Committee report



University of West of Scotland, Lanarkshire Campus Bus Services

Committee Operations

Date of meeting 24 August 2018 Date of report 7 August 2018

Report by Senior Director

1. Object of report

To update the Committee on SPT activities in support of the establishment of bus services to University of West of Scotland's new Lanarkshire Campus.

2. Background

In 2016 University of West of Scotland (UWS) confirmed plans for a new campus located at Hamilton Technology Park, to replace the previous campus in Hamilton town centre. Opening in September 2018, approximately 4,000 students and 300 staff will attend the new campus. Undergraduate and Post-Graduate courses are offered in a wide range of subjects including Business, Law, Healthcare, Bio-sciences, Engineering & Technology, Social Sciences and Sports.

While the new campus is well connected to the road network, being situated close to the A725 Hamilton to East Kilbride trunk road and having circa 1,000 car parking spaces, it is not currently well served by public transport. The closest bus services are infrequent, limited in coverage and operate a significant distance away from the new campus site.

In respect of rail links, Hamilton West and Hamilton Central stations are located approximately 2.5 and 3 miles from the new campus respectively. Both stations are expected to be key interchange points for students and staff travelling to the new campus.

Similarly, for those travelling to the campus from nearby East Kilbride, public transport access is poor.

Accordingly, in early 2018 UWS asked SPT to assist with efforts to improve public transport to the site from Hamilton and East Kilbride.

3. Outline of proposals

In support of improving Public Transport, in particular bus links to the UWS Lanarkshire Campus, SPT arranged a number of meetings with UWS and bus operators, in order for UWS to share details of the new campus, expected staff and student numbers, postcode spread etc., with the intention of stimulating a commercial response.

Following these meetings, First Glasgow Ltd has registered two new services to serve the new UWS Lanarkshire Campus. Commencing 3 September 2018, service U1 will link Hamilton Bus Station with the Lanarkshire Campus, whilst service U2 will link East Kilbride Bus Station with the Lanarkshire Campus. These services are being operated by First Glasgow on a commercial basis, i.e. without subsidy.

A map showing the route of the new services is shown in Appendix 1 and the timetable is included in Appendix 2.

Further to the above, on 11 June 2018 a press release was issued in relation to the new service. This can be viewed in Appendix 3.

Whilst the move by First Glasgow to commercially register services U1 and U2 is to be welcomed, the risk in establishing such new services is also acknowledged. Therefore, SPT officers will continue to engage with UWS and First Glasgow to monitor the success of initiative and to share information on the new services with all relevant parties.

4. Conclusions

SPT has played a key role in bringing UWS and the bus operators together, with a positive outcome for students and staff through the establishment of the U1 and U2 bus services.

5. Committee action

The Operations Committee is requested to note the content of this report.

6. Consequences

Policy consequences	In line w	ith RTS.	Good	access to	UWS Lanarkshire
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Campus will be vital for all students, particularly those

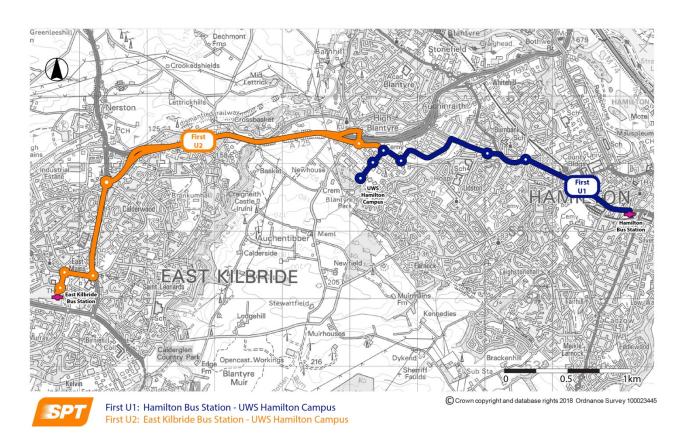
without access to a car.

Legal consequences None
Financial consequences None
Personnel consequences None
Equalities consequences None
Risk consequences None

Name Charles Hoskins Name Gordon Maclennan
Title Senior Director Title Chief Executive

For further information, please contact *Gordon Dickson, Bus Development Manager* on *0141* 333 3407.

Appendix 1: Map of First Glasgow services U1 & U2 to University of West of Scotland Lanarkshire Campus



Appendix 2: Timetables of First Glasgow services U1 & U2 to University of West of Scotland Lanarkshire Campus

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Appendix 3: Press release (11th June 2018) of new bus services to University of Scotland Lanarkshire Campus

"University of the West of Scotland (UWS), which is set to open the doors of its new Lanarkshire campus in September, has today announced transport routes which will significantly improve connectivity between the campus and the rest of the region.

Transport operator First Bus is to launch two new bus services to Hamilton International Technology Park, where the new campus is situated.

Service UW1 will operate up to every 10 minutes between Hamilton Bus Station, Hamilton West and UWS Lanarkshire campus providing a frequent link with most other bus and rail services in the area. Service UW2 will provide a direct service between East Kilbride Bus Station and the new campus. Both services will be operated by UWS branded double decker buses with additional features including leather seats with built in USB ports and free wi-fi. A fantastic range of money saving fares will also be available.



Routes will be fully operational from 3rd September when the full student cohort arrives. The UWS Lanarkshire campus will have a student population of 4,000 and 300 staff, with significant numbers expected to regularly use the service. This initiative will also significantly improve links for anyone working at the Technology Park, which is home to HSBC, Babcock and John Lewis premises.

These new services represent a £1 million investment by First Bus and comes after detailed discussions with UWS facilitated by Strathclyde Partnership for Transport."

https://www.uws.ac.uk/news/new-uws-campus-boosts-lanarkshire-transport-links/