

Minutes of the meeting of the
Spelthorne LOCAL COMMITTEE
held at 6.30 pm on 21 January 2013
at Council Offices, Knowle Green, Staines-upon-Thames. TW18 1XA.

Surrey County Council Members:

- * Mr Richard Walsh (Chairman)
- * Mrs Carol Coleman (Vice-Chairman)
- * Mrs Denise Saliagopoulos
- Mrs Caroline Nichols
- * Mrs Denise Turner-Stewart
- * Mr Victor Agarwal
- * Mr Ian Beardsmore

Borough / District Members:

- * Borough Councillor C Davis
- Borough Councillor G Forsbrey
- * Borough Councillor I Napper
- * Borough Councillor Jean Pinkerton
- * Borough Councillor Joanne Sexton
- * Borough Councillor Richard Smith-Ainsley
- * Borough Councillor Robert Watts

1 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE AND SUBSTITUTIONS [Item 1]

Apologies for absence were received from Mrs Caroline Nichols.

2 MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING [Item 2]

The minutes of the meeting held on 8th October 2012 were approved as an accurate record and signed by the Chairman.

There were points to note:

- i) Mrs Coleman said that regarding the item on Goods Vehicle Operators Licences (74/12), progress had been made in Ashford regarding HGVs turning right from the industrial estate on Challenge Road through the residential housing roads to reach Feltham Road. SCC has obtained agreement from the operators that this will no longer happen. Also see 4/13 in these minutes.
- ii) Mr Walsh wished it noted that Cllr Watts has confirmed that Spelthorne Borough Council's representative on the Surrey Flood Risk Partnership Board (75/12) will be Sandy Muirhead, Head of Sustainability and Leisure.

MINUTES ANNEXE 2 Letters

3 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST AGENDA ITEM ONLY [Item 3]

There were no declarations of interest.

4 CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS [Item 4]

The Chairman updated the Local Committee on progress regarding him writing on behalf of the Local Committee to the local MP, to ask him to make representation to give local authorities increased powers. Members had expressed concerns at the 8th October Local Committee in Spelthorne about how little power the local authority has to restrict the movement and parking of HGVs.

See copies of the correspondence, attached to these minutes at Item 2 Annexe 2.

5 PETITIONS [Item 5]

There was one petition received from Mr Atma Singh Dhaliwal who presented a petition (a total of 163 signatures submitted online) which reads:

"We the undersigned PETITION Surrey County Council to install a Pedestrian or Zebra Crossing on Town Lane (opposite Town Farm Way)."

The Committee resolved to provide an answer to the petition at the next Local Committee on 18th March 2013.

6 MEMBERS' QUESTION TIME AGENDA ITEM ONLY [Item 6]

Three Member questions were received: one from Mr Richard Walsh and two from Mr Victor Agarwal. The questions and responses are set out in Items 6 & 7 Annexe 1 to these minutes.

MINUTES 21 Jan 2013 ANNEXE 1 - ITEM 6 & ITEM 7 WRITTEN QUESTIONS

7 PUBLIC QUESTION TIME AGENDA ITEM ONLY [Item 7]

Four Public questions were received. The questions and answers are set out in Annexe 1 to these minutes.

8 ANNUAL REVIEW OF ON-STREET PARKING IN SPELTHORNE [Item 8]

The Chairman welcomed Jack Roberts (SCC) who presented the report. Mrs Denise Saliagopoulos, Chairman of the Spelthorne Local Committee Parking Task Group, thanked Jack and members of the parking team for their work. SCC Divisional members present commented on the proposals for their own division:

Staines. Mrs Denise Saliagopoulos expressed concern regarding the cost of parking permits in the Moormede Estate and restricting visitor spaces. Jack explained that visitor permit numbers are restricted so

that they remain with residents and not sold on to commuters. There is a maximum of 120 visitor permits that can be issued each year.

