

ANGUS COUNCIL

INFRASTRUCTURE SERVICES COMMITTEE

2 JUNE 2009

SUBJECT: PUBLIC TRANSPORT UPDATE

REPORT BY DIRECTOR OF INFRASTRUCTURE SERVICES

Abstract: This report informs Members of proposed changes to local bus service provision in the Angus area. Approval is sought for the continuation of local bus service provision in the Glen Clova area from August 2009 following the outcome of the recent school conveyance re-tendering exercise.

1 RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended that the Committee –

1. agree to the award of a best value contract to Stagecoach Strathtay for the operation of an afternoon non-schooldays service from Kirriemuir to Glen Clova; and
2. note the service revisions proposed by Stagecoach Strathtay from 1 June and 6 July 2009.

2 INTRODUCTION

- 2.1 This report details service changes proposed by Stagecoach Strathtay within Angus. In addition, Members are asked to approve arrangements for the non-schooldays provision of an afternoon service from Kirriemuir to Glen Clova.

3 TAYWAY SERVICE REVISIONS

- 3.1 Stagecoach Strathtay are to introduce changes to the timetables they operate on the Tayway corridor from 6 July 2009. The main changes are summarised as follows:

Service 39 (Montrose - Arbroath – Dundee)

- Minor timetable change to early morning journeys.

Service 39A (Montrose – Arbroath – Dundee – Ninewells – Invergowrie)

- Revised Sunday timetable introduced to improve reliability. Minor changes to Monday to Saturday evening timetable. Most Service 39A journeys will now terminate at Ninewells Hospital rather than Invergowrie or Kingoodie.

Service 73/73A (Arbroath – Carnoustie – Dundee – Ninewells Hospital)

- A revised route and timetable will be introduced to provide a basic 10 minute frequency between Ninewells and Monifieth, with alternate buses continuing to either Ashludie Hospital via Broomhill Drive, or to Carnoustie via Barry. Two of the three buses per hour serving Carnoustie will operate to/from Arbroath – once

per hour via Muirdrum and Easthaven respectively. In Arbroath these services will run to and from Clifftown;

- Within Carnoustie the 3 buses per hour on Mondays to Saturdays will serve the centre of the town as follows:

Towards Arbroath

- 1 bus per hour to Arbroath via Carlogie Road and Muirdrum;
- 1 bus per hour to Arbroath via Arbroath Road and Easthaven;
- 1 bus per hour to Newton Road via Carlogie Road

Towards Dundee

- 1 bus per hour from Arbroath via Carlogie Road and Muirdrum to Ninewells Hospital;
- 1 bus per hour from Arbroath via Easthaven, Westhaven Park and Panbride Road to Ninewells Hospital;
- 1 bus per hour from Newton Road via Carlogie Road as the service to and from Newton Road will run via Carlogie Road this means that Queen Street will no longer be served by local bus services;

- Outwith peak times, no services will start/terminate at Westhaven Park. Dundee bound Service 73A journeys from Easthaven will divert via Westhaven Road and Panbride Road. However no journeys will follow this route in reverse. Stagecoach have based this decision on the distance from houses bounded by Carlogie Road, Panbride Road and Westhaven Road to the nearest bus stops;
- In Monifieth Eastbound services will run as follows:
 - 1 bus per hour to Arbroath via Carnoustie and Muirdrum;
 - 1 bus per hour to Arbroath via Carnoustie and Easthaven;
 - 1 bus per hour to Carnoustie Newton Road;
 - 3 buses per hour to Broomhill Drive and Ashludie Hospital. These journeys return to Monifieth High Street in reverse, giving Broomhill Drive regular services in both directions.
- Other than the two hourly off-peak, Saturday and Sunday service to and from Monikie and Monifieth High Street, no Stagecoach services will run beyond Ashludie Hospital to and from Ethiebeaton Park. Ethiebeaton Park will be served by a new Service 75 which will operate hourly from Dundee via West Ferry, Broughty Ferry and Grange Road;
- On Sundays an hourly service will be provided to and from Ashludie Hospital, Broomhill Drive on Service 73B to Dundee City Centre and Invergowrie. This will combine with Service 39A and 73A to provide three buses per hour to and from Monifieth High Street and Dundee City Centre;

Services 13/13A (Ethiebeaton Park/Ashludie Hospital/Monifieth – Dundee) and 77 – 77C (Ethiebeaton Park - Monifieth – Dundee – Newport/Wormit/Gauldry)

- These services are withdrawn. They are replaced in the Ashludie and Broomhill areas by Services 73 and 73A as above. Grange Road will be served by one bus per hour in each direction on new Service 75 (Dundee – Grange Road – Ethiebeaton Park). The current level of service is 2 buses per hour.

4 SERVICE 27 (KIRRIEMUIR – FORFAR – ARBROATH) & SERVICES 41/43 (ARBROATH TOWN SERVICES)

- 4.1 With effect from 6 July 2009, Service 27 will no longer divert via Kirkton, but will operate instead along Forfar Road and Cairnie Road in both directions. Stagecoach Strathtay will re-introduce through services in both directions on Services 41 and 43 to and from Timmergreens, Kirkton and Arbroath Town Centre. These services will be diverted via Arbroath High Street to serve the new main Post Office adjacent to the Sheriff Court. On journeys from Clifftown, Service 27 will also run via Arbroath High Street.

