

Bus Transport Select Committee

Hearing 1

Tuesday 27 September 2016

Witness Guide for Members

Below are suggested themes and questions. They have been provided in advance to the witnesses to allow them to prepare for the types of issues that Members may be interested to explore. All Members are welcome to ask these questions or pose additional ones to the witnesses via the Committee Chairman.

Themes and Questions

Phil Lightowler, Head of Public Transport, Kent County Council

- Please introduce yourself and provide an outline of the roles and responsibilities of your post.
- Please provide an outline of the structure and operation of the current model of local bus transport in Kent (please provide the Committee with key figures).
- Please discuss the role of Kent County Council in delivering public transport (delivery model).
- What is the difference between concessionary travel and supported services?
- Please discuss KCC's supported bus services in terms of the existing network, funding criteria and outcomes.
- Who are the main beneficiaries of KCC's Young Person's Travel Pass? Who are the main beneficiaries in Kent of the English National Concessionary Travel Scheme?
- Are there any groups of people in Kent who are not benefiting as much from these schemes? What can be done, if anything, to redress any imbalances?
- In your view, to what extent can KCC prioritise support of the current delivery model of local bus transport in Kent given the current resources available to the local authority?

- In your view, what are the main benefits and challenges associated with the recent Bus Services Bill?
- In your opinion, what are the main issues – if any – associated with bus transport in Kent?
- What can KCC do, if anything, to improve bus transport in Kent?
- Are there any other issues that you would like to raise with the Committee?