Staines South and Ashford West. Mrs Denise Turner-Stewart confirmed that in consultation with residents and ward councillors, a request has been made for this item to be withdrawn (reference 0126). The request to withdraw came about due to concern regarding parking issues at the surgery. Committee members were happy for 'advisory' white line restrictions near the surgery to be painted instead. Note: the junction with Station Crescent is with Stanwell Road, not Church Road.

Ashford. Mrs Carol Coleman acknowledged that many residents have commented on the proposals in the report, especially in Village Way. She proposed that the single line placement should be amended. In answer to a query, Jack confirmed that parking on double and single yellow lines is allowed when dropping off and picking up children from school, but stopping on zigzag lines is not allowed for this purpose. Parking enforcement is carried out by Spelthorne Borough Council.

At this point Standing Orders were suspended and the Chairman asked the public in the public gallery if they were satisfied with the amended proposal. They replied yes, providing the situation can be reviewed in one year. Standing Orders were then resumed.

Laleham and Shepperton. Mr Richard Walsh requested that the proposal for Ford Close junction with Watersplash Road (0167) be withdrawn. He has evidence that the majority of the residents in the road are not in favour.

Stanwell and Stanwell Moor. Mr Victor Agarwal has not received any residents' comments to date. He requested that the parking team advertise the proposals fully.

There was discussion regarding other roads that could be considered and queried how the list was drawn up. Jack confirmed that that it was from previous requests received by the parking team. Sandy Muirhead was thanked for the close working between SCC and Spelthorne Borough Council via the Parking Task Group.

The Local Committee (Spelthorne) agreed:

- (i) That the proposed amendments to on-street parking restrictions in Spelthorne as described in the report and shown in detail on drawings presented at the committee meeting as Annexe A are agreed, **subject to the following changes:**

- the withdrawal of the 'Station Crescent / Church Road' named proposed in the report, drawing number 0126, to

be replaced by access protection white line advisory marking;

- that the proposal for Village Way in the report, drawing 0127, is amended to extend the single yellow line on the south side of the road to the boundary of house numbers 85/87 (and to exclude naming house numbers 39/41 in the report), and that this is revisited in a period of 12 months;

- that the Ford Close proposal is withdrawn, drawing 0167.

- (ii) The Local Committee allocates funding as detailed in paragraph 6.1 of the report to proceed with the introduction of the parking amendments.
- (iii) That the intention of the County Council to make an Order under the relevant parts of the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984 to impose the waiting and on street parking restrictions in Spelthorne as shown on the drawings in Annexe A be advertised and that if no objections be maintained, the Orders be made.

9 HIGHWAYS UPDATE [Item 9]

The Chairman welcomed Nick Healey, Area Team Manager (Highways) for NE Surrey, who presented the report. Nick updated the Committee on various points, including the Fordbridge roundabout crossing, stating that work is due to start this week. Nick confirmed that works to Grosvenor Road will now be funded from central funds, by 31st March 2013.

The Local Committee (Spelthorne) agreed:

- (i) to re-assign the Parking allocation to enhance the general maintenance programme funded under the Local Issues allocation (paragraph 2.3 refers);
- (ii) that no extensions to the Borough-wide Freight Study should be commissioned (paragraph 2.8 refers);
- (iii) new 7.5t weight restrictions in B377 Feltham Road and C233 Chertsey Road, subject to the Divisional Member providing funding from next Financial Year's Divisional Allocation (paragraphs 2.10 to 2.18 refer);
- (iv) the budget allocations for next Financial Year (2013-14) detailed in Table 4 (paragraph 2.27 refers).

10 BID TO THE DEPARTMENT FOR TRANSPORT FOR CYCLE SAFETY SCHEMES [Item 10]

The Chairman welcomed Duncan Knox and David Sharpington (SCC), who introduced the report. The Officers stated that they had to meet Department for Transport criteria when developing the bid. Duncan would like to come back to the Committee later in the year, to run a cycling workshop to identify any future schemes, should further funding become available at a later date.

The Local Committee (Spelthorne) agreed:

- (i) that the Walton Bridge Links, off-road segregated cycle paths scheme is approved, subject to the outcome of the funding bid.
- (ii) that the Kingston Road, Staines-upon-Thames, off-road segregated cycle path schemes is approved, subject to the outcome of the funding bid.

