

**NOTICE OF DECISIONS AGREED AT THE GREATER MANCHESTER TRANSPORT BUS
SERVICES SUB-COMMITTEE HELD ON FRIDAY 21 JANUARY, 2022
AT FRIENDS MEETING HOUSE**

PRESENT:

Councillor Jackie Harris	Bury Council
Councillor John Leech	Manchester City Council
Councillor Phil Burke	Rochdale Council
Councillor Roger Jones (Chair)	Salford Council
Councillor Barry Warner	Salford Council
Councillor David Meller	Stockport Council
Councillor Warren Bray	Tameside Council
Councillor Nathan Evans	Trafford Council
Councillor Mark Aldred	Wigan Council

OFFICERS IN ATTENDANCE:

Gwynne Williams	Deputy Monitoring Officer, GMCA
Lee Teasdale	Governance & Scrutiny, GMCA
Stephen Rhodes	Customer Director and Interim Head of Bus Services
Nick Roberts	Head of Services & Commercial Development, TfGM

OPERATORS IN ATTENDANCE:

Gary Nolan	One Bus
Adam Clark	Stagecoach
Nigel Featham	Go North West
Mark Mageean	Stagecoach
Alex Jones	Arriva
Matt Rawlinson	Rotala/Diamond
Paul Townley	First Bus
Paul Turner	Transdev

1. APOLOGIES

That apologies be received and noted from Councillor Naeem Hassan (Manchester) and Councillor Kevin Peel (Bury).

Apologies were also received from Ian Humphreys (First Bus) who was substituted at the meeting by Paul Townley.

2. CHAIRS ANNOUNCEMENTS AND URGENT BUSINESS

That Members note the update on industrial action at the First Bus Oldham depot.

3. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest.

4. MINUTES OF THE GM TRANSPORT BUS SERVICES SUB COMMITTEE MEETING HELD 19 NOVEMBER 2021

That the minutes of the GM Transport Bus Services Sub Committee meeting held 19 November 2021 be approved as a correct record.

5. BUS OPERATOR UPDATE

1. That the verbal updates presented by bus operators be noted, particularly in relation to the ongoing uncertainties around the Bus Recovery Grant post 4th April 2022, the reduction of concessionary reimbursements, and continuing issues with anti-social damage to buses.
2. That it be noted that services were now offering 95-100% of pre-covid mileage, but post-Christmas following the introduction of Plan B had only been recording 70% patronage levels compared to pre-covid.
3. That it be noted that COVID-19 related sickness absences were now beginning to drop across bus operators, but still continued to cause higher levels of sickness absence than pre-COVID overall.
4. That it be noted that whilst bus driver applications were at healthy levels, the ability to train and put them on the roads remained hampered by DVLA delays.
5. That it be noted that TfGM were in ongoing discussions with the Department of Transport with a view to establishing to position on grant funding post 4th April 2022 for bus services.
6. That arrangements be made for Cllr Mark Aldred (Chair of the Transport Committee) to make a statement at the next full Committee meeting expressing the concerns raised around the need for further support funding for both the bus and Metrolink networks.
7. That the statement referred to in decision 6 (above), be shared as a draft with all Transport Committee members ahead of the meeting to ensure a cross party consensus.
8. That all bus operators be asked to provide the Chair with an update on their current position in working towards meeting Clean Air Zone requirements ahead of the next meeting of the Transport Committee, which the Chair will then circulate to all Committee Members.
9. That TfGM be asked to provide an update in advance of the next Transport Committee meeting on the current status of the Bus retrofit programme across Greater Manchester.
10. That it be noted that bus operators welcomed the level of co-operation seen between themselves and TfGM on the necessary amendments to bus schedules during the COVID pandemic.
11. That Rotala/Diamond bus representatives be asked to provide an update on the levels of bus vandalism currently taking place across their fleet.

12. That any updates bus operators were able to provide on their approach to the use of face coverings on buses following the ceasing of Plan B requirements be forwarded to the Chair.

6. CHANGES TO THE BUS NETWORK AND REVIEW OF SUBSIDISED BUS SERVICES BUDGET

1. That the changes to the commercial network set out in Annex A be noted by Members.
2. That the proposals that no action is taken in respect of changes or de-registered commercial services set out in Annex A be agreed by Members.
3. That the action taken in respect of the service change set out in Annex B be noted by Members.
4. That the proposed changes to general subsidised services set out in Annex C be agreed by Members.
5. That the update on all work undertaken to address the actions arising from the previous meeting be noted by Members.
6. That Members welcomed the addition of maps to the report.
7. That changes to the 280 service at Dunham Massey be welcomed, despite the ongoing concerns of a few residents.
8. That concerns around the 84A service punctuality due to ongoing works on Barlow Moor Road be noted.
9. That it be noted that ongoing conversations were taking place at TfGM with regards to the integration of new cycle lanes into the road network, particularly the works currently taking place on Barlow Moor Road.
10. That TfGM officers be asked to undertake a piece of work analysing where split services have resulted in an impact cost due to the lack of integrated ticketing between services.

7. GMTC WORK PROGRAMME

That the proposed work programme for the GM Transport Committee and its Sub Committees be noted.

8. DATES AND TIMES OF FUTURE MEETINGS

That it be noted that the next meeting of the Bus Services Sub Committee would be held on 18th March 2022.

9. EXCLUSION OF THE PRESS AND PUBLIC

