

CABINET MEMBER DECISIONS

November / December 2016

CABINET MEMBER FOR ENVIRONMENT AND PLANNING

- (I) **PETITION FOR THE 555 BUS TO BE RETAINED AND EXTENDED TO WHITELEY VILLAGE HERHAM & PETITION TO PROTEST AT THE PROPOSED BUS CUTS TO THE 514, 515 AND 458 & PETITION TO STOP ABELLIO SURREY CUTS AND SERVICE WITHDRAWALS**

Details of Decision:

That the responses, attached as Appendices 1, 2 and 3, be approved.

Reasons for Decision:

To response to the petitions.

(Decision taken by the Cabinet Member for Environment and Planning – 24 November 2016)

DEPUTY LEADER AND CABINET LEAD FOR ECONOMIC PROSPERITY

- (II) **PETITION TO MAKE A CONTRIBUTION FROM THE SUPERFAST SURREY REBATE TO THE COMMUNITY FUNDED SFBB SCHEME OF WEST AND EAST CHIDDINGFOLD**

Details of decision:

That the response, attached as Appendix 4, be approved.

Reasons for decision:

To respond to the petition.

(Decision taken by the Deputy Leader– 7 December 2016)

CABINET MEMBER FOR SCHOOLS, SKILLS AND EDUCATIONAL ACHIEVEMENT

- (III) **PROPOSED EXPANSION OF THE WARWICK SCHOOL**

Details of decision:

It was agreed that the Cabinet Member for Schools, Skills and Educational Achievement determined the Statutory Notice, thereby bringing into effect the formal expansion of The Warwick School by 1 Form of Entry (1 FE) for September 2017.

Reasons for decision:

There is an increasing demand for primary school places in the Reigate & Redhill area which reflects a rise in the primary-age population over recent years that is beginning to transition into the secondary sector. In order to meet this demand, SCC is overseeing an ongoing school expansion programme, designed to increase the capacity of the school estate. The proposal to expand the capacity of The Warwick School by 1FE is a core element of SCC's strategy to deliver additional places in this area. In line with this, SCC has undertaken the requisite statutory consultation to inform the decision making process and a note of support for the proposal was received as part of this. For these reasons, it is recommended that the Cabinet Member determines the Statutory Notice (appended to this report as Annex 1), so as to bring the expansion of the school formally into effect.

(Decision taken by the Cabinet Member for Schools, Skills and Educational Achievement – 8 December 2016)

CABINET MEMBER FOR BUSINESS SERVICES AND RESIDENT EXPERIENCE**(IV) AWARD OF CONTRACT FOR THE PROVISION OF RECRUITMENT****ADVERTISING SERVICES****Details of decision:**

In conjunction with the financial details and recommendations outlined in the Part 2 report, the Cabinet Member for Business Services and Resident Experience agreed to:

- i. approve the award of a call off contract to Havas People for the provision of recruitment advertising for two years from 9 January 2017 with an option to extend for two periods of one year; and
- ii. note that over the full term of the contract the anticipated value over four years, is £0.8m (approximately £0.2m per annum) and that this will not be exceeded without consultation with the relevant Cabinet Member.

Reasons for decision:

The Council has had contracts with its incumbent supplier for approximately eight years. Following its expiry in 2015 the Council joined the Brighton and Hove City Council framework for Recruitment Advertising, Marketing and Communications Services. The current contract is due to expire on 8 January 2017.

A working group consisting of representatives from Surrey County Council, East Sussex County Council, Brighton & Hove City Council, Surrey Police and Sussex Police considered a number of procurement options. It was decided to undertake a mini-competition through the Eastern Shires Purchasing Organisation Advertising Solutions framework agreement (reference: 3A).

The mini-competition was run by Brighton & Hove City Council, in compliance with the requirements of the Public Contracts Regulations 2015. The conduct of the procurement was compliant with the Council's Procurement Standing Orders.

A thorough evaluation process has identified awarding the contract to Havas People will provide the Council with the best value for money.

