

# Nottingham City Council Delegated Decision



**Nottingham**  
**City Council**

Reference Number:	3857
Author:	Mark Garlick
Department:	Development and Growth
Contact:	Mark Garlick (Job Title: Team Leader: Public Transport Operations, Email: mark.garlick@nottinghamcity.gov.uk, Phone: 01158764675)
Subject:	Contract Bus Services Budget Savings and receipt of £231,328 in Department for Transport Funding for 2020/21
Total Value:	£250,000 (Type: Revenue)
Decision Being Taken:	(1) Approve the receipt of £231,328 in DfT funding for supported bus services in the 2020/21 financial year. (2) Approve minor efficiency savings of £18,672 to the supported bus network in the 2020/21 financial year.
Reasons for the Decision(s)	Minor efficiency savings, worth £18,672, to be made from the contract bus service network in 2020/21. The programmed savings to be made were set at £250,000. However, the Department for Transport has now made £231,328 available for supported bus services. This funding will enable most of these services to be retained, but with minor trimming of timetables as detailed in the Appendix, to ensure that the network can be operated with fewer vehicles. This trimming will allow the £18,672 funding shortfall to be met.
Briefing notes documents:	Budget Savings for 2020_21_v.docx
Other Options Considered:	[A] Retain all services as at 2019/20 - means no further savings [B] Retain all services as at 2019/20, with some efficiency trimming of journeys, to allow £18,672 savings with the Dft funding.
Background Papers:	None
Published Works:	Approval to tender for Link Bus Services in 2018/19 - Commissioning and Procurement Sub-Committee, December 2018

**Affected Wards:** Aspley, Bestwood, Bilborough, Bulwell, Castle, Clifton West, Leen Valley, Lenton and Wollaton East, Mapperley, Meadows, Sherwood, Wollaton West

**Colleague / Councillor Interests:** None

**Consultations:**  
**Date:** 10/01/2020  
**Other:** Cllr Adele Williams Portfolio Holder Adult Care and Local Transport Lillian Greenwood MP (Nottingham South) Alex Norris MP (Nottingham North) Nadia Whittome MP (Nottingham East)  
 Agreed subject to member consultation  
 The Dft require that the proposal on spending the funding is presented to the three local MPs:  
 Lillian Greenwood MP (Nottingham South)  
 Alex Norris MP (Nottingham North)  
 Nadia Whittome MP (Nottingham East)

Those not consulted are not directly affected by the decision.

**Crime and Disorder Implications:** None

**Equality:** Please login to the system to view the EIA document: equality-impact-assessment-eia-form\_Bus Service Contracts 2020\_v.docx

**Social Value Considerations:** These bus services provide links to areas that are not served by commercial public transport routes within a 400m walking distance. The services include socially necessary Locallink services (used largely by elderly passengers, and those with mobility difficulties), Worklink services to workplaces and Park and Ride services.

**Decision Type:** Portfolio Holder

**Subject to Call In:** Yes

Call In Expiry date:

23/04/2020

Advice Sought:

Legal, Finance, Procurement, Equality and Diversity

Legal Advice:

The requirement to make efficiency savings is being met at this time by a combination of minor changes to current services, withdrawal of services where commercial routes will be otherwise offered and application of DfT funding.

Given the services will generally continue to operate over the same routes as the old ones with only a slight amendment to frequency and the impact of the change has been considered and evaluated, and an Equality Impact Assessment undertaken, the recommendations to the services raises no significant legal issues.

Future delivery of the services will need to be considered again in the next financial year, in the light of any funding that is or is not then available. The impact of required efficiency savings will need to be considered again in detail at that time. Advice provided by Dionne Claire Screamon (Solicitor) on 25/02/2020.

Finance Advice:

The Public Transport department are required to reduce the link bus services' base budget position by a further £0.250m- to be achieved by further cost reductions and/or secure additional funding for financial years 20/21 and future financial years. This is in addition to previous £1.011m link bus rationalisation permanent savings put forward in 19/20 financial year.

For 20/21 financial year, the required savings of £0.250m will be met through receipt of £0.231m DfT secured grant funding and £0.019m to be achieved through efficiency cost reductions to the contracted link bus services as outlined in the attached appendix.

The receipt of DfT grant funding beyond 20/21 financial year to support link bus services is yet to be determined. The required savings for future years will either be met by securing grant funding towards the costs of the link bus network or through further making cost reductions through further rationalising the link bus network.

The receipt of £0.231m DfT grant funding for 20/21 financial year towards the cost of providing the link bus network requires Public Transport to report on how the grant has been spent. Public Transport must ensure that this condition is met in order to reduce the risk of grant claw back.

It is the responsibility of the Public Transport department to achieve the further £0.250m of link bus savings that have been identified. Should the savings not be achieved as expected through the link bus network, Public Transport services will need to absorb any shortfalls in savings within existing budget.

Equality and Diversity Advice:

The EIA has been checked and approved. Advice provided by Saema Mohammad (Service Redesign Consultant) on 16/03/2020.

Advice documents: 20200312 eia-form Bus Service Contracts 2020 GREEN.docx

**Procurement Advice:**

**There are no procurement concerns about the decision to be taken on this report. Advice provided by Paul Ritchie (Lead Procurement Officer) on 27/01/2020.**

**Signatures**

<b>Adele Williams (Portfolio Holder for Adult Care &amp; Local Transport)</b>
<b>SIGNED and Dated: 16/04/2020</b>
<b>Chris Henning (Corporate Director for Development and Growth)</b>
<b>SIGNED and Dated: 08/04/2020</b>