11 SURREY FAMILY SUPPORT PROGRAMME [Item 12]

Troubled Families Programme

The Chairman welcomed Liz Borthwick, Assistant Chief Executive from Spelthorne Borough Council, who introduced the report as an information item. The Surrey Family Support Programme is the name given locally to implement the Government's Troubled Families Programme. Spelthorne Borough Council is to partner with Elmbridge Borough Council for the following reasons:

- Similar number of families
- Both are part of the choice based lettings organisation
- More cost effective
- More efficient for other agencies such as health, voluntary sector.

Each Council will receive approximately £250,000 each from SCC's Troubled Families government funding. There will be two new posts to cover both Spelthorne and Elmbridge: one team manager and one co-ordinator.

The Local Committee (Spelthorne) agreed:

- (i) The implementation of the Surrey Family Support Programme in Spelthorne.

12 YOUTH SMALL GRANTS [Item 11]

The Chairman welcomed Leigh Middleton (SCC), who introduced the report.

Cllr Isobel Napper declared an interest, as she is on the Board of VAIS, one of the bidders. Cllr Napper was invited to stay for this item, as only SCC members can vote.

It was suggested that those who do not receive funding should apply to their SCC councillor for funding from SCC councillor member allocation funding.

Mrs Coleman proposed alternative amounts to be awarded. Mr Walsh seconded. A vote was taken by SCC members: 2 for, 4 against. Therefore it was not carried.

The Local Committee (Spelthorne) agreed:

- (i) To approve the Officer recommendations in paragraph 2.2 of the report on the award of funding – that all remaining funding is allocated.
- (ii) That the remaining funding (£6,710*) should be allocated to the received bids as shown in Item 11 Annex B:
 - to award £2,000 to the Phoenix project
 - to award £1,000 to Fair Tunes for 'Be Inspired Radio'
 - to award £1,960 to VAIS for the YES! Project
 - to award £500 to the 8th Ashford Scout Group for modification of existing minibus
 - to award £500 to Studio ADHD Centre for 'Fishing Project'
 - to award £500 to Dramatize Theatre Company for a projector
 - to award £750 to Woodcraft Folk for environmental education and adventure weekend activities.

**Note: an additional £500 has been allocated to Spelthorne and is included in the agreed awards above.*

The Local Committee (Spelthorne) agreed:

- (i) to approve the Officer recommendations in paragraph 2.2 of the report on the award of funding.

13 LOCAL COMMITTEE FUNDING [Item 13]

James Painter (SCC) introduced the report.

The Local Committee (Spelthorne) agreed:

- (i) the items presented for funding from the Local Committee's 2012/13 revenue funding as set out in section 2 of the report and summarised below:

PROJECT	MEMBER	AMOUNT
Shelter for the Storm St Nicholas Church	Richard Walsh	£1400
Community space for Staines Library	Denise Saliagopoulos	£1920.88
Replacement minibus for Spelthorne Mental Health Association*	Victor Agarwal Ian Beardsmore	£2600 £2000

- (ii) the items presented for funding from the Local Committee's 2012/13 capital funding as set out in section 2 of the report and summarised below:

PROJECT	MEMBER	AMOUNT
Shelter for the Storm St Nicholas Church	Richard Walsh	£1600
Replacement minibus for Spelthorne Mental Health Association	Victor Agarwal Denise Saliagopoulos	£7400 £5000

*** For the Replacement minibus for Spelthorne Mental Health Association Application it was agreed that approved funds could be utilised against the cost of purchasing the replacement minibus and the cost of required adaptations.**

- (iii) to note the expenditure previously approved by the Community Partnerships Manager and the Community Partnerships Team Leader under delegated authority, as set out in section 3.
- (iv) to note any returned funding and/or adjustments, as set out within the report and also in the financial position statement at Appendix 1.

