

KETTERING TOWN COUNCIL

REPORT FOR DECISION

Item No:- 21/130

Committee:-	COUNCIL
Date:-	16 th February 2022
Author:-	Martin Hammond, Clerk
Report Title:-	Bus Service Improvement Plan
Wards Affected:-	All

1. Purpose of Report

To seek Council's views on the Bus Service Improvement Plan.

2. Recommendations

Council is recommended to make comments that can be relayed to NNC

3. Information

3.1. NNC is consulting on its bus service improvement plan, and has asked for comments by the 25th February. The attached letter and plans set out the purpose and scope. (Appendices 1, 2 and 3). There are two documents – a plan and a scheme- which comprise the Improvement Plan. One of the documents is wrongly dated 2021 and should say 2022. The Plan is broadly what the partners are agreeing they ought to do; the Scheme is the specific agreement on exactly what to do.

3.2. The Plan and Scheme do not themselves seek to restore bus services to a position prior to the reductions that NCC made in the period 2016-19, as any re-provision of these service routes will be addressed through individual contract negotiations with operators, but it does seek to set overall standards and objectives for how bus services should function.

3.3. Members will have a number of comments to make on the proposals, but the following points are also submitted for consideration

- The plan should aim to improve interconnectivity between bus services and railway stations as a principal objective
- Measures to improve awareness of bus services through timetables distribution and advertising are supported but the plans should go further and seek to provide all households and businesses with up to date information about services – with the availability of an App for smart phones and much wider and deeper availability of paper copies in libraries, GP and dentists surgeries and other public receptions information points, and by more extensive use of electronic advice boards
- The creation of a stakeholder group is welcomed; given their relative populations, Kettering, Corby and Wellingborough Town Councils should have an automatic place on it.

4. Consultation and Engagement

The Council is the consultee.

5. Finance, Legal and Resource Implications

None

6. Policy Implications

6.1. Policy 9 of the Council's objectives and standards is;- *The Council will support the development of walking and cycling infrastructure and the growth of public transport.*

6.2. The Corporate Plan also says;- *The Council also expects to be consulted on policy development as it affects the people of Kettering, by NNC, the police, the health authorities and national government agencies and departments. It will endeavour to respond to these as they occur.*

Background Papers

Email, letter and documents from NNC

APPENDICES

1. Letter from NNC



Letter to stakeholders
North statutory and w

2. Bus Improvement plan



EP Plan North 2022
v2.0 stakeholder cons

3. Bus improvement scheme



EP Scheme 2021
North v2.0 stakeholde