

Report to Overview & Scrutiny Committee

Date of meeting: 9 January 2018



Subject: Transport for London - Scrutiny of External Organisation

Officer contact for further information: S. Tautz (01992) 564180

Democratic Services Officer: A. Hendry (01992) 564246

Recommendations/Decisions Required:

That the Committee undertake appropriate external scrutiny of Transport for London, in response to the concerns of members with regard to the operation of local bus services within the Epping Forest District by TfL.

1. (Director of Governance) Members will recall that representatives of Transport for London (TfL) attended the meeting of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee in December 2016, in response to the concerns of the Committee with regard to aspects of Central Line service provision and infrastructure within the Epping Forest District.
2. As included in the current work programme for the Committee, TfL have also been invited to attend the meeting to respond to the concerns of members with regard to local bus service provision by TfL within the District. Mark Hart, TfL's Stakeholder Engagement Manager for the Bakerloo, Central and Victoria Lines, will be attending the meeting in this regard. Members will recall that Mr. Hart also attended the meeting of the Committee in December 2016.
3. The following specific issues relating to the local bus services operated by TfL were identified by the Committee at its meeting on 31 October 2017, which have been notified to TfL as the emphasis for such external scrutiny, in order to ensure that maximum value can be derived from this scrutiny activity:
 - (a) future changes proposed by Transport for London with regard to local bus services that serve the Epping Forest District, including 'cross-border' routes;
 - (b) the future schedule (timetable) and integration of all local bus services operated by Transport for London that serve the Epping Forest District, including 'cross-border' routes;
 - (c) future funding arrangements for all local bus services operated by Transport for London that serve the Epping Forest District, including 'cross-border' routes;
 - (d) the plans of Transport for London with regard to the current and future operation of Service No. 20 (Walthamstow to Vere Road, Loughton) within the Epping Forest District;

- (e) the plans of Transport for London with regard to the current and future operation of Service No. 167 (Hainault to Loughton Station) within the Epping Forest District, including the current financial performance of Service No. 167;
 - (f) the plans of Transport for London with regard to the current and future operation of Service No. 549 (South Woodford to Loughton Station) within the Epping Forest District; and
 - (g) the plans of Transport for London with regard to the 'digitisation' of service information provision at bus stops within the Epping Forest District, that serve local and 'cross-border' routes.
4. The identification of additional lines of questioning to be raised with TfL has also been sought from members through the Council Bulletin.
 5. As the Committee will be aware, TfL do not provide many of the bus services currently operating within the District. Essex County Council is the appropriate passenger transport authority for services not operated by TfL and it is understood that the Neighbourhoods Select Committee is hoping to undertake similar external scrutiny of services supported by the County Council, at a future meeting.

Resource Implications:

The recommendations of this report seek to enable scrutiny activity to more effectively meet work programme requirements.

Legal and Governance Implications:

The Council's constitution sets out rules for the management of its overview and scrutiny responsibilities. Although external organisations are not generally required by legislation to attend before the Overview and Scrutiny Committee, it is hoped that most would be willing to engage constructively with the Council's scrutiny activity when invited to do so.

Safer, Cleaner, Greener Implications:

There are no implications arising from the recommendations of this report in respect of the Council's commitment to the Climate Local Agreement, the corporate Safer, Cleaner, Greener initiative, or any crime and disorder issues within the district.

Consultation Undertaken:

The scrutiny of a number of specific issues relating to local bus service provision by TfL was identified by the Committee at its meeting on 31 October 2017.

Background Papers:

None

Impact Assessments:

Risk Management

The Council's constitution sets out rules for the management of its overview and scrutiny responsibilities.

Equality:

There are no equality implications arising from the recommendations of this report.