

**ANGUS COUNCIL****PLANNING AND TRANSPORT POLICY COMMITTEE****25 April 1996****SUBJECT: PUBLIC TRANSPORT UPDATE****REPORT BY DIRECTOR OF PLANNING, TRANSPORT & ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT**

<b>Abstract:</b> The purpose of this report is to update Committee on public transport issues.
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**1 RECOMMENDATION**

It is recommended that the Committee -

- 1 Note the content of this report.

**2 INTRODUCTION**

- 2.1 This report is to inform Committee of on-going transport issues, namely publicity, college transport provision, education transport tendering, local bus service changes and potential ScotRail service improvements.

**3 PUBLICITY**

- 3.1 The 1996 edition of the Angus Public Transport Map and Guide and 'Days Out' leaflets for each of the main Angus Towns suggesting possible day trips by local bus services were published on 1 April 1996. New for this year was a 'Days Out' leaflet for Monifieth. The maps and leaflets have been widely distributed to libraries, tourist offices, places of interest, hotels and guest houses in the Angus area. These publications have been jointly funded by Scottish Enterprise Tayside and are aimed at promoting public transport to both local residents and tourists.
- 3.2 Shortly to be published is a Transport Guide for Angus. The Guide is designed to inform both individuals and groups of the transport facilities available in Angus. Particular attention has been paid to the needs of the disabled giving details of the Council's Travel Concession and Taxicard Schemes. Information has also been included on local bus, train and community transport services available in the area. This Transport Guide was requested by the Angus Transport Forum as it was considered to be essential to compile an inventory of all the transport facilities available in Angus prior to establishing what transport needs remain unmet in the area.

#### **4 COLLEGE TRANSPORT**

- 4.1 The responsibility for organising college transport passed from the Director of Education to the Colleges themselves from 1 April 1996. Within Angus there are approximately 370 transport entitled students attending Angus College and Dundee College. This transport is provided by a combination of contract vehicles and the purchase of season tickets on local bus services with the annual cost for this being approximately £100,000.
- 4.2 Service agreements (including arrangements for payments) have been entered into with both Angus College and Dundee College for the Director of Planning, Transport and Economic Development to continue to organise transport on their behalf.

#### **5 EDUCATION TRANSPORT**

- 5.1 Tendering is currently being undertaken of the education transport contracts in the Brechin and Montrose areas. This is part of a rolling programme for the retendering of contracts throughout Angus every three years. The existing transport is provided by a combination of local bus and contracted services, these arrangements have been re-assessed in the light of changes in pupil numbers in the area. Other contracts which will be reviewed this year are those for the transport of children with special needs and for contracts to sports facilities and to Angus Music Centre.

#### **6 LOCAL BUS SERVICE REVISIONS**

- 6.1 From 15 April 1996, an additional journey was introduced by Strathtay Scottish Ltd on Service 70 between Dundee and South Grange Nursing Home, this provides a lunch-time service to the Nursing Home on Mondays to Saturdays.
- 6.2 From 29 April 1996, Meffans Coaches have re-timed their early morning journey on Service 128 between Kirriemuir and Blairgowrie to operate 30 minutes later. This is as a result of losing a works contract and no local bus service passengers will be inconvenienced.

#### **7 SCOTRAIL**

- 7.1 Preliminary discussions have taken place with ScotRail, Dundee City Council and Perth and Kinross Council regarding possible service improvements on the Perth - Dundee - Arbroath - Montrose corridor. These were in response to ScotRail informing the Councils that they have surplus rolling stock which the Councils may wish to lease. Consideration is being given to options for potential service improvements. Initial assessments are also being made of potential usage and costs. At this stage no commitment has been made and clearly resource considerations will be of paramount importance. The committee will be kept informed of any progress in these studies.

#### **8 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

- 8.1 There are no immediate financial implications resulting from this report.

**9 CONSULTATION**

- 9.1 The Director of Law and Administration has been consulted in the preparation of this report.

**10 CONCLUSION**

- 10.1 It is important that a co-ordinated and integrated approach is taken to public transport provision. This report updates members on several initiatives contributing towards such an approach.

**NOTE**

No background papers, as defined by Section 50D of the Local Government (Scotland) Act 1973, (other than any containing confidential or exempt information) were relied on to any material extent in the preparation of this report.

AA/LEM/SP

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