(Decision taken by the Cabinet Member for Business Services and Resident Experience – 13 December 2016)

Appendix 1**Cabinet Member for Environment and Planning Decision**

24 November 2016

Petition Responses**Petition 1**

“Please find enclosed a Petition signed by Whiteley Villagers and supporters who after much discussion have agreed that we in Whiteley Village are in need of a better bus service than the one we currently have, that being the 564 which with its very limited Timetable and regular mechanical breakdowns, is causing many villagers extreme difficulty in arranging and keeping Doctors and Hospital appointments, some having to cancel appointments on the day given due to the bus breaking down. For those of us who for various reasons do not have cars, the 564s limited timetable severely restricts our daily needs and the ability to be part of life outside the village which entails attending meetings, various events, and social occasions, especially evening and weekend ones, without the added expense of taxis many of us cannot afford, bearing in mind that Whiteley Village is a retirement residence predominately for those of limited financial means. Therefore we are asking that when Surrey County Council finds another company to take on the 555 service that Abellio are withdrawing from, that IT will then reschedule the 555 to start and terminate at Whiteley Village and for the 564 to start and terminate at Hersham Green. Whiteley Village has recently rebuilt and improved its own bus stop which stops outside the Village Store where drivers can buy refreshments, some hot, and use a toilet, and there is parking spaces for the changeover of drivers. There are also spaces in the village where the Drivers can park and eat a packed lunch. As I have said in the enclosed Notice for the Petition, the 555 is one of the best routes we have in this area of Surrey, and for those of us in Whiteley Village it will give us, at its bus stops between the Village and Walton, better connections to other destinations in particular to St Peters Hospital where many of our residents go for treatment both as In and Out – Patients and a direct service to Ashford Hospital, Heathrow Airport and the National Express Coach Service. The 555s direct service to Walton Station (which Villagers prefer to use) would be much better for us in Whiteley Village and for people visiting us. It has good access to the platforms, is well sheltered and with the 555s later timetable will bring us back into the village and save us the additional expense of taxis we at present have to use, especially at weekends. Hersham station via the 564 is not a good station for many villagers of visitors due to its long steep flight of stairs, very exposed platforms and the last bus from it to Whiteley Village is at 6.06pm, therefore when having to come back later means a taxi back to the Village; and of course there being no Sunday service, means taxis both ways. There are those of us in Whiteley Village who, as individuals, feel increasingly isolated in our ability to be part of and attend events, meetings, and social occasions, outside of the village especially in the evenings and weekends. Also there are those, who having given up driving, are reconsidering the need of a car they really don't want or can ill afford. This could eventually lead to more people coming into the village with cars when being told that there is such a limited bus service, and this will inevitably add to the traffic on our already congested roads outside the village and traffic jams and disruptions to all the bus services, especially when Whiteley Village completes its impending extensions of Housing, Care Centre, and Welfare buildings possibly resulting in more employees, some of whom may not have cars and will therefore need a bus such as the 555, with its half hourly service later time table, and weekend service to connect with and bring them to and from the village. Therefore Mr Goodman we ask that you support us in our request to reschedule the 555 bus to start and terminate at Whiteley Village and for the 564 to start and terminate at Hersham Green.

Submitted by Linda Roth

Signatures: 384

Response

Thank you for your petition in relation to the bus provision in Whiteley Village, in particular the Abellio 555 service and the suggestion of amending the route to start/ terminate at Whiteley Village and the 564 to start/ terminate at Hersham Green.

As you quite rightly point out, and as announced previously by Surrey County Council (SCC), Abellio have made a decision to resign from some of their bus contracts administered by SCC and to change some of their other services. This is their prerogative and was solely Abellio's decision to take. Since then, officers have worked hard to lead the process of arranging replacement services, which have been planned to integrate with continuing Abellio services.

No offers have been received from other bus operators to run these services on a commercial, or non-subsidised, basis, and the new arrangements will require significantly more funding than originally paid by us to Abellio. This needs to be understood in the context of a very challenging position financially for the council, with rising costs and increased demand on key services, especially within adult social care. It has not been possible to cover every part of the Abellio network or maintain all existing frequencies, as we have had to make some compromises. However, the council has worked extremely hard to obtain additional funding for the replacement services and the bulk of the strategic network in the North West of Surrey will be largely secured. With SCC stepping in, this will ensure that residents and bus users are still able to use the bus services which matter most to them to get to places of work, education, shopping and medical appointments.

