

**DEPARTMENT FOR TRANSPORT CONSULTATION ON GREATER ANGLIA AND  
INTERCITY EAST COAST RAIL FRANCHISES**

*To:* **Cabinet**

*Date:* **27<sup>th</sup> April 2010**

*From:* **Acting Executive Director: Environment Services**

*Electoral division(s):* **All**

*Forward Plan ref:* **N/A** *Key decision:* **No**

*Purpose:* **Cabinet is asked to consider the joint response to the Department for Transport consultation on the Greater Anglia and InterCity East Coast rail franchises**

*Recommendation:* **Cabinet is asked to:**

- **Endorse the joint response to the Department for Transport consultation on the Greater Anglia and InterCity East Coast rail franchises**
- **Delegate to the Lead Member for Growth, Infrastructure and Strategic Planning in consultation with the Acting Executive Director: Environment Services, the authority to agree any minor changes to the joint responses to the consultations.**

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## **1. BACKGROUND**

- 1.1 The Department for Transport (DfT) is currently consulting on three rail franchises. Two of these affect rail users in Cambridgeshire. These are:
- Greater Anglia Franchise (GA)
  - InterCity East Coast Franchise (ICEC)
- 1.2 Until recently National Express held both franchises. The ICEC franchise was terminated by the Department for Transport (DfT) on 13 November 2009. The GA franchise was awarded in 2004 for a period of seven years, with an option for renewal for another three years. The option for renewal is not being exercised; the current GA franchise will therefore end on 31 March 2011.
- 1.3 Services from three other franchises that are not currently up for renewal operate trains in Cambridgeshire. Appendix A summarises the franchises currently operating rail services in Cambridgeshire, and has plans showing the areas served by the GA and ICEC franchises.

## **2. Consultation on franchises – key issues and response**

- 2.1 The DfT's consultation documents on the two franchises can be viewed at:
- Greater Anglia  
<http://www.dft.gov.uk/consultations/open/2010-07/>
  - InterCity East Coast  
<http://www.dft.gov.uk/consultations/open/2010-08/>
- 2.2. Officers from the County, District and City Councils have discussed the main issues and have prepared a joint response on the franchise consultations. A suggested response was presented to Members at the following committees.
- 10/03/2010: County Council Growth & Environment Policy Development Group
  - 16/03/2010: Joint Transport and Planning Lead Members
  - 29/03/2010: Joint Transport Forum
- 2.3 Member's comments have informed the draft response to consultation which is attached as Appendices B and C.

## **3. Recommendations**

- 3.1. Members are asked to endorse the consultation responses for submission to the DfT, and to delegate to the Lead Member for Growth, Infrastructure and Strategic Planning in consultation with the Acting Executive Director, Environment Services the authority to agree any changes to responses.

#### **4. SIGNIFICANT IMPLICATIONS**

##### **4.1 Resources and Performance** *(this heading includes Finance, Property and Facilities Management, Information and Communication Technology (ICT) Human Resources, Performance, Risk and Best Practice and where significant, they are set out below)*

There are no significant implications for any of the headings within this category

##### **4.2 Statutory Requirements and Partnership Working**

The following bullet points set out details of significant implications identified by officers.

This response has been jointly formulated by the Cambridgeshire Rail Group, comprising officers from the following organisations.

- Cambridgeshire County Council
- Peterborough City Council
- Cambridge City Council
- East Cambridgeshire District Council
- Fenland District Council
- Huntingdonshire District Council
- South Cambridgeshire District Council
- Cambridgeshire Horizons

The Rail Group has helped to ensure a comprehensive response to this consultation for Cambridgeshire. The response should lead the way for further joint working on rail issues in the future.

##### **4.3 Climate Change** *(Includes any climate change, greenhouse gas emissions and environment implications and where significant, they are set out below)*

The following bullet points set out details of significant implications identified by officers.

- The renewals of the Great Anglia and InterCity franchises are likely to contribute to increased travel by rail and therefore fewer trips by private car. This will help to reduce carbon emissions in the area.

##### **4.4 Access and Inclusion** *(includes inclusion, crime and disorder, the voluntary Sector, equality and diversity and transport implication and where significant, they are set out below)*

The following bullet points set out details of significant implications identified by officers.

- These proposals will have a positive impact on the transport network by providing additional rail services in Cambridgeshire. However, the Cambridgeshire Local Authorities wish to see a greater focus on access to railway stations by sustainable modes such as walking, cycling and bus.

4.5 **Engagement and Consultation** *(includes community engagement and public consultation and where significant, they are set out below)*

There are no significant implications for any of the headings within this category

Source Documents	Location
Greater Anglia franchise consultation	Greater Anglia <a href="http://www.dft.gov.uk/consultations/open/2010-07/">http://www.dft.gov.uk/consultations/open/2010-07/</a>
InterCity East Coast franchise consultation	InterCity East Coast <a href="http://www.dft.gov.uk/consultations/open/2010-08/">http://www.dft.gov.uk/consultations/open/2010-08/</a>