

GREATER MANCHESTER TRANSPORT COMMITTEE

BUS SERVICES SUB COMMITTEE

Date: Friday 18th November 2022

Subject: Changes to the Bus Network and Review of Subsidised Bus Services
Budget - Part A

Report of: Stephen Rhodes, Director of Bus, TfGM

Purpose of Report

To inform Members of the changes that have taken place to the bus network since the last Bus Services Sub Committee meeting and report on action taken or proposed by Transport for Greater Manchester.

Recommendations:

Members are asked to:

1. Note and comment as appropriate on changes to the commercial network set out in Annex A;
2. Agree that no action is taken in respect of changes or de-registered commercial services set out in Annex A;
3. Agree the action taken in respect of the service change set out in Annex B; and
4. Agree the proposed changes to general subsidised services set out in Annex C.

Contact Officers

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Equalities Implications

An Equality Impact Assessment (EqIA) has been undertaken to identify potential implications of the proposed network changes being implemented by bus operators on various protected groups and the extent to which TfGM's proposed response will mitigate these. This EqIA identified a number of potential negative impacts on groups with protected characteristics should services need to be withdrawn or significantly reduced as a result of these proposals – including access to healthcare facilities for the disabled and elderly; access to education for young people; and a disproportionate impact on BAME and low-income households who are more reliant on bus services.

Given that TfGM has intervened to replace withdrawn services and reduced frequencies, the impact will be marginal in the short to medium term.

Climate Change Impact Assessment and Mitigation Measures

N/A

Risk Management

N/A

Legal Considerations

N/A

Financial Consequences – Revenue

See paragraph 2 and Part B report.

Financial Consequences – Capital

N/A

Number of attachments to the report: 0

Comments/recommendations from Overview & Scrutiny Committee

N/A

Background Papers

Forthcoming Changes to the Bus Network report to the Greater Manchester Transport Committee, Bus Services Sub -Committee – 7 October 2022.

Tracking/ Process

Does this report relate to a major strategic decision, as set out in the GMCA Constitution?

Yes

Exemption from call in

Are there any aspects in this report which means it should be considered to be exempt from call in by the relevant Scrutiny Committee on the grounds of urgency? No

GM Transport Committee

N/A

Overview and Scrutiny Committee

N/A

1. Introduction/Background

- 1.1. The Bus Services Sub Committee of the Greater Manchester Transport Committee considers matters relating to the operation and service performance of the bus network in Greater Manchester, including commercially registered and subsidised services; Demand Responsive Services, bus stations and bus stops; passenger information services; contract monitoring; vehicle standards; and passenger safety for the subsidised bus network.
- 1.2. Acting under delegated authority, the Sub Committee is tasked to review closely and approve all proposed changes to the subsidised bus network and ensure that the cost of the subsidised general services is kept within the appropriate budget or any cash limits. This is achieved through: -
 - rationalisation of existing services whilst maintaining key links on the network;
 - engaging with operators with the objective of them taking on “marginal commercial” services; and
 - continuing to redesign and restructure grouped services to ensure that maximum value is obtained from subsidy.
- 1.3. In general, withdrawals, reductions or amendments to services are currently only planned at the date of next renewal of the contract concerned and proposed changes will be reported to this Sub Committee.
- 1.4. The governance process that leads up to the reporting to the Bus Services Sub Committee involves the scrutiny of all tendered services at TfGM’s Tender Panel that consists of representatives from Legal, Procurement and Finance as well as TfGM’s Bus Services team.

2. 2022/23 BUDGET SUMMARY

- 2.1 The summary below provides the current position on the 2022/23 Subsidised Bus Services budget for the six months to 30th September 2022.
- 2.2 The budget table presented currently excludes the planned Bus Network Review interventions (at a cost of circa £12m annualised) described below which largely come into effect from the 30th October 2022. Future reporting will include expenditure and the associated funding with respect to these additional interventions.