In regards to the bus service 564 in particular, we are pleased to confirm that the buses will run every 60 minutes, as opposed to every 80 minutes as it currently does, providing users with a more frequent and reliable service. Considering service 555, it will not be possible to alter the route to start/ terminate at Whiteley Village, as this would add approximately 10 minutes to the journey. Doing so would have an adverse effect upon the reliability of this service, requiring an additional vehicle to be inserted into the operation, something we cannot afford to do. Timetables have yet to be produced, but this information will be made publically available as soon as possible.

Mike Goodman
Cabinet Member for Environment and Planning
24 November 2016

Appendix 2**Petition 2**

“We, the undersigned, protest at the proposed cuts to the 514, 515 and 458 bus services which will mean that Thames Ditton and Weston Green will have no bus services from 1st January 2017. We petition Surrey County Council to take urgent action to ensure these essential bus services continue after 1st January 2017 – as they are vital for the wellbeing of the community, particularly the elderly and those with disabilities, most of whom have no alternative forms of transport.”

Submitted by Peter Hickman

Signatures: 2102

Response

Thank you for your petition relating to changes to services 514, 515 and 458 within the Thames Ditton and Weston Green area.

As you may know, and as announced previously by Surrey County Council (SCC), Abellio have made a decision to resign from some of their bus contracts administered by SCC and to change some of their other services. This is their prerogative and was solely Abellio's decision to take. Since then, officers have worked hard to lead the process of arranging replacement services, which have been planned to integrate with continuing Abellio services.

No offers have been received from other bus operators to run these services on a commercial, or non-subsidised, basis, and the new arrangements will require significantly more funding than originally paid by us to Abellio. This needs to be understood in the context of a very challenging position financially for the council, with rising costs and increased demand on key services, especially within adult social care. It has not been possible to cover every part of the Abellio network or maintain all existing frequencies, as we have had to make some compromises. However, the council has worked extremely hard to obtain additional funding for the replacement services and the bulk of the strategic network in the North West of Surrey will be largely secured. With SCC stepping in, this will ensure that residents and bus users are still able to use the bus services which matter most to them to get to places of work, education, shopping and medical appointments.

In regards to the service provision to Thames Ditton and Weston Green, approximately three buses an hour will serve these areas to Kingston-Upon-Thames. Whilst service 514 will be withdrawn, it is envisaged that key journeys will be continued by another operator from Kingston-Upon-Thames to Hersham and vice versa in the morning and afternoon, with an afternoon journey commencing at Esher High School via Hersham to Kingston-Upon-Thames; these journeys will operate between Winters Bridge and Kingston-Upon-Thames via Portsmouth Road direct.

A revised service 513 Monday to Friday will be diverted between Weston Green and Kingston-Upon-Thames, via Thames Ditton Village, Winters Bridge and Portsmouth Road, which will provide residents in these areas with an additional travel choice. A revised service 515 will operate Mondays to Saturdays, generally hourly with some exceptions, from Field Common Estate to Kingston-Upon-Thames and will serve Thames Ditton, Winters Bridge and Portsmouth Road. On Sundays, a new service will operate between Guildford and Kingston-Upon-Thames, which will serve Thames Ditton every 90 minutes, offering an

alternative for Sunday travel. London Bus service 411 and Abellio service 461 will continue to offer alternative bus travel options to and from East/ West Molesey and Kingston-Upon-Thames. Timetables have yet to be produced, but this information will be made publically available as soon as possible.

Mike Goodman
Cabinet Member for Environment and Planning
24 November 2016

Appendix 3**Petition 3**

“As of 31st December 2016, Abellio Surrey are cutting back or withdrawing a lot of their services. These include services to and from Heathrow, as well as transport links to schools, colleges and towns around Surrey, as well as St Peters Hospital. As if transport wasn't already difficult for students, workers, and those unable to drive, we are now faced with another challenge. Please help us to keep our bus services, as they are a vital part of everyday life.”

Submitted by: Jasmine Ritchie

Signatures: 3254

Response

Thank you for your petition concerning changes to Abellio services, including those to and from Heathrow Airport and transport links to schools, colleges and towns around Surrey, as well as to St Peters Hospital.

As you may know, and as announced previously by Surrey County Council (SCC), Abellio have made a decision to resign from some of their bus contracts administered by SCC and to change some of their other services. This is their prerogative and was solely Abellio's decision to take. Since then, officers have worked hard to lead the process of arranging replacement services, which have been planned to integrate with continuing Abellio services.

