

Amendments to subsidised local bus service contracts

Committee Operations

Date of meeting 10 March 2017

Date of report 20 February 2017

Report by Assistant Chief Executive (Operations)

1. Object of report

To advise the Committee of amendments to the following local bus service contracts:

Toryglen - Croftfoot (service M2) Toryglen - Castlemilk (service 74)

Greenock - Midton (service 507)

Balfron - Strathblane - Milngavie - Glasgow (service C10)

Harthill/Torbothie - Shotts - Wishaw General Hospital/Ravenscraig Regional Sports Facility (services 365/366/367)

Glasgow City Centre – Scottish Event Campus - Riverside Museum (service 100)

Johnstone - Bridge of Weir - Linwood (service X6A)

Bellshill - Harthill (services 235/236)

Maryhill - Riddrie (service 8A)

Maryhill - Knightswood (service 94)

Dumbarton - Tullichewan/Westcliff – Haldane (service 206)

Kilsyth - Cumbernauld - Airdrie - Monklands Hospital (service 147/147A)

Hairmyres Station Interlink (service 399)

Irvine/Kilbirnie – Beith (service 32/125)

This report affects East Dunbartonshire, Glasgow City, Inverclyde, North Ayrshire; North Lanarkshire, Renfrewshire, South Lanarkshire and West Dunbartonshire council areas.

2. Background

(a) Toryglen - Croftfoot (service M2) Toryglen - Castlemilk (service 74) SPT vehicles

Services M2 and 74 are operated on behalf of SPT by First Glasgow, providing an hourly, Monday to Saturday daytime service between Toryglen and Croftfoot as service M2, and a hourly, Monday to Saturday daytime service between Toryglen and Castlemilk as service 74, within contract W030C1.

Following the planned closure of Kerrycroy Avenue, Toryglen to facilitate utility works, the route of service M2 has been altered to operate via Aikenhead Road and Curtis Avenue from 9th January 2017, for an estimated period of 3 months.

Action

SPT altered the route of service M2 within contract W030C1, with effect from 9 January 2017. No additional costs apply.

(b) Greenock - Midton (service 507)

Service 507 is operated on behalf of SPT by McGill's Buses, providing a half hourly, Monday to Saturday evening service between Greenock town centre and Midton via Cardwell Bay, within contract W046B.

The route of service 507 was altered to avoid conflict with Inverclyde Council's imposed bridge weight restriction in Union Street, Greenock, as reported to a previous meeting of this Committee. Following completion of strengthening works, the bridge weight limit restriction has significantly increased, thereby permitting local service buses access to the route. Consequently, the original route of service 507 has been reinstated, with effect from 15 January 2017.

Action

SPT altered the route of service 507 within contract W046B, with effect from 15 January 2017. No additional cost will apply.

(c) Balfron - Strathblane - Milngavie – Glasgow City Centre (service C10)

SPT contributes financially to cross-boundary service C10, which is administered contractually by Stirling Council, and is operated by Midland Bluebird. Service C10 provides Monday to Saturday evening journeys between Balfron and Glasgow via Strathblane and Milngavie within Stirling Council contract S16/C10a.

Stirling Council notified SPT of its intention to agree a minor alteration to an early Saturday evening departure from Balfron to Glasgow City Centre. As this alteration offers a benefit to the travelling public, the change was agreed with effect from 11 March 2017.

Action

SPT agreed to the alteration to the route and timetable of service C10 within Stirling Council contract S16/C10a, with effect from 11 March 2017. No additional cost will apply.

(d) Harthill/Torbothie - Shotts - Wishaw General Hospital/Ravenscraig Regional Sports Facility (services 365/366/367)

Services 365, 366 and 367 are operated on behalf of SPT by Stuarts Coaches, which owing to the long term closure of Station Road, Shotts to facilitate the Edinburgh Glasgow Improvement Programme (EGIP), temporarily provide a Monday to Saturday two hourly daytime service between Torbothie and Wishaw General Hospital as service 365, a.m. and p.m. Monday to Saturday peak journeys and a two hourly daytime Sunday service between Harthill and Wishaw General Hospital, with weekday a.m. journey extensions to Netherton Industrial Estate and p.m. journey extensions to Ravenscraig Regional Sports Facility (Ravenscraig) as service 366, and a daily, evening service between Harthill and Ravenscraig and two hourly daytime Sunday service between Shotts and Wishaw General Hospital as service 367, within contract W022D.