	Year to date - September 2022				Budget 2022/23 £000
	Actual	Budget £000	Variance £000	%	
General Network Costs					
General Bus Services	12,131	12,526	395	3.2%	25,561
Local Link	807	863	57	6.6%	1,806
Shuttles	915	988	73	7.3%	1,242
Sub-Total General Network	13,853	14,377	524	3.6%	28,610
Schools Services Costs	6,414	6,609	195	2.9%	14,879
Total – Subsidised Services costs	20,267	20,986	719	3.4%	43,489
General Network Income					
General Bus Services	3,100	3,238	(137)	(4.2%)	6,949
Local Link	44	47	(3)	(6.4%)	89
Shuttles	459	496	(38)	(7.6%)	588
Sub-Total General Network	3,603	3,781	(178)	(4.7%)	7,626
Schools Services income	2,618	2,777	(159)	(5.7%)	6,189
Total – Subsidised Services income	6,221	6,558	(337)	(5.1%)	13,815
Net Cost - Subsidised Services	14,046	14,428	382	2.6%	29,674

3. CHANGES TO THE COMMERCIAL NETWORK (ANNEX A)

3.1 Annex A to this report lists changes to commercial services which, in the view of Transport for Greater Manchester, are not sufficiently significant to require the provision of subsidised service replacements. Brief details of the implications of the changes are provided.

4. CHANGES TO THE COMMERCIAL NETWORK (ANNEX B)

4.1 Annex B to this report lists changes to commercial services and provides brief details of the implications of these changes, which officers believe are of sufficient importance to require action by Transport for Greater Manchester.

5. CHANGES TO GENERAL SUBSIDISED SERVICES (ANNEX C)

5.1 Annex C to this report lists proposals for changes to general subsidised services on which the views of Members are requested. Information is given about the reasons for proposing these changes.

6. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

6.1 Financial implications are set out in Part B of the report.

7. RECOMMENDATIONS

7.1 Recommendations are set out at the front of this report.

Stephen Rhodes

Director of Bus

SIGNIFICANT CHANGES TO THE COMMERCIAL NETWORK

ANNEX A

Dist	Service No. and Route	Operator	Proposed Change	Effective From	Alternative Services	Integration impact (modes/ticketing)	Comments/TfGM officer recommendations
TE	347 Ashton – Guide Bridge – Denton – Haughton Green	Stagecoach Manchester	Service 347 operates every 10 minutes Monday to Saturday daytime, every 30 mins Sunday daytime. It also operates half hourly Monday to Saturday evening and hourly Sunday evening. The Monday to Saturday daytime frequency is reducing from every 10 minutes to every 12 minutes.	29/01/23	n/a	n/a	No action proposed.

SIGNIFICANT CHANGES TO THE COMMERCIAL NETWORK

ANNEX B

Dist	Service No. and Route	Operator	Proposed Change	Effective From	Alternative Services	Integration impact (modes/ticketing)	Comments/TfGM officer recommendations
BN SD MR	8 Bolton – Farnworth – Pendleton – Manchester	Diamond Bus	<p>Service 8 operates every 12 minutes Monday to Saturday daytime, every 30 minutes Sunday daytime, half hourly daily evenings.</p> <p>The Sunday daytime frequency is being reduced from every 20 minutes to 30 minutes and the evening service finishes earlier.</p> <p>The route is being curtailed within Manchester City Centre with all journeys curtailed at St Mary's Gate instead of Shudehill.</p>	29/01/23	N/A	N/A	<p>Service to be retained at the existing frequency.</p> <p>No action is proposed for the route curtailment at St Mary's Gate.</p> <p>Members are asked to approve this recommendation which would be effective from 29th January 2023.</p> <p>The impact on the subsidised services budget is given in Part B of this report.</p>

Dist	Service No. and Route	Operator	Proposed Change	Effective From	Alternative Services	Integration impact (modes/ticketing)	Comments/TfGM officer recommendations
RE MR	17 Norden – Rochdale – Middleton – Manchester	Go North West	<p>Service 17 currently operates between Manchester and Rochdale on frequencies up to every 10 minutes. This remains unchanged.</p> <p>To partially replace the withdrawal of service 162, as detailed below, 3 morning and 4 afternoon journeys on service 17 have been extended via the current R8 route between Rochdale and Norden.</p>	29/01/23	N/A	N/A	<p>Service 17 is proposed to be extended to Norden to partially replace service 162.</p> <p>Members are asked to approve this recommendation which would be effective from 29th January 2023.</p> <p>The impact on the subsidised services budget is given in Part B of this report.</p>

