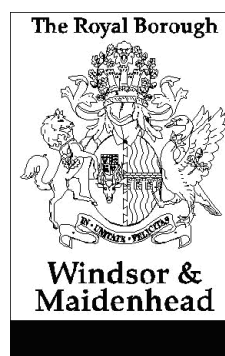


Report for: ACTION



<b>Contains Confidential or Exempt Information</b>	NO - Part I
<b>Title</b>	Bus Services in the Royal Borough
<b>Responsible Officer(s)</b>	Simon Fletcher, Strategic Director of Operations Ben Smith, Head of Highways and Transport
<b>Contact officer, job title and phone number</b>	Lynne Penn, Transport & Access Team Leader, 01628 796481
<b>Member reporting</b>	TBC
<b>For Consideration By</b>	Cabinet
<b>Date to be Considered</b>	26 May 2016
<b>Implementation Date if Not Called In</b>	12 June 2016.
<b>Affected Wards</b>	Furze Platt, Pinkneys Green, Belmont, Maidenhead Riverside, Boyn Hill, Oldfield, Bray, Clewer North, Clewer South, Clewer East, Park, Castle Without, Eton and Castle.

## REPORT SUMMARY

**This report considers whether to continue funding local bus services and requests Cabinet to consider the following:**

1. Prior to February 2014, Courtney Buses operated the Maidenhead bus network under contract to RBWM. In February 2014 most of these services became commercial, saving RBWM around £220,000 a year. At the same time a number of service enhancements were introduced grant funded by the Local Sustainable Transport Fund for a period of two years (ending 31<sup>st</sup> March 2016).
2. Following a review with RBWM officers, Courtney Buses are able to sustain operation of most of the Maidenhead services commercially. The exceptions are (annual funding support required in brackets): services (a) to the Riverside (£20,000); (b) Sunday services in Maidenhead (£14,000); (c) evening service in Maidenhead (£10,000).
3. **The report recommends that additional funding of £44,000 is approved for 12 months only to enable a full review of bus services.**
4. **This is recommended as it supports the operation of local bus services in the Maidenhead area promoting accessibility and offering travel choices. This is in line with local transport policy and manifesto commitments**

**5. The financial implications of this report are an increase of revenue funding of £44,000 (2016/17)**

<b>If recommendations are adopted, how will residents benefit?</b>	
Benefits to residents and reasons why they will benefit	Dates by which residents can expect to notice a difference
1. Help improved mobility.	Continuation of services from 12 <sup>th</sup> June 2016.
2. Help increased ability to participate in work, education, health and leisure activity.	Continuation of services from 12 <sup>th</sup> June 2016.
3. We hope this will decrease volumes of car journeys by offering choice.	Continuation of services from 12 <sup>th</sup> June 2016.

**1. DETAILS OF RECOMMENDATIONS**

**OFFICER RECOMMENDATION: That Cabinet Agree additional funding of £44,000 to maintain the current level of bus services**

**2. REASON FOR RECOMMENDATION(S) AND OPTIONS CONSIDERED**

2.1 The following options have been considered in formulating the recommended option

<b>Option</b>	<b>Comments</b>
Secure services (a), (b) and (c) by direct negotiation ('de minimis') with Courtney Buses at a cost of £44k for 12 months only.	2016/17 budget would need to increase by £44k. This retains Service (a) to the Riverside area; Service (b) Sunday services in Maidenhead and between Windsor, Holyport and Maidenhead; Service (c) Evening services after 18.30pm in Furze Platt, Pinkneys Green and Belmont Wards.  This option is recommended as it supports the operation of local bus services in the Maidenhead area; promotes accessibility and offers travel choices. This is in line with local transport policy and manifesto commitments
Withdraw Service (a) to the Riverside (£20k)	There would be no additional budget pressure, but there will only be a service at school start and finish times <b>This option is not recommended</b>
Withdraw Service (b) Sunday services in Maidenhead and between Windsor, Holyport and	There would be no additional budget pressure, but there will be no services on Sundays or Bank Holidays. Rail services

Option	Comments
Maidenhead (£14k)	are available Maidenhead – Slough – Windsor. <b>This option is not recommended</b>
Withdraw Service (c) Evening services after 18.30 in Furze Platt, Pinkneys Green and Belmont Wards (£10k)	There would be no additional budget pressure, but there will be no evening bus services after 18.30pm. Rail services are available from Furze Platt via Furze Platt station. <b>This option is not recommended</b>

2.2 Cabinet are recommended to increase the revenue budget 2016/17 by £44,000 to retain the existing level of bus services in the Maidenhead area. This option is recommended as it supports the operation of local bus services in the Maidenhead area; promotes accessibility and offers travel choices. This is in line with local transport policy and underpins the manifesto commitment ‘...Seek improvements (eg extensions and frequency of services) to bus routes across the Borough...’