14 FORWARD PROGRAMME [Item 14]

The Local Committee (Spelthorne) agreed:

- a) the Local Committee in Spelthorne Forward Programme 2012/13 as outlined in Item 14 Annexe 1.

15 DATE OF NEXT MEETING: [Item 15]

To be held on **Monday 18th March 2013 at 7pm** in the Council Chamber, Spelthorne Council Offices, Knowle Green, Staines TW18 1XB.
(6.30pm – 7pm: Informal Public Question Time.)

Meeting ended at: 9.58 pm

Chairman



Department
for Transport

Kwasi Kwarteng MP
House of Commons
London
SW1A 0AA

From the Parliamentary
Under Secretary of State
Stephen Hammond MP

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Our Ref: MC/59220

20 NOV 2012

Dear Kwasi

Thank you for your letter of the 30 October to Norman Baker MP enclosing correspondence from Cty Cllr Richard Walsh, Chairman of the Spelthorne Local Committee within Surrey County Council, on the matter of heavy goods vehicles (HGVs). I am replying as Minister responsible for the strategic roads network.

In response to the first point raised concerning the volume and speed of HGVs travelling through Spelthorne, congestion and traffic problems differ greatly across the country. The responsibility for traffic management on local roads rests with the relevant local highway authority as they are best placed to consider how local needs can be effectively met. It is entirely a matter for individual authorities to decide on the nature and scope of their policies and to balance the needs of residents, emergency services, local business and those who work in and visit the areas.

The highway authorities have powers under Sections 1 & 2 of the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984, to make Traffic Regulation Orders (TROs) designed to regulate, restrict or prohibit the use of a road or any part of the width of a road by vehicular traffic or pedestrians for a wide range of safety and environmental reasons. These powers can be used to exclude specific types of vehicles either generally or at specified times from roads for which they are considered to be unsuitable - but due account must be given to the availability of alternative routes.

In response to the second point raised by Cty Cllr Walsh concerning increasing the power for the County Council to veto operator licensing applications, restrictions can often best be imposed on HGV operating centres as part of the local authority planning processes.

Traffic Commissioners are appointed by the Department as independent office holders to determine operator licensing applications on a case by case basis. I have passed both your and Cty Cllr Walsh's letters on to the Senior Traffic Commissioner who will provide a response on the position of local authorities with regard to operator licensing.

Yours ever

STEPHEN HAMMOND

From: Mrs Beverley Bell LLB (Hons) Solicitor, FCILT, FRSA, FIRTE
Senior Traffic Commissioner



**OFFICE OF THE SENIOR TRAFFIC
COMMISSIONER**

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Golborne,
Warrington
WA3 2SH

Kwasi Kwarteng MP
House of Commons
London
SW1A 0AA

Tel: 01942 295021
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BB/CB

16th November 2012

Dear Mr Kwarteng

Re: Objections to applications for road transport operators' licences

I refer to your letter to Norman Baker MP, sent on behalf of your constituent, Cty Cllr Richard Walsh, and concerning the role of local authorities in opposing applications for operators' licences. Mr Baker has forwarded me a copy of your correspondence in my capacity as Statutory Senior Traffic Commissioner.

Given that the matters raised refer to issues which fall within the South Eastern & Metropolitan Traffic Area, I have passed the correspondence to the traffic commissioner for that area, Nicholas Denton, in order for him to issue a response.

Yours sincerely

Beverley Bell

Beverley Bell
Senior Traffic Commissioner

Cc by email: Mr Denton – traffic commissioner



HOUSE OF COMMONS

LONDON SW1A 0AA

26th November 2012

Cty Cllr Richard Walsh
23 Old Forge Crescent
Shepperton
Middlesex
TW17 9BT

Dear Richard

Further to my letter to you of 19th November about control over the movement of HGV vehicles, I have now received the enclosed letter from Transport Minister Stephen Hammond confirming that, as we know, my letter on behalf of the Spelthorne Local Committee has been passed to the Senior Traffic Commissioner.

As you will see the Minister confirms that the local highway authority is already responsible for traffic management on local roads, and does have the power to exclude specific types of vehicle either generally or at specific times, as long as consideration is given to alternative routes.