Dist	Service No. and Route	Operator	Proposed Change	Effective From	Alternative Services	Integration impact (modes/ticketing)	Comments/TfGM officer recommendations
SD TD	21 Agecroft – Eccles – Trafford Centre	Diamond Bus	<p>Service 21 operates every 30 minutes Monday to Saturday daytime, hourly Sunday daytime and hourly/2-hourly daily evenings.</p> <p>The half hourly commercial Saturday service is being withdrawn.</p> <p>Mon-Fri 0635 from Trafford Centre withdrawn.</p> <p>Mon-Fri reduction in number of journeys early evenings.</p>	29/01/23	N/A	N/A	<p>Service to be retained at the existing frequency.</p> <p>Members are asked to approve this recommendation which would be effective from 29th January 2023.</p> <p>The impact on the subsidised services budget is given in Part B of this report.</p>

Dist	Service No. and Route	Operator	Proposed Change	Effective From	Alternative Services	Integration impact (modes/ticketing)	Comments/TfGM officer recommendations
BN SD TD	22 Bolton – Farnworth – Eccles – Trafford Centre	Diamond Bus	Service 22 operates every 30 minutes Monday to Sunday daytime and hourly daily evenings. Mon-Fri 0550 from Trafford Centre withdrawn. The Sunday daytime frequency is being reduced from every 30 minutes to 60 minutes.	29/01/23	N/A	N/A	Service to be retained at the existing frequency. Members are asked to approve this recommendation which would be effective from 29th January 2023. The impact on the subsidised services budget is given in Part B of this report.

Dist	Service No. and Route	Operator	Proposed Change	Effective From	Alternative Services	Integration impact (modes/ticketing)	Comments/TfGM officer recommendations
BN SD MR	36 Bolton – Walkden – Swinton – Pendleton – Manchester	Diamond Bus	<p>Service 36 operates every 12 minutes Monday to Saturday daytime, every 30 minutes Sunday daytime and half hourly daily evenings.</p> <p>Mon-Fri 0349 from Bolton withdrawn.</p> <p>Mon-Fri 0500 from Manchester withdrawn.</p> <p>Mon-Fri 0701 from Swinton withdrawn.</p> <p>Daily 2315 from Bolton withdrawn.</p> <p>The Saturday daytime frequency is being reduced from every 12 minutes to 15 minutes.</p>	29/01/23	N/A	N/A	<p>Monday to Friday morning journeys and daily evening journeys to be retained at existing frequencies.</p> <p>No action proposed to Saturday daytime frequency reduction.</p> <p>Members are asked to approve this recommendation which would be effective from 29th January 2023.</p> <p>The impact on the subsidised services budget is given in Part B of this report.</p>

Dist	Service No. and Route	Operator	Proposed Change	Effective From	Alternative Services	Integration impact (modes/ticketing)	Comments/TfGM officer recommendations
BN SD MR	37 Bolton – Walkden – Swinton – Pendleton – Manchester	Diamond Bus	<p>Service 37 operates every 12 minutes Monday to Saturday daytimes and every 30 minutes Sunday daytime and daily evenings.</p> <p>Mon-Fri 0455 from Farnworth withdrawn.</p> <p>Mon-Fri 0550 from Walkden withdrawn.</p> <p>Mon-Fri 0543 from Manchester withdrawn.</p> <p>Daily 2310 from Bolton withdrawn.</p> <p>The Saturday daytime frequency is being reduced from every 12 minutes to 15 minutes.</p>	29/01/23	N/A	N/A	<p>Monday to Friday morning journeys and daily evening journeys to be retained at existing frequencies.</p> <p>No action proposed to Saturday daytime frequency reduction.</p> <p>Members are asked to approve this recommendation which would be effective from 29th January 2023.</p> <p>The impact on the subsidised services budget is given in Part B of this report.</p>

