



Report to Economic and Environmental Wellbeing Scrutiny & Policy Development Committee 16th March 2016

Report of: Policy and Improvement Officer

Subject: Bus services in Sheffield - petitions referred from Full Council

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Summary:

Full Council on 2nd December 2015 received 6 petitions in respect of changes to bus services from 1st November 2015 put in place through Sheffield Bus Partnership. Full Council resolved that the 6 petitions be referred to the appropriate Scrutiny and Policy Development Committee for consideration. Economic and Environmental Wellbeing Scrutiny and Policy Development Committee is the appropriate one.

The 6 petitions minus signatures are attached as appendices. Key message of each petition is summarised in this report.

Type of item: The report author should tick the appropriate box

Reviewing of existing policy	
Informing the development of new policy	
Statutory consultation	
Performance / budget monitoring report	
Cabinet request for scrutiny	
Full Council request for scrutiny	X
Community Assembly request for scrutiny	
Call-in of Cabinet decision	
Briefing paper for the Scrutiny Committee	
Other	

The Scrutiny Committee is being asked to:

- Consider the petitions referred from Full Council
- Agree recommendations for action

Background Papers:

Category of Report: OPEN

1. Introduction/Context

- 1.1 The 6 petitions were referred to the appropriate policy development and scrutiny committee by Full Council on December 2nd 2015.

RESOLVED: That the 6 petitions reported to this meeting relating to the changes to bus services in the city from 1st November 2015, be noted, and the issue be referred to the appropriate Scrutiny and Policy Development Committee and the South Yorkshire Passenger Transport Executive for consideration, and be brought to the attention of the Minister for Transport for consideration as part of the forthcoming Buses Bill announced in this year's Queen's Speech.

2. Petitions

- 2.1 Six petitions were received by Full Council on 2nd December 2015. One petition has 12,384 signatures, therefore over the trigger of 5,000 for petition requiring debate and was debated at Council. See - <http://sheffielddemocracy.moderngov.co.uk/mgAi.aspx?ID=11806>

	SUMMARY OF PETITION	No. signatures	Route operators
1	Reversal of Changes to Bus services Nos. 66; 1 and 1A; 85 and 86	437	First; First & Stagecoach
2	Urgent reconsideration of the proposed changes to the Route No. 10a bus service	148	Sheffield Community Transport
3	Requesting a public meeting with Cllr Terry Fox and the Sheffield Bus Partnership to discuss the changes to the bus services	16	
4	Opposing cuts to Sheffield bus services	512	
5	Requesting that the cuts to bus services are reversed	900	
6	Requesting the reversal of the changes to buses in Sheffield from November 2015: <i>"...please return the services that worked and allowed everyone to get to where they are going."</i>	12,384 (electronic)	

3 What does this mean for the people of Sheffield?

- 3.1 The level and nature of the response of the public of Sheffield to the bus service changes put in place on 1st November 2015 shows the strength of feeling of how important these are to the people of Sheffield; the impact specific route changes have had on individuals and communities.

4. Recommendation

- 4.1 The committee is asked to consider the petitions and agree recommendation(s) for action.

Petition Requesting the Reversal of Changes to Bus Service Nos. 66, 1 and 1A, and 85 and 86

I have received a petition containing 437 signatures, requesting the reversal of changes to bus service nos. 66, 1 and 1A, and 85 and 86.

John Yale wishes to address the Council.

It is recommended that the petition is referred to Councillor Terry Fox, Cabinet Member for Environment and Transport.

Petition from High Green Action Team

The attached petition has been produced by the communities of High Green, Burncross, Chapeltown and Grenoshide regarding the changes and timetabling of the routes services 66, 1, 1A, 85 & 86.

The changes to the 66 have affected elderly and vulnerable people who live on the Greengate Lane end of Foster Way can get to the shops, the Doctors and Chapeltown but cannot get back to their homes, this unacceptable and needs to be dealt with.

As for the 1 and 1A services we were clearly told that both these buses would follow the same routes as the 75 and 87 between High Green and Town. This is not the case, as now passengers can no longer access the Herries Road entrance to the Northern General hospital and as far as I am aware this is not the route agreed by SCC.

Once again High Green has suffered because of a lack of clear consultation with local people. I would also like to point out regarding students using the 66 do not conform to regular school time tables and travel to and from Rotherham throughout the day, also people attending Rotherham hospital do not conform with peak times either.

The 85 & 86 route which is now down to two per hour, and quite often doesn't turn up, leaving people standing waiting an hour for a bus.

We do not think that any of the above is acceptable and would like to see some action on this matter taken immediately.

Regards

High Green Action Team.
info@highgreenactionteam.com

We, the undersigned, urgently call on Sheffield Bus Partnership to reverse:

- 1. controversial bus cuts to Service 66 (Rotherham to High Green) operated by First.**
- 2. Route changes to services 1 and 1a, operated by Stagecoach and First.**
- 3. The alterations to route 85 and 86.**

Petition organised by High Green Action Team, on behalf of the community of High Green, Burncross, Chapeltown and Grenoside.

Petition Requesting Urgent Reconsideration of the Proposed Changes to the Route of the No. 10a Bus Service

I have received a petition containing 148 signatures, requesting urgent reconsideration of the proposed changes to the route of the No. 10a bus service.

Yvonne Collins wishes to address the Council.

It is recommended that the petition is referred to Councillor Terry Fox, Cabinet Member for Environment and Transport.