### 3.KEY IMPLICATIONS

Defined Outcomes	Unmet	Met	Exceeded	Significantly Exceeded	Date they should be delivered by
Bus Services retained	<3	3	3	3	June 2016
Bus patronage on supported routes increases	0%	1-5%	6-10%	Above 10%	June 2017

### 4. FINANCIAL DETAILS

#### Financial impact on the budget

	2016/17	2017/18	2018/19
	Revenue £'000	Revenue £'000	Revenue £'000
Addition	£44	0	0
Reduction	0	0	0

	2016/17	2017/18	2018/19
	Capital £'000	Capital £'000	Capital £'000
Addition	0	0	0
Reduction	0	0	0

4.1 The recommendation seeks an increase of £44,000 in revenue funding (2016/17) Budget line ‘Transport Contracts (PT50) refers.

4.2 The additional revenue is sought from Council funds and will be mitigated by savings in reduction in Cabinet membership and structure around previous leader.

## 5. LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

5.1 The Council has the power to secure these bus services by direct negotiation ('de minimis').

## 6. VALUE FOR MONEY

6.1 This proposal retains the network benefits of common publicity and ticketing available across all Courtney services and in these circumstances provides best value to the Council and to bus passengers.

6.2 RBWM officers will continue to review and monitor the services with Courtney. RBWM will require Courtney to provide monthly passenger figures as it does with other supported services.

## 7. SUSTAINABILITY IMPACT APPRAISAL

- 7.1 These services will help to:
- Reduce traffic congestion
  - Reduce carbon emissions
  - Improve air quality
  - Reduce traffic noise

## 8. RISK MANAGEMENT

8.1

Risks	Uncontrolled Risk	Controls	Controlled Risk
Loss of funding	Medium	RBWM to fund existing bus services.	Low

## 9. LINKS TO STRATEGIC OBJECTIVES

9.1 This bid will support the following strategic Objective:

### Local Transport Plan

- To improve access to everyday services and facilities for everyone
- To improve road safety and personal security for all transport users
- To improve quality of life and minimise the social, health and environmental impacts of transport
- Meet the council manifesto commitment on improving bus services:

## **10. EQUALITIES, HUMAN RIGHTS AND COMMUNITY COHESION**

10.1 No issues were identified by the equalities impact assessment initial screening exercise.

## **11. STAFFING/WORKFORCE AND ACCOMMODATION IMPLICATIONS**

11.1 The services will be managed using existing staff within the Highways and Transport Unit.

## **12. PROPERTY AND ASSETS**

12.1 None.

## **13. ANY OTHER IMPLICATIONS**

13.1 None.

## **14. CONSULTATION**

14.1 This report will be considered by the Highways and Transport Overview and Scrutiny Panel on 18th May 2016.

## **15. TIMETABLE FOR IMPLEMENTATION**

<b>Date</b>	<b>Details</b>
May 2016	Funding approval by Cabinet
June 2016	Continuation of services by Courtney Buses.

## **16. APPENDICES:**

16.1 **Appendix 1** - RBWM Bus Service Contracts

16.2 **Appendix 2** - RBWM Maidenhead Bus Services - last buses from Maidenhead

## **17. BACKGROUND INFORMATION**

17.1 The following is offered as Background Information to Cabinet.

Boulton Lock / Riverside area.

- Lost links: if additional subsidy is not approved, the only services to be retained in Boulton Lock will be those coinciding with school start / finish times at Newlands School
- Alternative services: none
- Annual Passenger journeys: 28,800
- Annual cost to retain: £20,000
- Cost per passenger: £0.69

Retain Sunday services in Maidenhead and between Windsor, Holyport and Maidenhead.

- Lost links: if additional subsidy if not approved, no Sunday or Bank Holiday services will operate on the Maidenhead network or between Maidenhead and Windsor.
- Alternative bus services: none., although rail services are available Maidenhead – Slough – Windsor
- Passenger journeys: 22,100
- Annual cost to retain: £14,000
- Cost per passenger £0.63

Retain evening services after 18:30 in Furze Platt, Pinkneys and Belmont wards

- Lost links: if additional subsidy is not approved, no evening services will operate to these areas
- Alternative bus services: none, although rail services are available from Furze Platt via Furze Platt station
- Annual cost to retain: £10,000
- Passenger journeys: 6,100
- Cost per passenger: £1.64

Document	Format	Date
Briefing Note to Lead Member	Word Document	14/12/2015
Briefing Note to Lead Member rev	Word Document	22/03/2016

## 18. CONSULTATION (MANDATORY)

Name of consultee	Post held and Department	Date sent	Date received	See comments in paragraph:
<b>Internal</b>				
Cllr Burbage	Leader of the Council	13/04/16	13/0416	
Cllr Colin Rayner	Lead Member	13/0416	13/0416	No recommendations to be given. Please circulate to all ward councillors affected Please make sure lead member of finance is aware of budget request. To include 'Officer Recommendation'
Russell O'Keefe	Strategic Director Corporate and Community Services			
Alison Alexander	Managing Director/Strat			

<b>Name of consultee</b>	<b>Post held and Department</b>	<b>Date sent</b>	<b>Date received</b>	<b>See comments in paragraph:</b>
	egic Director Adults, Children and Health			
Simon Fletcher	Strategic Director Operations and Customer Services	13/04/16	13/0416	
Ben Smith	Head of Highways and Transport	13/04/16	13/0416	03/05/16 Amendments following review with Cllr Rayner.
Mark Lampard	Finance Partner	13/04/16	13/0416	13/0416 Additional financial information requested and shown in green.
Michael Llewellyn	Cabinet Policy Officer	13/04/16	13/0416	22/04/16 Amendments requested and shown in purple.
<b>External</b>				

## REPORT HISTORY

<b>Decision type:</b>	<b>Urgency item?</b>
07/04/2016	Yes Service provider cannot maintain current service levels without financial support from the Council.