Dist	Service No. and Route	Operator	Proposed Change	Effective From	Alternative Services	Integration impact (modes/ticketing)	Comments/TfGM officer recommendations
WN SD TD	126 Leigh – Boothstown – Trafford Centre	Diamond Bus	<p>Service 126 operates hourly Monday to Sunday daytime and hourly Monday to Saturday evening.</p> <p>Mon-Fri 0820 from Leigh withdrawn. Mon-Fri 0730 from Trafford Centre withdrawn.</p> <p>Saturday 0740 & 0840 from Leigh withdrawn. Saturday 0850 from Trafford Centre withdrawn.</p> <p>Monday to Friday evening service withdrawn.</p>	29/01/23	N/A	N/A	<p>Monday to Saturday morning journeys and the Monday to Friday daily evening service to be retained at existing frequencies.</p> <p>Members are asked to approve this recommendation which would be effective from 29th January 2023.</p> <p>The impact on the subsidised services budget is given in Part B of this report.</p>

Dist	Service No. and Route	Operator	Proposed Change	Effective From	Alternative Services	Integration impact (modes/ticketing)	Comments/TfGM officer recommendations
WN SD TD	132 Wigan – Tyldesley – Trafford Centre	Diamond Bus	<p>Service 132 operates hourly Monday to Sunday daytime and evenings.</p> <p>Mon-Fri 0713 from Wigan withdrawn. Mon-Fri 0610 from Trafford Centre withdrawn. Mon-Fri 0735 from Tyldesley withdrawn.</p> <p>Saturday 0836 from Wigan withdrawn. Saturday 0720 from Trafford Centre withdrawn.</p>	29/01/23	MF 0736 from Tyldesley	N/A	<p>Monday to Saturday morning journeys to be retained at existing frequencies, except for the Monday to Friday 0735 from Tyldesley.</p> <p>Members are asked to approve this recommendation which would be effective from 29th January 2023.</p> <p>The impact on the subsidised services budget is given in Part B of this report.</p>
BY RE MR	162 Norden – Heywood – Middleton – Manchester	Diamond Bus	<p>Service 162 operates Monday to Friday at peak times.</p> <p>This service is being withdrawn, with existing journeys on service 162 becoming journeys on service 163.</p>	29/01/23	N/A	N/A	<p>Service 162 is proposed to be replaced by alterations to service 17.</p> <p>Please refer above for details of service 17.</p>

Dist	Service No. and Route	Operator	Proposed Change	Effective From	Alternative Services	Integration impact (modes/ticketing)	Comments/TfGM officer recommendations
BY RE MR	163 Bury – Heywood – Middleton – Manchester	Diamond Bus	<p>Service 163 operates every 12 minutes Monday Saturday daytime, every 15 minutes on Sunday daytime and every 30 minutes daily evenings.</p> <p>Mon-Fri 0431 from Langley Lane withdrawn. Mon-Fri 1855/Sat 1858 & Mon-Sat 2328 from Bury withdrawn. Mon-Fri 0513 & Mon-Sat 2008 from Manchester withdrawn.</p> <p>The Sunday daytime frequency is being reduced from every 15 minutes to 30 minutes.</p> <p>Sunday short workings between Manchester and Middleton withdrawn.</p>	29/01/23	N/A	N/A	<p>Monday to Saturday morning and evening journeys to be retained at existing frequencies.</p> <p>The Sunday daytime service is to be retained at the same frequency.</p> <p>No action proposed to the Sunday evening frequency reduction from 30 to 60 minutes between Manchester and Middleton.</p> <p>Members are asked to approve this recommendation which would be effective from 29th January 2023.</p> <p>The impact on the subsidised services budget is given in Part B of this report.</p>

