

Council

19 July 2012

Agenda Item 21(A)

Brighton & Hove City Council

Subject:	Supported Bus Services Network – Update		
Date of Meeting:	19 July 2012		
Report of:	Monitoring Officer		
Contact Officer:	Name:	Abraham Ghebre-Ghiorghis	Tel: 29-1500
	Email:	Abraham.ghebre-ghiorghis@brighton-hove.gov.uk	
Ward(s) affected:	All		

For General Release

Note: By reason of the following circumstance, the Mayor is of the opinion that this item should be considered at the meeting as a matter of urgency having regard to items elsewhere on the agenda regarding Supported Bus Services Network and the request of the Policy & Resources Committee.

Note: The special circumstances for non-compliance with Council Procedure Rule 3, Access to Information Procedure Rule 5 and Section 100B(4) of the Local Government Act 1972 (items not considered unless the agenda is open to inspection at least five days in advance of the meeting) were that the information set out in this report was not available and/or not able to be set out at the time the agenda was dispatched.

1. SUMMARY AND POLICY CONTEXT:

- 1.1 At the Policy and Resources Committee on the 14th of June 2012 Members awarded contracts for a selected number of supported bus routes in the city. A subsequent report was considered by the Policy & Resources Committee in a part II session. As part of its deliberations, the Committee decided that there should be a press release with information without disclosing exempt information and that should form the basis of a part I paper to Council so that it can be debated in the open part.
- 1.2. The press release is attached as Appendix 1.

2. RECOMMENDATIONS:

- 2.1 Members are recommended to note the report and the attached statement.

Council saves supported bus routes

Supported bus routes will be protected in Brighton & Hove because of increased savings.

The Policy and Resources committee has agreed to continue to subsidise the winter Sunday evening services 21B and 81A and the 81 Monday to Saturday evening services. The move was made after a correction to the procurement process that has resulted in increased savings. Brighton & Hove buses have confirmed that they will continue to run the 22, 24, 26, and 27 on a commercial basis.

School buses and safe transport for children will also be safeguarded by re-tendering new services for one year to provide school transport previously provided by the 74 and 96 bus services. The committee agreed to provide short term funding to make this happen.

The number 52 bus service will continue with a new provider, the Big Lemon, but with a shortened route terminating at the Marina

Council Leader Jason Kitcat said: "This means we will be able to fund non-commercial routes which will benefit residents and protect routes like the Sunday Evening winter services. Virtually all routes which were previously subsidised will continue either as a commercial or council subsidised services. This approach has flushed out which routes are now commercially viable and saved taxpayers money whilst maintaining services."