

Decision made in the presence of:
Rebecca Brooks, Community Transport Manager
Matt Gould, Lead Specialist - Highways and Transport
Callum Wernham, Democratic & Electoral Services Specialist

INDIVIDUAL EXECUTIVE MEMBER DECISION RECORD SHEET IMD 2022 7

Title of the report	Wokingham Town Bus Services
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DECISION MADE BY Executive Member for Active Travel, Transport and Highways - Paul Fishwick
Executive Member for Finance – Imogen Shepherd-DuBey
ACTION BY Director, Place and Growth - Steve Moore
DECISION MADE ON 13 July 2022

Recommendation contained in the report

That the Executive Member for Active Travel, Transport and Highways in conjunction with the Executive Member for Finance gives approval to modify the contract term of contracts tendered under WBC100 to agree a new end date of 31st March 2023.

Decision

That the Executive Member for Active Travel, Transport and Highways in conjunction with the Executive Member for Finance gave approval to modify the contract term of contracts tendered under WBC100 to agree a new end date of 31st March 2023.

Reasons for Decision if different to recommendation

N/A

Alternative options considered and rejected at time of the decision

Three options were presented to the Individual Executive Members, with option 3 (highlighted in bold) agreed as the preferred action.

Option 1: Withdraw local bus services

- Approximately 132,500 passenger journeys¹ per annum are currently made on the Town services, all of which would no longer be possible.
- There would be a significant impact on residents in terms of access to health care, employment, and education, especially from Wokingham Without, Finchampstead, Hurst, Winnersh, Emmbrook, Woosehill and Sonning.
- The Council would not meet the statutory duty of the 1985 Transport Act.
- It would be detrimental to the climate emergency, air quality, residents' health & wellbeing, and congestion on local roads.

Option 2: Retender Local Bus Service

- There is insufficient time to retender the service before the contracts come to their natural end or by October 2022 when government funding ceases.
- A gap in service would result if a new supplier won a re-tender exercise, as a 70-day registration process post award, along with any appropriate mobilisation & TUPE process would be required.
- A gap in service would result in the same impacts as listed under Option 1.

Option 3: Modify the Contract Term

- **Modifying the contract term would allow the services to continue whilst a retender takes place. Allowing the services to continue would mitigate the impacts identified under Options 1 and 2.**

Summary of consultations undertaken

SUMMARY OF CONSULTATION RESPONSES	
Director – Resources and Assets	No comment
Monitoring Officer	No comment
Leader of the Council	No comment

Reasons why the report was deemed to have contained confidential or Exempt information (if applicable)

Commercially sensitive information which may affect future tender.

Any Conflict of interest declared by any Executive Member who is consulted by a Member which relates to the decision

None

Any dispensation granted by the Head of Paid Service in respect of any declared conflict of interest

None

PUBLISHED ON: 13 July 2022

EFFECTIVE ON: 21 July 2022

CALL-IN PERIOD EXPIRES: 20 July 2022