Dist	Service No. and Route	Operator	Proposed Change	Effective From	Alternative Services	Integration impact (modes/ticketing)	Comments/TfGM officer recommendations
BY	472/474 Bury – Walmersley – Ramsbottom	Diamond Bus	<p>Circular services 472/474 operates every 20 minutes Monday Saturday daytime, every 30 minutes Sunday daytime and hourly daily evenings.</p> <p>Service 472: Mon-Fri 0500, 0545, 0615 & Sat 0630 from Bury withdrawn.</p> <p>Service 474: Mon-Fri 0530, 0600, 0625 & Sat 0650, 0730 & 0800 from Bury withdrawn.</p> <p>Daily evening circular services withdrawn.</p>	29/01/23	N/A	N/A	<p>Monday to Saturday morning and daily evening journeys to be retained at existing frequencies.</p> <p>Members are asked to approve this recommendation which would be effective from 29th January 2023.</p> <p>The impact on the subsidised services budget is given in Part B of this report.</p>

Dist	Service No. and Route	Operator	Proposed Change	Effective From	Alternative Services	Integration impact (modes/ticketing)	Comments/TfGM officer recommendations
BN	501 Farnworth – Bolton – Johnson Fold	Diamond Bus	<p>Service 501 operates every 15 minutes Monday Saturday daytime, every 30 minutes Sunday daytime and hourly daily evenings.</p> <p>Daily early morning and early evening journeys are withdrawn.</p> <p>The Saturday daytime frequency is being reduced from every 15 minutes to 20 minutes.</p> <p>Tendered journeys currently operated by Vision Bus are unaffected.</p>	29/01/23	N/A	N/A	<p>Monday to Saturday morning and evening journeys to be retained at existing frequencies. Saturday daytime Service to be retained at the same frequency.</p> <p>Members are asked to approve this recommendation which would be effective from 29th January 2023.</p> <p>The impact on the subsidised services budget is given in Part B of this report.</p>

Dist	Service No. and Route	Operator	Proposed Change	Effective From	Alternative Services	Integration impact (modes/ticketing)	Comments/TfGM officer recommendations
BN	520 Bolton – Westhoughton	Diamond Bus	<p>Service 520 operates every 30 minutes Monday to Saturday daytime, hourly Sunday daytime and hourly daily evenings.</p> <p>Sat 0823 & 0923 from Bolton withdrawn. Sat 0848 & 0952 from Bolton withdrawn.</p>	29/01/23	N/A	N/A	<p>Saturday morning journeys to be retained at existing frequencies.</p> <p>Members are asked to approve this recommendation which would be effective from 29th January 2023.</p> <p>The impact on the subsidised services budget is given in Part B of this report.</p>

Dist	Service No. and Route	Operator	Proposed Change	Effective From	Alternative Services	Integration impact (modes/ticketing)	Comments/TfGM officer recommendations
BN BY	524 Bolton – Little Lever – Radcliffe – Bury	Diamond Bus	<p>Service 524 operates every 12 minutes Monday Friday daytime, every 15 minutes Saturday daytime, every 30 minutes Sunday daytime and hourly daily evenings.</p> <p>Mon-Fri 0500, Sat 0615 & Sun 0745 from Bolton withdrawn.</p> <p>Mon-Fri 0445, 0515, Sat 0600 & Sun 0730 and 0830 from Bury withdrawn.</p> <p>Daily evening journeys withdrawn.</p> <p>Departures from Bury to Bolton between 1800-1900 reduced from six to five.</p>	29/01/23	N/A	N/A	<p>Daily morning and evening journeys to be retained at existing frequencies.</p> <p>No action proposed to the Monday to Friday reduction in departures from 6 to 5 from Bury between 1800 and 1900.</p> <p>Members are asked to approve this recommendation which would be effective from 29th January 2023.</p> <p>The impact on the subsidised services budget is given in Part B of this report.</p>