I will of course write to you when I have some further news ~~from~~ the Senior Traffic Commissioner.

With best wishes

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'Kwasi Kwarteng'.



HOUSE OF COMMONS

LONDON SW1A 0AA

19th November 2012

Cty Cllr Richard Walsh
23 Old Forge Crescent
Shepperton
Middlesex
TW17 9BT

Dear Richard

In my letter to you of 30th October I promised to write to Ministers at the Department of Transport about the meeting of the Spelthorne Local Committee, which was held on 8th October, asking that Ministers consider allowing local authorities to exercise stronger controls on the movement of HGV vehicles.

I have today received the enclosed letter from the Office of the Senior Traffic Commissioner. As you will see, my letter on your behalf to Transport Minister Norman Baker has been forwarded to the Senior Traffic Commissioner, who has passed our correspondence to the traffic commissioner for the South Eastern & Metropolitan Traffic Area. He will respond to us directly.

I will of course write to you when I receive a further reply. In the meantime, I would be very grateful for your response to my letter to you of 23rd October making enquiries about the Spelthorne Local Committee so that I can reply to Ms Errington. I enclose a copy of my original letter for ease of reference.

With best wishes

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'Kwasi Kwarteng'.



HOUSE OF COMMONS

LONDON SW1A 0AA

30th October 2012

Cty Cllr Richard Walsh
23 Old Forge Crescent
Shepperton
Middlesex
TW17 9BT

Dear Richard

Thank you for your letter dated 26th October about the meeting of the Spelthorne Local Committee which was held on Monday 8th October.

I was interested to read that at that meeting you discussed residents concerns about the volume and speed of HGVs as they travel through the Borough. As I am sure you can imagine this is an issue which has been raised directly with me by constituents on a number of occasions.

As you ask, I have today written to Ministers at the Department of Transport informing them of the discussions that you had at the Spelthorne Local Committee meeting and asking that consideration be given to allowing local authorities to exercise stronger controls on the movement of HGVs. I have also raised the point that you make about the issuing of 'O' licences in high residential areas.

I will of course write to you again as soon as I receive a response from the Minister.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'Kwasi Kwarteng'.

Kwasi Kwarteng - Working For Spelthorne
kwasi.kwarteng.mp@parliament.uk

23 Old Forge Crescent
Shepperton
TW17 9BT
25th October 2012

Mr Kwasi Kwarteng
House of Commons,
London
SW1A 0AA

Dear Mr Kwarteng

At the Spelthorne Local Committee meeting held on Monday 8th October 2012, a report entitled the Annual Review of Monitoring of Applications for Goods Vehicle Operators Licences was presented. This report generated a discussion of residents' concerns about the volume and speed of HGVs now travelling through the borough.

As Chairman of the Local Committee, Members asked that I write to you, to make representation to Ministers and the Government to allow Local Authorities, both County and Borough, to be able to exercise stronger controls on the movement of HGVs. In addition Local Committee Members feel that the County Council input into the issuing of 'O' licences is only advisory and they would like the County Council to be able to seek a veto on the issuing of 'O' licences in high residential areas.

We look forward to receiving your response.

Yours sincerely

Richard Walsh
SCC Local Committee (Spelthorne) Chairman

23 Old Forge Crescent
Shepperton
TW17 9BT
17th October 2012

Mr Rikki Hill
Parking Project Team Leader
Morrow Complex
Morrow Lane
Guildford

Dear Rikki

At the Spelthorne Local Committee meeting held on Monday 8th October 2012, there was a discussion regarding the fact that a report reviewing Parking Restrictions had not been brought to the meeting, as had been expected.

As Chairman of the Local Committee, members asked that I write to you, to express how disappointed they were at the situation.

The Local Committee would also like to investigate whether there could be an opportunity to develop a process whereby more urgent requests for parking restrictions, identified by Members and agreed to by Highways Officers could be expedited more quickly.

We look forward to receiving your response.

