

Local Transport Review - Local Committee update



HAVE YOUR SAY ON LOCAL TRANSPORT



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What's being reviewed and why?

- We are reviewing the County Council's major spending in local transport
- The review aims to integrate services, find efficiencies, and make savings via three streams:
 1. Local Bus
 2. Concessionary Fares
 3. Community Transport
- Enormous pressures on SCC funding
- Operators costs rising faster than inflation
- Buses are becoming less efficient due to congestion
- MTFP requirement to reduce Local Transport costs



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Background to Local Transport

29.2 million bus journeys pa in Surrey

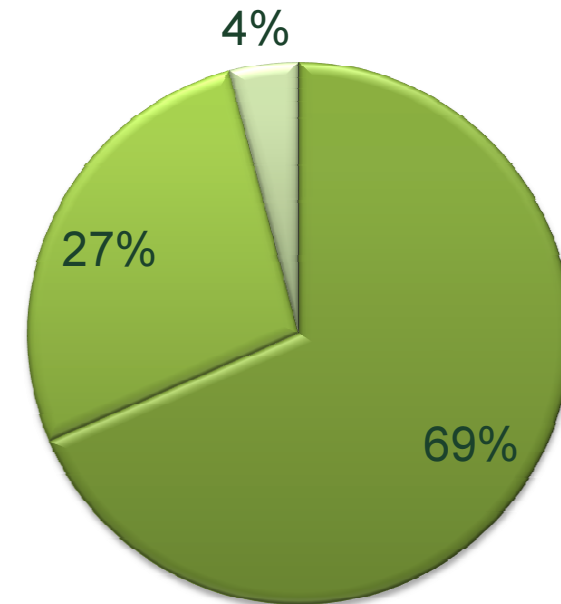
- 20m by adults
- 8m by concessions
- 1.2m by children

200 bus services run by 22 different operators:

- Some are run commercially and not funded by SCC
- Some receive funding from SCC to ensure they can continue
- Over half of all passenger journeys in Surrey are on services that receive funding

Journeys by bus in Surrey

■ Adult ■ Concession ■ Child



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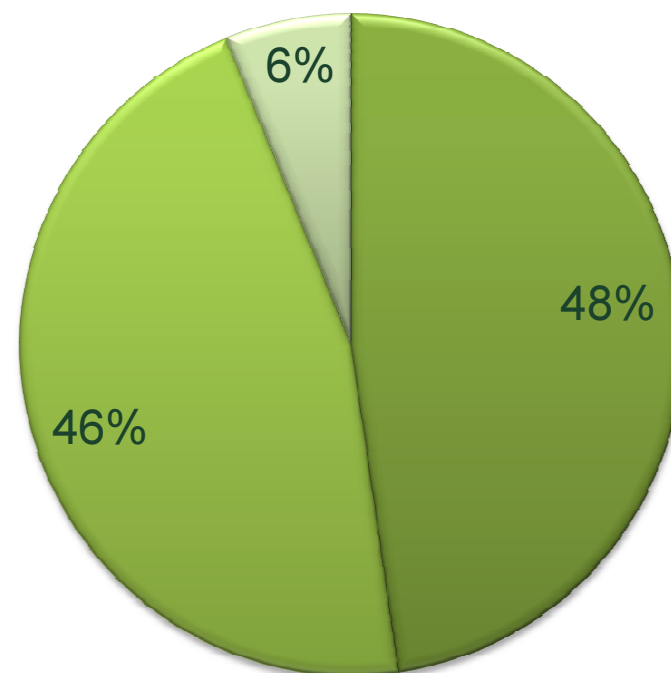
Current spend on Local Transport

In 2014/15 we are investing:

- £8.949m bus route support
- £8.676m concessionary fares reimbursement
- £1.125m BSOG

Types of funding support

■ Support ■ Concess fares ■ BSOG



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Savings Options: Local Bus

Proposal:	In detail we would:
Renegotiate bus contracts	Renegotiate existing payments, inflation uplift, and length of contracts
Reduce local bus support	Review all routes and services, focus support on economic growth areas
Use developer contributions	Make wider use of developer contributions (eg S106 funds) to support bus service improvements
Market research	Joint marketing study with Surrey University to increase patronage and profitability
Community alternative	Work with 2 or 3 Parish Councils to develop a community-based alternative to rural buses

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ITEM 2

Savings Options: Concessionary Fares and Community Transport

Proposal:	In detail we would:
Concessionary Fares reimbursement	Review how we reimburse bus operators to ensure it offers best value
Concessionary Fare benefits	Review the value of the local 'extra' concessions: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Free disabled travel before 9.30 am or after 11.00 pm (Monday to Friday) - Free 'companion' passes
Commercialise Community Transport	Continue current work with the CT sector to foster growth and replace grant funding with contracts



Cabinet approval

Cabinet members authorised the following recommendations:

1. Carry out wide ranging consultation on proposed approach to seeking savings in Local Transport with partners, stakeholders, and the wider public during the period October 2014 to January 2015
2. At a cabinet meeting in Spring 2015, consider a report incorporating an equality impact assessment and costed proposals for change, taking into account the views expressed during the consultation



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Public consultation launch

The consultation went live online on 8 October. This included:

- Web page and online survey at www.surreycc.gov.uk/transportreview
- Social Media advertising campaign via Facebook and Twitter

Posters and a hard copy of the survey:

- Directly to equality groups
- SCC offices, D&B offices, parish councils, resident associations
- Libraries, community centres, village halls, GP's, Sixth form colleges, citizen advice bureaux
- Bus stations, on buses and at our busiest bus stops

And we developed and are using:

- An easy read survey
- A youth focused survey



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Other forms of communication

A variety of other communication mediums are being used with the main focus online. However there is a series of stakeholder events including:

- All 11 Local Committees and a Local Committee Chairman's meeting
- Disability group meetings (DANS, Empowerment Boards, Community Transport Groups)
- 2 Thematic forums (one for disabled/older people and the other for businesses/employment)
- Bus 'surgery' with Bus users UK and a NW Bus user group meeting
- Parish & Town councils (SSALC, Parish group meetings, work stream developing a rural transport alternative)



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Approach to any service compromises

Bus services in Surrey have been divided into six categories for the Local Transport Review:

1. Commercial services not funded by SCC
2. Primarily commercially operated services
3. Primary supported services
4. Secondary supported services
5. Tertiary supported services
6. Supported school special services



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Next steps of the public consultation

- Stakeholder meetings and events will continue throughout the winter
- Consultation will run through to 14 January 2015
- Officers will carefully analyse responses to inform decision making on what proposals are developed
- A Member Reference Group has been setup specifically for the review and will be engaged with throughout
- Share proposals at the Local Committee Chairman's meeting on 3 March 2015.
- Cabinet will consider proposals at a meeting in Spring 2015.



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Have your say at
surreycc.gov.uk/transportreview
or call **0300 200 1003**
by 14 January 2015