Dist	Service No. and Route	Operator	Proposed Change	Effective From	Alternative Services	Integration impact (modes/ticketing)	Comments/TfGM officer recommendations
BN	561/562 Bolton – Tonge Fold – Withins	Diamond Bus	<p>Circular Services 561/562 operates every 30 minutes Monday to Saturday daytime, hourly Sunday daytime and hourly daily evenings.</p> <p>Service 561: Mon-Fri 0545 from Bolton withdrawn.</p> <p>Daily evening journeys on both services withdrawn.</p>	29/01/23	N/A	N/A	<p>The Monday to Friday morning journey on Service 561 and daily evening journeys on both circular services to be retained at existing frequencies.</p> <p>Members are asked to approve this recommendation which would be effective from 29th January 2023.</p> <p>The impact on the subsidised services budget is given in Part B of this report.</p>

Dist	Service No. and Route	Operator	Proposed Change	Effective From	Alternative Services	Integration impact (modes/ticketing)	Comments/TfGM officer recommendations
BN WN	575 Bolton – Horwich – Wigan	Diamond Bus	<p>Service 575 operates every 20 minutes Monday to Saturday daytime, hourly Sunday daytime and hourly daily evenings.</p> <p>Mon-Fri 0522, 0602, 1930 & Sat 0614 from Horwich withdrawn. Mon-Fri 1855 & Sat 0645 from Bolton withdrawn.</p> <p>The Sunday daytime service operated by Diamond Bus is being withdrawn.</p> <p>Journeys operated by Arriva North West are unaffected.</p>	29/01/23	<p>Mon- Fri 0537 & Sat 0622 from Old Lord's Estate.</p> <p>Note:</p> <p>Diamond Bus have been approached to retime these journeys to maintain the span of operation.</p>	N/A	<p>Sunday day-time Service to be retained at the same frequency.</p> <p>Specific journeys on Monday to Saturday are not proposed to be replaced, due to the existence of alternate journeys proximate to the journeys being withdrawn. Albeit some passengers may need to access the service at The Crown in Horwich instead of Old Lords, which is under 400 metres.</p> <p>Members are asked to approve this recommendation which would be effective from 29th January 2023.</p> <p>The impact on the subsidised services budget is given in Part B of this report</p>

Dist	Service No. and Route	Operator	Proposed Change	Effective From	Alternative Services	Integration impact (modes/ ticketing)	Comments/TfGM officer recommendations
WN	584 Leigh – Crankwood	Diamond Bus	<p>Service 584 operates hourly Monday to Saturday daytime, every two hours Sunday daytime and daily evenings.</p> <p>Sat 1611 & 1711 round trip from Leigh withdrawn.</p>	29/01/23	N/A	N/A	<p>The Saturday late afternoon journeys to be retained at existing frequencies.</p> <p>Members are asked to approve this recommendation which would be effective from 29th January 2023.</p> <p>The impact on the subsidised services budget is given in Part B of this report</p>

Dist	Service No. and Route	Operator	Proposed Change	Effective From	Alternative Services	Integration impact (modes/ticketing)	Comments/TfGM officer recommendations
WN	588 Leigh – Lowton	Diamond Bus	<p>Service 588 operates hourly Monday to Saturday daytime, every two hours Sunday daytime and every two hours daily evenings.</p> <p>Mon-Fri 1740 & Sat 0835, 1535, 1635 & 1735 round trip from Leigh withdrawn.</p>	29/01/23	N/A	N/A	<p>The Saturday morning and the Monday to Saturday late afternoon journeys to be retained at existing frequencies.</p> <p>Members are asked to approve this recommendation which would be effective from 29th January 2023.</p> <p>The impact on the subsidised services budget is given in Part B of this report</p>

Dist	Service No. and Route	Operator	Proposed Change	Effective From	Alternative Services	Integration impact (modes/ticketing)	Comments/TfGM officer recommendations
BN TD	X22 Bolton – Trafford Centre	Diamond Bus	Service X22 operates hourly on Saturday daytime. This Saturday service is being withdrawn.	29/01/23	N/A	N/A	Service to be retained at the existing frequency. Members are asked to approve this recommendation which would be effective from 29th January 2023. The impact on the subsidised services budget is given in Part B of this report

CHANGES TO THE SUBSIDISED NETWORK

ANNEX C

Nothing to report

Dist	Service, route and operator	TfGM officer comments and recommendations