

**CABINET RESPONSE TO: ENTERPRISE, GROWTH AND COMMUNITY
INFRASTRUCTURE OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE REPORT
REGARDING SUBSIDISED BUS SERVICE CONSULTATION RESULTS**

To: **Cabinet**

Date: **31st January 2012**

From: **Executive Director: Environment Services**

Electoral division(s): **All**

Forward Plan ref: **Not applicable** *Key decision:* **No**

Purpose: **To respond to the comments and recommendations of the Enterprise, Growth and Community Infrastructure Overview and Scrutiny Committee regarding the subsidised bus service consultation results.**

Recommendation: **a) To thank Overview and Scrutiny for producing a valuable report.**

b) To approve the proposed response to the recommendations from the Enterprise, Growth and Community Infrastructure Overview and Scrutiny Committee set out in section 2 of this report.

<i>Officer contact:</i>	<i>Member contact:</i>
Name: Bob Menzies Post: Head of Passenger Transport Email: Bob.menzies@cambridgeshire.gov.uk Tel: 01223 717866	Name: Councillor Criswell Portfolio Cabinet member for Community : Infrastructure Email: Steve.Criswell@cambridgeshire.gov.uk Tel: 01223 699173

1. BACKGROUND

- 1.1 The Enterprise, Growth and Community Infrastructure Overview and Scrutiny Committee has conducted an 'overview' analysis of the results of the bus service consultation, and future policy options, and has produced a report which contains three recommendations for consideration by Cabinet.
- 1.2 Cabinet would like to thank the Overview and Scrutiny Committee for producing the report and seeking the views of officers and members during their consideration of this issue.

2. RESPONSE TO RECOMMENDATIONS

- 2.1 The proposed response to the recommendations of the Member Led Review is set out below.
- 2.2 **Recommendation 1: Consider the Committee's comments when determining their policy response to the public consultation**

Proposed response

Cabinet agrees with this recommendation and believes that the proposed policy response reflects the Committee's comments.

- 2.3 **Recommendation 2: Ensure that changes to subsidised bus services are appropriately advertised to the public.**

Proposed response

Cabinet agrees with this recommendation and agrees that any changes to subsidised bus services will be appropriately advertised to the public before they take place. We will review the current methods of distribution and list of recipients to ensure that the public are fully informed of any changes in provision.

- 2.4 **Recommendation 3: Not withdraw subsidies to bus services without mitigation measures being put in place.**

Proposed Response

Following an analysis of the survey results from the bus subsidy consultation, members of the cabinet are being asked to consider phasing reductions in bus subsidies over the next three years. It is proposed that before subsidy withdrawals are made, a thorough assessment of local needs will be made, working with local communities, and alternative local transport measures implemented wherever possible.

3. ALIGNMENT WITH PRIORITIES AND WAYS OF WORKING

- 3.1 **Supporting and protecting vulnerable people when they need it most**

No significant implications resulting from this report.

3.2 Helping people live healthy and independent lives in their communities

No significant implications resulting from this report.

3.3 Developing the local economy for the benefit of all

No significant implications resulting from this report.

3.4 Ways of Working

No significant implications identified

4.0 SIGNIFICANT IMPLICATIONS

4.1 Resources and performance

Finance

The implementation of recommendation 3 could result in additional costs, depending on the arrangements to mitigate the withdrawal of subsidised bus services.

Performance

No significant implications identified.

4.2 Statutory, legal and risk implications

Key risks

No significant implications resulting from this report.

Statutory

No significant implications resulting from this report.

4.3 Equality and diversity implications

No significant implications resulting from this report.

4.4 Engagement and consultation

No significant implications resulting from this report.

Source Documents	Location
Enterprise, Growth and Community Infrastructure Overview and Scrutiny Committee minutes and reports from the meeting held on the 12 th January 2012	Shire Hall, Room Contact Robert Jakeman, 01223 699143