5 SERVICE 34: BRECHIN TOWN SERVICE

- 5.1 To solve reliability issues on the above services, the frequency of operation on Service 34 will reduce from every 30 minutes to every 40 minutes with effect from Monday 1 June 2009. High loadings along with parking issues at various locations across the town had led to journeys running late. This change has however allowed Service 34 to divert and call at the main entrance to the Lidl supermarket which meets requests from the local community for more direct public transport access to the store.

6 KIRRIEMUIR – GLEN CLOVA

- 6.1 Members at the last meeting of this Committee were informed of the withdrawal by Royal Mail Post Bus of the service between Kirriemuir and Glen Clova (Report 340/09 refers).
- 6.2 The replacement service approved was for a demand responsive taxi service to operate a morning journey on Mondays to Saturdays and for the school contract operating from Websters High School to Glen Clova to provide the replacement facility. School contracts in the Kirriemuir area have been re-tendered for the start of the new academic session in August as part of the on-going three-year contract renewal exercise for school conveyance contracts. The contract will operate via Bank Street in Kirriemuir to Dykehead and has been awarded to Stagecoach Strathtay, there is no cost to the Planning and Transport budget for the operation of this service on schooldays.
- 6.3 The previous school contract providing this afternoon journey was also operated by Stagecoach Strathtay and in order to maintain service provision on non-schooldays a Best Value contract was entered into, this representing the lowest cost solution as detailed in the previous report (Report 340/09 refers).
- 6.4 Stagecoach Strathtay are willing to continue to operate the non-schooldays service at the same cost £66 per day (£4,620 in a full year) as previously reported to Committee. It is therefore recommended that a Best Value Contract be awarded to Stagecoach Strathtay as detailed in Appendix 1 to this report. This is in line with section 16.16 of the Council's Financial Regulations and Appendix 11(a) which states that Best Value contracts can be used 'To procure small amounts of work up to £12,000 per annum where it might not be cost effective to go through the tendering process'. This contract will be subject to 3 months notice of termination and will form part of the on-going service review of local bus service provision in Angus.

7 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

- 7.1 The cost of awarding the contract as detailed in this report from the start of the new academic session in August for the remainder of the 2009/10 financial year amounts to £1,584 and can be accommodated within the Planning and Transport Revenue Budget for 2009/10. The full year costs for 2010/11 would be £4,620 and this together with the additional costs for full year operation of the contracts awarded at the March meeting of this Committee (Report 196/09 refers) bring the local bus service expenditure in a full year to £1,636,045 excluding inflation.
- 7.2 Members will recall that additional one-off funding of £288,000 was approved for 2009/10 bringing the total local bus service budget to £1,580,642. A full review of local bus service provision in Angus is currently being taken forward so that service provision in future years is at a level that is sustainable and affordable. The emergency contracts recommended for award in this report will along with all other local bus service provision in Angus be considered as part of that review.

8 SINGLE OUTCOME AGREEMENT

- 8.1 This report contributes to the following local outcome contained within the Single Outcome Agreement for Angus:
- Our public services are high quality, continually improving, efficient and responsive to local people's needs.

9 CONSULTATION

- 9.1 The Chief Executive, Director of Corporate Services, Head of Finance and Head of Law & Administration have been consulted in the preparation of this report.

10 HUMAN RIGHTS IMPLICATIONS

- 10.1 There are no human rights implications arising from this report.

11 EQUALITIES IMPLICATIONS

- 11.1 The issues dealt with in this Report have been the subject of consideration from an equalities perspective (as required by legislation). An [equalities impact assessment](#) is not required.

12 CONCLUSION

- 12.1 The local bus service network continues to be kept closely under review. Where essential journeys are no longer provided then subject to budget availability contracted provision is secured.

ERIC S LOWSON
DIRECTOR OF INFRASTRUCTURE SERVICES

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 preparing the above Report.

APPENDIX 1

1	<p>Contract: A272a Route : Kirriemuir – Glen Clova (Mondays to Fridays non-schooldays)</p>
2	<p>Current commercial service provision on corridor None. Schooldays only Service 801 operated under contract to Angus Council.</p>
3	<p>Reason for recommended award of ‘best value’ contract The award of a contract under ‘best value’ provisions meets the following criteria set out in Appendix 11(a) of Angus Council’s Financial Regulations:</p> <p>‘To procure small amounts of work up to £12,000 per annum where it might not be cost effective to go through the tendering process’.</p>
4	<p>Consequences if contract is not awarded under the ‘best value’ regime There would be no return journey on non-schooldays for passengers travelling down from Glen Clova to Kirriemuir to shopping, medical appointments etc.</p>
5	<p>Financial implications The cost of this contract is £66.00 per day. This service will be subject to 3 months notice of termination and will form part of the on-going local bus service review.</p>
6	<p>Recommendation It is recommended that this contract is awarded to Stagecoach Strathtay on 3 months notice of termination.</p>

