

747 parish user group review

14th Nov 2018 – Houghton

Present: Lee Quincey LCC, Simon Galton LCC, Steve Rozak and reps from various parish councils on the 747 route

Key points from meeting

Concession travel and RCC transport policy review – risk to service if concession policy changes

Although LCC/RCC have agreed funding for the 747 bus until end of June 2019 LCC raised questions about RCC current transport policy review in regard to concession travel. Centre Bus have become aware of RCC transport policy review and in particular are concerned about concessionary travel and its impact if changed on the current funding arrangements. Their concern is that if the policy changes adversely affect concession travel their revenues will be impacted and as such have said that they wouldn't be able to continue on with the service beyond March 2019.

As there was no representative from RCC at the meeting Steve Rozak said he would try and get a statement from RCC as a matter of urgency.

After discussions with Lucy Stephenson the following day a press release was issued clarifying the Centre Bus concern – email to UTC councillors was issued week of the 19th Nov 2018 confirming that no changes to concession travel will be made before the June contract review

LCC transport policy review and impact on the 747 service – Green light service from LCC

Lee Quincey took the group through the recent LCC transport policy review and its impact on the 747 bus service. It was confirmed by LCC that they had carried out an analysis of the 747 service based upon their new formula's. Although the route is subsidized based upon their new formulas as a service it was highlight as a "Green Light service" meaning that it was one of their best routes in the subsidized category and as such would be a service that would be supported by LCC in the future. Obviously the service is part supported by RCC and we are not sure how RCC methods of analysing subsidized bus routes will work in the future so any adverse analysis from RCC on this bus route may impact LCC current analysis.