitoring of Previously Agreed Recommendations

Members were asked to consider the assessments of progress contained within the Progress Updates on the implementation of previously agreed recommendations in relation to the reviews of Sustainable School Travel and Street Lighting progress updates. Members requested further feedback on both updates, particularly with regards to an update on cashless payments and real-time public transport information, the number of completed School Travel Plans, and the anticipated completion date of the Street Lighting review recommendations.

CONCLUDED that the assessment of progress contained in the reports be agreed and further update be received as appropriate.

RTS 11/09 Efficiency, Improvement and Transformation Review of Commissioning and Provision of Public and Community Transport

The Committee were presented with the draft scope and project plan, and initial baseline information, for the EIT review of Commissioning and Provision of Public and Community Transport.

The Head of Technical Services explained the baseline information for the review. It was suggested that the Committee consider 'concessionary fares' separate to the other information. Members received the following information:-

- Following Government Legislation every person over 60 was entitled to a bus pass for free public bus transport. The Council had negotiated a payment to the bus operators for those entitled to the free bus pass at a reduced fare.
- The Council adopted a half price travel concessions for 16-19 year olds to assist with further education and access to work in 2003.
- The bus contracts for subsidised routes had just been renewed for a three year period.
- Community Transport was holding a three month trial delivering a circular bus route service to Parishes on evenings and weekends and the results would be brought back to the Committee.
- Community Transport only provides an in house service for those routes that they can deliver better and more cost efficient than outsourcing the contract

CONCLUDED that

1. the scope and project plan be agreed and
2. the baseline information be noted.

RTS 12/09 Appointment of Task and Finish Group

The Select Committees agreed 2008/9 work programme had included the appointment of a task and finish group to review taxi services, but due to time constraints it had not been possible to carry out this review and it had been taken forward on the 2009/10 work programme. The Committee were informed that Housing & Community Safety Select Committees review of Regulatory Services and the Committee's own review of Commissioning and Provision of Public and Community Transport would incorporate the issues of taxi services, therefore there was no longer a need for this task and finish group.