SPT received a request to alter the temporary route and timetable of subsidised service 365, to provide an early evening Monday to Saturday journey extension from Wishaw General Hospital to Ravenscraig. Following consultation with the operator, the route and timetable of service 365 will be altered to provide an extension to the 1745hours journey ex Torbothie, between Wishaw General Hospital and Ravenscraig, with effect from 12th March 2017.

Action

SPT will alter the route and timetable of service 365 within contract W022D, with effect from 12 March 2017. No additional costs will apply.

(e) Glasgow City Centre - SEC - Riverside Museum (service 100)

Service 100 is tendered and managed by SPT on behalf of Glasgow City Council (GCC) providing a daily, half hourly daytime service between Glasgow City Centre and the Riverside Museum via the Scottish Event Campus (SEC) within contract W044C, utilising 2 fully electric vehicles, operated by Garelochhead Coaches.

As a consequence of the now long term closure of Benalder Street and Coopers Well Street, Partick due to an unsafe building, the route of service 100 was altered to operate via Old Dumbarton Road and Blantyre Street/Bunhouse Road, with effect from 26 February 2017. Reliability issues were also identified and minor timetable alterations were incorporated to address this.

Action

SPT will alter the route and timetable of service 100 within contract W044C, with effect from 26 February 2017. No additional costs apply.

(f) Johnstone - Bridge of Weir - Linwood (service X6A)

Service X6A, which provided an hourly, daily, evening service between Johnstone and Linwood via Bridge of Weir, was operated with subsidy from SPT until 16 July 2016, when duplicate provision in the form of McGill's Buses commercial service X7, resulted in the suspension of contract W048D, which was due to commence on this date.

Given the time that has elapsed since market testing of the cost of delivering service X6A and the potential for a reconsideration of subsidy requirements resulting from forthcoming commercial service changes, contract W048D, awarded to Gibson Direct, has been cancelled with effect from 9 February 2017.

Action

SPT cancelled contract W048D with effect from 9 February 2017. The annual cost saving of £19,997, previously realised through contract suspension, will continue through cancellation of contract W048D.

(g) Bellshill - Harthill (services 235/236)

Services 235 and 236 are operated on behalf of SPT by Stuarts Coaches, providing an hourly daytime service Monday to Saturday between Harthill and Bellshill as service 235 and an hourly evening service, Monday to Saturday and daytime and evening on Sundays, between Harthill and Bellshill extending via Chapelhall, as service 236, within contract 4199D.

Extensive road improvement works to the M8 motorway and surrounding road network have resulted in traffic congestion at peak times, Monday to Friday, which has adversely effected timekeeping on services 235 and 236. Following analysis of the day to day operation of the services, the problematic time periods were identified and as a result, the timetable for services 235 and 236 will be altered through the peak, to allow additional running times throughout the affected journeys, with effect from 19 March 2017.

Action

SPT will alter the timetable of services 235 and 236, within contract 4199D, with effect from 19 March 2017. No additional cost will apply.

(h) Maryhill - Riddrie (service 8A) Maryhill - Knightswood (service 94)

Services 8A and 94 are operated on behalf of SPT by First Glasgow, providing an hourly, Monday to Saturday early evening and Sunday service between Riddrie and Maryhill via Springburn as service 8A, and an hourly, Monday to Saturday daytime service between Maryhill and Knightswood via Anniesland as service 94, within

current contract W058A and ensuing contract W058B, due to commence 16 July 2017.

The long term closure of Edgefauld Road, Springburn in September 2015 resulted in both the subsidised and commercial routes of service 8A being altered. Following completion of these works, First Glasgow informed SPT that, due to changes in the local housing demographic, commercial journeys would not revert to the former route. In order to standardise the operation, SPT agreed that the subsidised service should mirror the route of the commercial service, within existing contract W058A.

The ensuing contract W058B will also now be altered to reflect the agreed route.

Action

SPT will alter the route and timetable of service 8A, within awarded contract W058B, from the contract commencement date of 16 July 2017. These alterations will result in a reduction in contract mileage and as a consequence, the cost will reduce by £31 per week, equivalent to £1,612 per annum.

(i) Dumbarton – Tullichewan/Westcliff - Haldane (service 206)

Service 206 is operated on behalf of SPT by First Glasgow, providing an hourly, daily, evening service between Dumbarton and Tullichewan, and Sunday morning journeys between Westcliff and Haldane, via Dumbarton and Tullichewan, within current contract LS009C and renewal contract LS009D, due to commence 16 July 2017.