Yours sincerely

Richard Walsh
SCC Local Committee (Spelthorne) Chairman

To sum up, it is less efficient and more expensive to prioritise parking restrictions in a piecemeal way and our resources are more suited to carrying out regular borough wide parking reviews. I can give you my reassurance that, going forward, we are committed to this process in Spelthorne and elsewhere.

Yours sincerely

David Curl
Parking Team Manager

Tel: 0300 200 1003
Email: parking@surreycc.gov.uk
Web page: www.surreycc.gov.uk/parking/spelthorne

Richard Walsh
Chairman
Spelthorne Local Committee

Parking Team
Surrey Highways
Rowan House
Merrow Lane
Guildford
GU4 7BQ

30 November 2012

Dear Richard

Parking Reviews in Spelthorne

Firstly, I am sorry that we were unable to bring our parking review report to the Spelthorne Local Committee as planned on the 8th October, and secondly for the short notice you were given about this decision.

Our resources have been stretched this year by a high work load (including contributing towards the Olympic preparations) but primarily due to one of our two parking engineers covering the west side of Surrey (includes Spelthorne) breaking his leg and requiring a knee replacement.

The parking team covers the whole of Surrey and we aim to carry out a parking review in each borough within an 18 month time frame. In Spelthorne the last review was implemented in March 2012, however parts of the new residents scheme on the Moormead Estate have only recently been implemented in order to co-ordinate the signing and lining with carriageway resurfacing work in the area.

In addition, at the March Local Committee we were asked to progress parking restrictions at two further locations in Burgess Way and Clarendon Road. Statutory consultation has now been carried out for both, however this drew on the teams resources, particularly Burgess Way, where discussions were held with other nearby users of the parking facilities in this area.

The borough wide parking reviews are intended to make best use of our limited resources and reduce legal and advertising costs. Separating out 'high priority' locations tends to slow the whole review process down, meaning other locations wait longer and the 18 month time table is extended.

In addition, the legal process of changing the Traffic Regulation Orders (TRO's) governing where all the restrictions should be becomes more complicated (and legally questionable) when carrying out simultaneous amendments. The correct process is to carry out sequential amendments rather than concurrent ones.

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SCC LOCAL COMMITTEE IN SPELTHORNE – 21st January 2013

AGENDA ITEM 6

MEMBER QUESTION TIME

1. Mr Richard Walsh will ask the following question:

"Please can SCC officers inform the Local Committee of the current situation regarding Brooklands College applying to be a University Technical College (UTC)."

Cass Hardy, SCC Commissioning Manager, Services for Young People, Children, Schools and Families, will give the following answer:

"Brooklands College has decided not to proceed with its application for a University Technical College (UTC). Kingston University, its partner on the expression of interest, has withdrawn to focus on internal matters and without a university partner the application is invalidated.

We are continuing with our plans to commission a feasibility study to explore the need for a UTC in Surrey and also look at whether there is a need for colleges to offer direct provision for 14-16 year-olds, following the announcement that colleges can recruit year 10 and 11 students from September 2013."

2. Mr Victor Agarwal will ask the following question:

"Please can Spelthorne Borough Council confirm its charges for collection and disposal of large domestic white goods from residents' homes and indicate how this compares with other councils, specifically those whose boundaries join Spelthorne, including Hounslow?"

Jackie Taylor, Head of Streetscene, Spelthorne Borough Council, will give the following answer:

"The amounts for collection and disposal of white goods from domestic homes are as follows:

Spelthorne:	£45 for up to 3 items (£32 concessionary) plus £5 per additional item
Surrey Heath:	£30 for 1 item £15 for additional items
Runnymede:	£34 for 1 item £37 2-4 items £51 for 5-7 items
Elmbridge:	£34 for 1 item £43 2-4 items £51 5-7 items
Guildford:	£14.75 for 1 item £21-50 for 3-5 items
Hounslow:	£6.50 per item –minimum charge of £32-50."

