

Linkbus: Budget Savings for 2020/21

Introduction

This note outlines a costed Linkbus savings proposal for 2020/21. The proposal is supported by NCT and CT4N and comes with the announcement of £231,328 in DfT funding to support bus services in Nottingham during 2020-21. This means that most services proposed for reduction or withdrawal* can be retained, and that only £18,672 worth of efficiency savings need to be made, when compared with the Base Position where savings of £250,000 were requested.

Table 1 is a brief overview of the savings proposal.

TABLE 1 BUDGET SAVING PROPOSAL

Service	Proposal	Current Spend	Expected Spend	Allocation of DfT funding
L1*	Retain	62850	£62,850	£60,000
L2	Retain, with peak enhancement	247000	£301,628	£50,000
L4	Retain, and extend along Beechdale Road	167324	£167,324	£10,000
L5	Retain – only 1615 withdrawn	61650	£59,650	£0
L9	Commercialise	108800	£54,400	£21,328
L10*	Retain	89145	£89,145	£90,000
L11	Retain	216787	£216,787	£0
L12	Retain	135750	£135,750	£0
L14	Retain – but replaced by NCT 70 north of Bulwell	166864	£166,864	£0
W1	Retain – minor saving, some AM journeys	84500	£67,600	£0
TOTAL		£1,340,670	£1,321,998	£231,328

*Services that were put forward for withdrawal (January 2020), but can now be retained.

The Proposals

The proposals are listed below, by service.

L2 CITY - GLAISDALE AND NOTTINGHAM BUSINESS PARK

Retain this growing service intact, and use the DfT funding to pump prime peak improvements. It serves Bilborough College, Glaisdale Industrial Estate, Nottingham Business Park, and new housing developments at Woodhouse Park.

Better use of vehicles across the Linkbus fleet may allow this to return to a 30-minute headway at Peak.

The Council is in discussion with Bilborough College to secure further funding for this service.

L4 CITY - ASPLEY - BEECHDALE

The service will improved to serve Beechdale Road Top (between Aspley Lane and Fremount Drive).

L5 CITY - CHARLBURY ROAD AND WOLLATON PARK

No change, other than **withdrawal of a little used journey at 1615**, to allow bus to be used elsewhere at that time. Journeys on the L2 service also pass along Middleton Boulevard at this time, on a half-hourly basis.

L9 CITY - MAPPERLEY – SHERWOOD – ARNOLD - MILDENHALL CRESCENT

The operator, CT4N, has an offer to make this route a **commercial** one, without any significant changes in the short term.

Nottingham City Transport Limited are to include Edwards Lane Estate and Winchester Court/Woodthorpe Court flats on the 40 service on a commercial basis.

In the medium to long term, the CT4N service may prove not to be viable, and funding would need to be made available to provide serves to the Sherwood Vale, Mildenhall Crescent and Chipppenham Road areas, that would otherwise be un-served.

L12 UNIVERSITY – HYSON GREEN - CITY HOSPITAL

Retain but seek a University contribution for students carried.

L14 CITY – HEATHFIELD – BULWELL

Nottingham City Transport Ltd are to extend commercial service 70 to Norwich Gardens, Sandhurst Road and Morrisons Bulwell.

This means that the Council is required to truncate its L14 service to run City – Heathfield – Bulwell only.

W1 CITY – LENTON LANE WORKS SERVICE

Evening Peak timetable unchanged.

Two journeys taken out of Morning Peak timetable, to allow operation of whole service with just one bus.

From City at 0650 0720 0750 0820

[Currently at 0650 0720 0735* 0750 0810* 0830]

Need to re-tender services

Once the main savings package is agreed, it will be necessary to re-tender these services, as they are already operating outside the contract period. This process has been covered in a previous report to Commissioning and Procurement Sub-Committee.