PETITION TO SYPTE

We, the undersigned, request an urgent reconsideration of the proposed changes to the route of the 10a Bus Service. We believe that the proposed route from Sheffield City Centre to Netherthorpe and Upperthorpe will fail to serve the needs of our community. The loss of a pick-up point on Charter Row behind Atkinsons means that elderly people and those with disabilities will no longer be able to use the Moor market and shops, as they will be unable to walk with shopping to the pick-up on Furnival Gate. This bus service is very important to our community – please do not decimate it !

Petition Requesting a Public Meeting with Councillor Terry Fox and the Sheffield Bus Partnership to Discuss the Changes to the Bus Services

I have received an electronic petition containing 16 signatures, requesting a public meeting with Councillor Terry Fox and the Sheffield Bus Partnership, to discuss the changes to the bus services.

Paul Fidler wishes to address the Council.

It is recommended that the petition is referred to Councillor Terry Fox, Cabinet Member for Environment and Transport.



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e-Petition details

To have a public meeting with Cllr Terry Fox, Sheffield Bus Partnership to discuss the city's bus se

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We the undersigned petition the Council to : have a public meeting with Cllr Terry Fox, Sheffield Bus Partnership to discuss the city's bus services since 1st November 2015.

organise a public meeting with Cllr Terry Fox, Sheffield Bus Partnership, so they can hear first-hand what we the passengers and paying customers of Sheffield and surrounding areas think about the irrational changes to bus services in sheffield.

Joanne Lumley of Greenhill started a petition "Reverse the changes to buses in Sheffield from November 2015", which prompted the partnership to have a meeting regarding the shambolic changes to bus services in Sheffield. If you've not sign this petition you can find it here, <https://goo.gl/AxyBFU>. Please continue to sign regardless.

Following on from that very meeting Cllr Terry Fox, issued a statement, 19th November 2015. This basically says nothing is going to change, this is not only disgraceful, but shows that people of authority are not prepared to listen to public opinion.

It's now our job to make the Sheffield Bus Partnership listen and get them to meet with the passengers of Sheffield that are dissatisfied with the service changes and to promote positive change.

I hope we all agree changes need to happen, because of the punishing cuts from central government (another subject), but not to turn the bus services upside down in such a way it leaves people struggling to get to work on-time, doubling the amount of buses required by passengers just to get to and from work. making sure or children can get to school in good time and not be left walking miles in wintery dark conditions and trapping thousands of elderly at home because their local service has disappeared.

Please sign this new petition and share, share, share this far and wide, Facebook, Twitter, email and conversation and let the people of Sheffield speak out and be heard .

Started by: Paul Fidler (Paul Fidler)

This e-Petition ran from 21/11/2015 to 01/12/2015 and has now finished.

16 people signed this e-Petition.

Petition Opposing Cuts to Sheffield Bus Services

I have received a petition containing 512 signatures, opposing the cuts to Sheffield bus services.

Sharon Milsom wishes to address the Council.

It is recommended that the petition is referred to Councillor Terry Fox, Cabinet Member for Environment and Transport.



STOP THE BUS CUTS

OPPOSE CUTS TO CONCESSIONARY TRAVEL FOR CHILDREN, ELDERLY & DISABLED

We the undersigned condemn the cuts to Sheffield bus services being implemented by First and Stagecoach and voted through without adequate consultation by SYPTC and Sheffield Council. We are also opposed to the inadequate and divisive consultation that SYPTC has announced designed to demonstrate acceptance of further cuts to subsidised bus services and to concessionary travel for children, the elderly and disabled. We therefore call on the Council and the SYPTC to **suspend all changes** pending effective consultation and to **refuse to implement the austerity cuts** imposed by the Tory Government.

Petition Calling on the Sheffield Bus Partnership to Reverse the Bus Cuts

I have received an electronic petition containing 913 signatures calling on the Sheffield Bus Partnership to reverse the bus cuts.

Andy Nash wishes to address the Council.

It is recommended that the petition is referred to Councillor Terry Fox, Cabinet member for Environment and Transport.

We, the undersigned, call on Sheffield Bus Partnership to reverse the bus cuts which have caused chaos across Sheffield. (913 signatures)

Petition Requesting the Reversal of the Changes to Buses in Sheffield from November 2015

I have received an electronic petition containing over 12384 signatures, requesting the reversal of the changes to buses in Sheffield from November 2015.

Joanne Lumley wishes to address the Council.

As the petition contains more than 5000 signatures and, at the request of the lead petitioner, under the Council's Petitions Scheme, the petition will be subject to a public debate by the Council.

Reverse the changes to buses in Sheffield from November 2015



Joanne Lumley

Sheffield, United Kingdom

12,584

Supporters

The bus services in Sheffield changed on 1st of November. It has been a horrendous first week of implementation with crowded buses, reduced services and congested roads.

Less services are affecting all walks of life and are crowding increasingly busy buses. It appears that the congestion has been far worse in just the first week of the new services introduction - although this is yet to be established.

We are asking Sheffield City Council to return to the services that worked before and a service that allows everyone to get to where they are going.

Please sign this petition to reverse the changes to our buses and bring back a bus service that the people of Sheffield need.

Letter to
Sheffield City Council
Reverse the changes to buses in Sheffield from November 2015

Joanne Lumley started this petition with a single signature, and now has 12,584 supporters. Start a petition today to change something you care about.