No offers have been received from other bus operators to run these services on a commercial, or non-subsidised, basis, and the new arrangements will require significantly more funding than originally paid by us to Abellio. This needs to be understood in the context of a very challenging position financially for the council, with rising costs and increased demand on key services, especially within adult social care. It has not been possible to cover every part of the Abellio network or maintain all existing frequencies, as we have had to make some compromises. However, the council has worked extremely hard to obtain additional funding for the replacement services and the bulk of the strategic network in the North West of Surrey will be largely secured. With SCC stepping in, this will ensure that residents and bus users are still able to use the bus services which matter most to them to get to places of work, education, shopping and medical appointments.

In regards to bus travel links to Heathrow Airport, we can confirm that the Abellio service 441 Englefield to Heathrow Airport Central will continue to run on a commercial basis at the same level, but with some amendments to the timetable to improve reliability. A new service will also operate between Staines and Heathrow Terminal 5 Mondays to Saturdays approximately every 90 minutes. In regards to the service 555, it is expected that a service will still operate approximately every 60 minutes from Hersham Green to the Heathrow area. However, discussions with Heathrow Airport, a key stakeholder SCC is in constant engagement with, have not concluded as to the frequency of the service, period of day covered, the route in the airport area or funding support required to maintain this service. A further announcement will be made as soon as it is possible to do so.

Mr Mike Goodman
Cabinet Member for Environment and Planning
24 November 2016

Deputy Leader Decisions

7 December 2016

Petition

We the undersigned petition Surrey County Council to make a contribution from the Superfast Surrey (SFS) rebate to the Community Funded Superfast Broadband (SFBB) scheme of West and East Chiddingfold.

As a rural community of 116 premises we request to share in the rebate from the original SFS rollout from which we received no benefit due to our remoteness and cost of connection. We have decided to fund our own infrastructure but think it fair that SFS make a contribution as we are helping them achieve SCC target. We consider a fair contribution to be the rebate of £3.8m divided by the 20,000 target white properties. This is £190 a property. A total of £22040. This money can be contracted direct to Openreach without contravening state aid.

Submitted by Marie-Louise Papworth

Signatures: 120

Response

In order to 'plug the gap' in commercial fibre broadband rollouts, Surrey County Council has already invested heavily in the provision of fibre broadband infrastructure to communities right across Surrey. As part of the main phase of the Superfast Surrey programme, 30 exchanges and more than 600 structures were upgraded resulting in more than 86,000 premises being covered by the Openreach fibre broadband network. One of the most complex and remote exchanges to upgrade was Wormley and the upgrade of it, together with its eight cabinets, have directly resulted in more than 3,000 residents and businesses, including many in Chiddingfold, being able to access good fibre broadband speeds.

However, right across Surrey, there are still more than 15,300 premises that are not included in any commercial rollout plans and are unable to access fibre broadband speeds of 15Mbps or above. This is as a consequence of cabinets or structures that have not yet been upgraded to the fibre network or have been upgraded but are too far from homes and businesses to be able to offer a fast broadband service. Whilst many of these premises are in rural areas, such as some of those in Chiddingfold, there are also others in town centres.

Surrey County Council's contract with BT includes a clawback mechanism which is generating additional funding that flows into a joint investment fund when take-up of fibre broadband services in the Intervention area is higher than was modelled. BT have offered Surrey County Council an advance of £3.8 million on the clawback which is known as 'Gainshare.'

Subject to Cabinet approval, the county council is planning to use the Gainshare funding to extend fibre infrastructure even further into Surrey. BT's modelling of solutions for these premises has identified significant opportunities to utilise all of the limited available programme funding. Therefore, providing financial support for community initiatives to deliver broadband to premises outside of the modelled solution would necessarily result in some of the premises within the modelled solution being removed from the deployment plan.

Surrey County Council has carefully considered the Petition's request for funding and, in light of BT's modelling, can re-confirm the advice given to the Chiddingfold community initiative representatives at a recent meeting held with Mr. Jeremy Hunt, MP namely that Surrey County Council is not planning to provide financial assistance to any broadband community initiative from the limited programme funds, nor does it plan to incorporate any community broadband initiative into the Superfast Surrey contract with BT.

Peter Martin
Deputy Leader
7 December 2016

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