3. Mr Victor Agarwal will ask the following question:

“More than a year after Abellio Surrey took over the 441/555/557 bus routes amongst others, why is it the phone number at bus stops in Stanwell and at Heathrow continue to display the incorrect Abellio number of 01932 745230, making it impossible for Stanwell and Stanwell Moor residents to track the frequent cancellations and delays?”

Also given the number of times both residents have complained to me and I have personally experienced delays and cancellations, what are Abellio’s official figures for punctuality and cancellations on the 441/555/557 routes?

For the financial year 2011/2012 how much subsidy did Surrey County Council pay Abellio and what is the agreed figure for 2012/2013?

When is the contract due for renewal and is there a break clause if certain performance standards are not met?”

Paul Millin, SCC Group Manager, Travel and Transport will give the following answer:

“At those stops managed and maintained by Surrey County Council, the timetables for services 441, 555 and 557 show the current Abellio contact telephone number. However, most of the bus stops in the Stanwell/Heathrow area are owned and maintained by London Buses. It was identified that their timetables showed the correct Abellio telephone number for services 555 and 557, but not for service 441. This previously undetected error was to be rectified by them in autumn 2012.

Using data derived from the electronic Real Time Information/Tracking system, Abellio’s figures for the percentage of on-time departures from the termini are:

441: August 2012 91.2%, September 87.4%, October 79.2% (Abellio are already taking action to remedy the decline in the figure)

555: August 2012 94.9%, September 94.2%, October 92.0%

557: August 2012 94.7%, September 86.3% (latter figure depressed by 3 day road closure at Chertsey for burst water main), October 92.8%

In 2011/2012, the value of Surrey County Council contracts held by Abellio for all the services they ran was £1.91m. Note that service 441 is operated by Abellio on a commercial basis, without a contract or subsidy from the County Council.

For 2012/2013 it is projected to be £1.98m (additional contracts held compared to previous year + inflationary uplifts). The individual amount for services 555 and 557 is projected at £738,000; this is the same as 2011/2012 with an annual inflationary uplift applied.

Contracts are generally awarded to cover individual services, rather than being all-encompassing. Those with Abellio are scheduled to expire on various dates, including 31 August 2015 for the majority of their services in Elmbridge, Runnymede and Spelthorne, such as 555 and 557. The standard Bus Contract Conditions allow for the imposition of financial penalties if whole or part journeys are not operated without good reason and break clauses can apply if it is thought appropriate to exercise that option in extreme circumstances.”

AGENDA ITEM 7

WRITTEN PUBLIC QUESTION TIME

1. Mr John Carruthers will ask the following question:

“There have recently been at least two meetings between SCC headed by its Leader and the Federation of Small Businesses (FSB), about encouraging local Surrey businesses to go for SCC issued work. This obviously helps Surrey employment and also recycles the money within Surrey.

As a member of FSB I obviously know this, but what about the rest of the Community and our local businesses? What action are you taking to ensure that at least Spelthorne area receives maximum benefit from this initiative? The sooner the better.”

Andrew Forzani, SCC Head of Procurement & Commissioning will give the following answer:

“There are a number of other initiatives beyond the work SCC Procurement is doing with the FSB, to target the wider business Community.

Central to this is the development of a series of networks under the 'Supply2Surrey' banner, whose key objective is to increase the amount of spend across Surrey with local suppliers.

The first network will focus on the Construction Industry ('BuildSurrey'). As will be the case with other future networks, this is not limited to the County but importantly includes representatives from the Districts and Boroughs, amongst other organisations. Terry Collier, Assistant Chief Executive at Spelthorne, sits on the Steering Committee. Further, Procurement representatives from each District and Borough have been provided communications to forward to their own local supply base around this initiative, including an invite to a large kick off event on February 7th.

To build awareness more generally, we are presenting at a number of forums outside of the FSB. These have included breakfast briefings to the Caterham Branch of Business Network International and later this month, an evening

presentation as part of Waverley's annual Business Consultation. We will look to expand our presence at such events during the course of 2013 and would be very keen to participate in any held within Spelthorne.”