<b>Full name of report author</b>	<b>Job title</b>	<b>Full contact no:</b>
Lynne Penn	Transport & Access Team Leader	01628 796481

Appendix 1 - RBWM Bus Service Contracts

Operator	Route	Route Description	RBWM funding	RBWM	
				2016/17 contract price	Accessibility function
Bear Bus	305	Staines - Hythe End - Wraysbury - Horton - Poyle	provision of Saturday service	£5,058.56	Only daytime bus service to Hythe End; only service to Horton
Bracknell Forest Council	53	Bracknell - Jeallotts Hill - Holyport Green - Braywick - Maidenhead - Burnham - Wexham Park Hospital	joint contribution with Bucks CC	£24,717.80	Link to major regional A&E Hospital
Courtney	4; 238/9	Maidenhead rural	entire service	£137,707.00	Only service to Paley St, The Walthams, Knowl Hill, Hurley, BCA, Cookham Dean
First	77	1 Dedworth - Windsor - Slough - Terminal 5: Mon - Sat eves + Sun & BH	joint contribution with SBC and HAL	£17,939.28	Provides link to Slough & T5
		2 Dedworth - Windsor - Slough - Terminal 5: early mornings to / from T5 Mon - Sun	joint contribution with SBC and HAL	£17,659.08	
	60	1 Eton Wick - Slough - Datchet - Wraysbury - T5: Eton W - Wraysbury Mon - Sat	joint contribution with SBC and HAL	£17,939.28	Provides only regular service to Eton, Eton Wick (also served 2x a week by Bucks-supported 63 & 68 - under review) and Datchet (also served by P1 3x a day) and Wraysbury (also served by 305). Direct link to T5
		2 Eton Wick - Slough - Datchet - Wraysbury - T5: Eton W - Wraysbury Mon - Sat	joint contribution with SBC and HAL	£15,533.88	
		3 Eton Wick - Slough - Datchet - Wraysbury - T5: Wraysbury - T5: Sundays	joint contribution with SBC and HAL	£12,501.72	
White Bus	1	The Sunnings - Ascot - Great Park - Windsor	RBWM procurement with BFC contribution	£114,326.00	Provides only daytime service to The Sunnings and Windsor Great Park
	88	Fifield - Windsor Schools	entire service	£10,000.00	Service Fifield and Dedworth to Windsor schools
	PR1	Home Park Park and Ride with 3 trips to Datchet	entire service	£132,957.62	Link Datchet - Windsor; duplicates railway and alternative Slough link
	PR2	seasonal Centrica Park and Ride	entire service	£16,500.00	None
	W1	West Windsor shuttle	entire service	£33,963.00	Introduced in response to changes to First 77 to provide a fine grain level of accessibility.

Slough Borough Council SBC  
 Heathrow Airport Limited HAL  
 Bracknell Forest Council BFC



**Appendix 2 - RBWM Maidenhead Bus Services - last buses from Maidenhead**

<u>Route</u>	<u>Operator</u>	<u>Area</u>	<u>Last Bus from Maidenhead (current) MF</u>	<u>Last Bus from Maidenhead (without support) MF</u>
4	Courtney	Maidenahead Rural: Paley Street, White Waltham, Shurlock Row, Waltham St Lawrence, Knowl Hill	17:20	
4A	Courtney	Maidenahead Rural: Knowl Hill	19:10	
5/5A	Courtney	Farmers Way - Maidenhead - Cranbrook Drive	19:28 - to Cranbrook Drive / Halifax Road (5A) 19:58 - to Farmers Way (5A)	18:30 - to Halifax Road (5) 18:56 - to Farmers Way (5)
7	Courtney	Cox Green and Woodlands Park	20:30	
8	Courtney	Boulters Lock - Maidenhead - Halifax Road	18:42 - to Halifax Road 18:15 - to Boulters Lock	18:42 - to Halifax Road No service - to Boulters Lock
16/16A	Courtney	Maidenhead - Bray - Holyport - Dedworth - Windsor	18:35 (from 12 June Timetable Change)	
37	Arriva	Maidenhead - Cookham - Bourne End - High Wycombe	18:50	
53	Courtney	Bracknell - Maidenhead - Burnham - Wexham Park Hospital	18:35 - to Wexham Park Hospital 19:48 - to Bracknell	
75	First Berkshire	Maidenhead - Slough - Heathrow Central	22:20 - to Slough and Heathrow 23:20 - to Slough only	
238/239	Courtney	Maidenhead Rural: BCA, Hurley, Bisham/Henley	18:20 - to Hurley (239)	