

Decision Maker: Environment PDS Committee

Date: 23rd September 2014

Decision Type: Non-Urgent Non-Executive Non-Key

Title: PUBLIC TRANSPORT LIAISON MEETING

Contact Officer: Steven Heeley, Transport Planning Manager, Transport & Highways.
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Chief Officer: Nigel Davies, Executive Director of Environment & Community Services

Ward: All Wards

1. Reason for report

- 1.1. This report sets out proposals to trial giving members of the public access to one of the Public Transport Liaison Meetings held each year.
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2. RECOMMENDATION

That the Environment PDS Committee agrees:

- 2.1. To the organisation of an informal meeting of the members of the Public Transport Liaison Meeting, to trial opening the Meeting to Bromley residents.

Corporate Policy

1. Policy Status: Existing Policy
 2. BBB Priority: Quality Environment Vibrant, Thriving Town Centres
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Financial

1. Cost of proposal: No Cost.
 2. Ongoing costs: Not Applicable.
 3. Budget head/performance centre: Transport Strategy
 4. Total current budget for this head: £147,010
 5. Source of funding: Revenue controllable budget for 2014/15
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Staff

1. Number of staff (current and additional):
 2. If from existing staff resources, number of staff hours:
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Legal

1. Legal Requirement: Non-Statutory - Government Guidance.
 2. Call-in: Not Applicable.
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Customer Impact

1. Estimated number of users/beneficiaries (current and projected): All public transport users.
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Ward Councillor Views

1. Have Ward Councillors been asked for comments? Not Applicable.
2. Summary of Ward Councillors comments: Not Applicable.

3. COMMENTARY

- 3.1. The Public Transport Liaison Meeting (formerly known as the Public Transport Forum) was established in 2007 as a formal working group of the Environment PDS Committee. The Meeting is open to all Members of the Council to attend and speak at the discretion of the Chairman. Public transport operators and the Metropolitan Police are also invited in order to respond to issues raised by Members, and also to provide updates on their services.
- 3.2. The Meeting's Terms of Reference (ToR) attached as an Appendix, set out the main objectives as follows:
 - To facilitate the discussion of public transport issues relating to Bromley, involving Council Members, officers, and representatives from all sectors of the public transport industry, Transport for London and the Metropolitan Police.
 - To deal in the main with strategic matters and address detailed operational matters only when there are significant issues for discussion.
 - To advise the Policy Development and Scrutiny Committee and the Portfolio Holder for Environment on public transport matters.
- 3.3. Councillor William Huntington-Thresher, current Chairman of the Environment PDS Committee, has been Chairman of the Public Transport Liaison Meeting since 2008.
- 3.4. The ToR set out that the Meeting, which usually meets twice a year, is intended for discussion of strategic public transport matters. Routine operational issues should, in the first instance, be referred directly to officers for discussion at their meetings with operators.
- 3.5. The format of more recent meetings has included a topical presentation on a transport matter followed by agenda items raised in advance by Members. These have included:
 - TfL presentation on London Rail Development
 - Biggin Hill Airport
 - Workplace Travel Plans
 - TfL bus times countdown system
 - Rebuild of London Bridge station
- 3.6. Typical agenda items have included suggested bus route revisions and associated consultations, anti-social behaviour, increased bus capacity, school services, driver facilities, and bus service diversions (for example when Chislehurst bridge was closed). Other items have included changes to rail services/timetables and improvements to station facilities.
- 3.7. The Chairman has asked the Committee to consider organising an informal meeting of the members of the Public Transport Liaison Meeting, to trial opening the Meeting to Bromley residents. If the trial is a success, the Committee could then consider amending the Meeting's formal ToR to open one of the two meetings a year for members of the public to attend. The other meeting would continue to be a closed meeting at which Members would, as previously, discuss strategic matters directly with the public transport providers.

4. POLICY IMPLICATIONS

- 4.1. The 2014-17 Environment Portfolio Plan includes a number of aims in support of the planned outcome of 'Improving Transport'. The Public Transport Liaison Meeting directly contributes to the aims of promoting public transport to improve access to services, improve journey times and promoting safe, secure travel.

5. LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

5.1. It is proposed to call an informal meeting of the members of the Public Transport Liaison Meeting to trial public access. If the trial is a success an amendment to the Meeting's Terms of Reference could then be considered.

Non-Applicable Sections:	FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS, PERSONNEL IMPLICATIONS.
Background Documents: (Access via Contact Officer)	None.