2. Mr Andrew McLuskey will ask the following question:

“Following on from my request at the last meeting of this committee for officers to produce a report on Jimmy Savile and Duncroft - and in the light of the recently published Met/NSPCC report - can I reiterate my suggestion that officers produce as soon as possible a full report on the lessons to be learnt from this tragic episode?”

Julian Gordon-Walker, SCC Head of Safeguarding, will give the following answer:

“This is a national enquiry and there are lessons to be learnt for all local authorities. The County Council are working closely with all our partners to make sure that these are fully embedded throughout Surrey.”

3. Ms Nilufar Nathoo will ask the following question:

“Why don't Spelthorne residents receive a 'Freedom Pass' like London residents who live next to us? This is for free public transport, ie train, tube, bus.”

David Ligertwood, SCC Transport Projects Team Manager, will give the following answer:

“Shire authorities like Surrey County Council, Kent County Council and others are bound by different primary legislation than London is, and are funded in a different way. In terms of public transport and specifically bus services, the bus market outside London is deregulated. This means that commercial bus operators can run bus services where they feel there is a commercial opportunity to make money, and set the fares as they see appropriate. Where bus operators are unable to provide a commercial bus service because they believe there is not sufficient demand to make a profit, but there is a clear need, Surrey County Council as Transport Authority for the area, is required to fund such a service. During 2012/13 Surrey County Council will spend over £8 million supporting local bus services.

In London the bus market is regulated. Essentially this means that the Mayor, through Transport for London, specifies the bus services including hours of operation, service frequency, fares etc. Transport for London control the whole network and are able to offer schemes such as the Oyster card and the various permutations including the 60 plus. For 2012/13 London will spend some £1.8 billion on bus service contracts. Where the TfL bus services cross the border into Surrey we do of course recognise the many benefits some of our residents can enjoy, such as with the 403. Generally, TfL is able to provide more frequent buses, longer operating hours and cheaper fares, which is what you might expect from a world city such as London. There are

many residents in Surrey who are slightly envious of those who live on a TfL bus route.

Surrey, as Transport Authority, is also responsible for the English National Concessionary Travel Scheme (ENCTS) which I am sure that you are aware provides free travel after 9.30am for those people who are over 60 and disabled people. The ENCTS pass also allows free travel on TfL bus services. During 2012/13 Surrey is expects to spend £7.5 million funding this scheme. As an organisation we need to look carefully at how we spend our funds to ensure that our residents benefit across the county in a fair and equal manner. Given the financial pressures facing all local authorities, we have to take a firm line with any costs which are over and above the statutory requirements.”

4. Mr John Seaman will ask the following question:

“The Environmental Permit granted by the Environment Agency for the proposed Eco Park at Charlton Lane, Shepperton allows 350000 tonnes of waste to be accepted onsite each year. How many lorry movements would this generate and will (or have) these be included in the Spelthorne Freight Study?”

Richard Parkinson, SCC Waste Group Manager, will give the following answer:

“There are approximately 320 HGV movements each weekday associated with the current waste transfer operation at Charlton Lane. These will reduce to between 179 and 196 movements each weekday once the Eco Park is constructed. This is a result of a reduction in the quantities of waste being accepted at the site and reductions in volumes due to waste being processed at the site. The capacity of the site is limited by both the planning consent and the fixed throughput of the gasifier and anaerobic digester to 143,750 tonne per annum.

Whilst the Environmental Permit may permit up to 350,000 tonnes of waste per annum, the planning consent and physical capacity of the site mean that the maximum capacity of the Eco Park will always be limited to 143,750 tonnes per annum with the associated traffic movements as set out above.”

Nick Healey, Area Highways Manager (NE) will give the following answer regarding the Freight Study:

“The Freight Study included a review of GIS information relating to existing land uses, and local plan information relating to potential future land uses. As such the Charlton Lane site was highlighted as a waste site, but the study did not look at the detail of any future proposal. However the data gathered could be used as base data in the context of a Transport Assessment to predict the HGV traffic that could be expected on different routes once the proposed Eco Park is operational. There are no plans to undertake this work in the context of the Freight Study.”

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