Subsequent to the tendering of the renewal contract, First Glasgow revised commercial service 206, Westcliff to Haldane, as part of its network changes from 23 October 2016. In order to avoid duplicate provision on Sunday mornings between Haldane and Balloch, and also between Tullichewan and Dumbarton, SPT agreed to withdraw the supplementary journeys within existing contract LS009C, thereby reducing contract mileage.

The ensuing contract LS009D will also now be altered to reflect the agreed timetable change.

Action

SPT altered the timetable of service 206, within awarded contract LS009D, from the contract commencement date of 16 July 2017. This alteration will result in a reduction in contract mileage and as a consequence, the cost will reduce by £13 per week, equivalent to £684 per annum.

(j) Kilsyth - Cumbernauld - Airdrie - Monklands Hospital (service 147/147A)

Service 147/147A is operated on behalf of SPT by McGill's Buses, providing an hourly, Monday to Saturday evening and Sunday daytime and evening service between Kilsyth and Monklands Hospital via Cumbernauld Town Centre and Airdrie, within current contract 2827L and ensuing contract 2827M, due to commence 16 July 2017.

Subsequent to the tendering of the replacement contract, Stagecoach revised its commercial network within Cumbernauld from 12 December 2016, which resulted in gaps in socially necessary transport provision along Condorrat Ring Road (South) during Monday to Saturday evening and Sunday daytime and early evening. SPT agreed to address this through diversion of existing and provision of additional journeys, Monday to Saturday early evening and Sunday morning between Cumbernauld Town Centre and Condorrat, Ring Road (South), within existing contract 2827L.

The ensuing contract 2827M will also be altered to reflect the agreed timetable change.

Action

SPT will alter the timetable and route of service 147/147A within awarded contract 2827M, from the contract commencement date of 16 July 2017. These alterations incur additional mileage and as a consequence, the contract cost will increase by £203 per week, equivalent to £10,567 per annum.

(k) Hairmyres Station Interlink (service 399) SPT Vehicle

Service 399 is operated on behalf of SPT by McGill's Buses and provides 3 journeys at morning peak times from Whitehills, East Kilbride to Hairmyres Rail Station and return at afternoon peak times, within contract 4833K and renewal contract 4833M (the award of which is referred to this Committee within a separate paper).

Following customer feedback, SPT analysed the operation of the service and identified timekeeping issues with the morning journeys. This will be addressed via adjustment of the timetable to provide additional running time throughout, with effect from 19 March 2017, within both existing contract 4833K and ensuing contract 4833M.

Action

SPT will alter the timetable of service 399 within contract 4833K, with effect from 19 March 2017 and contract 4833M with effect from 16 July 2017. No additional costs apply.

(l) Irvine/Kilbirnie – Beith (services 32/125)

Services 32 and 125 are operated on behalf of SPT by Western Buses Ltd, providing an hourly, Monday to Saturday daytime service between Kilbirnie and Irvine as service 32 and peak a.m. journeys and an hourly evening service between Irvine and Beith via Kilbirnie as service 125, within current contract LS60C1 and ensuing contract LS060D, due to commence 16 July 2017, which will be operated by Shuttle Buses Ltd.

Post tendering of the replacement contract, SPT received a request for peak a.m. journeys to arrive in Irvine slightly earlier than the existing timetable. SPT agreed to address this through minor timetable alterations to service 125, within existing contract LS60C1, with effect from 1 January 2017.

The ensuing contract LS060D will also be altered to reflect the agreed timetable change.

Action

SPT will alter the timetable service 125 within awarded contract LS060D, from the contract commencement date of 16 July 2017. No additional costs will apply.

3. Committee action

The Committee is recommended to agree the following:

- (a) alteration to the route of service M2, within contract W030C1, with effect from 9 January 2017, no additional costs apply;
- (b) alteration to the route of service 507, within contract W046B, with effect from 15 January 2017, no additional costs apply;
- (c) alteration to the route and timetable of service C10, within Stirling Council contract S16/C10a, with effect from 11 March 2017, no additional costs apply;
- (d) alteration to the route and timetable of service 365 within contract W022D, with effect from 12 March 2017, no additional cost will apply;
- (e) alteration to the route and timetable of service 100 within contract W044C, with effect from 26 February 2017, no additional cost will apply;
- (f) cancellation of contract W048D, with effect from 9 February 2017;
- (g) alteration to the timetable of services 235 and 236, within contract 4199D, with effect from 19 March 2017, no additional cost will apply;
- (h) alteration to the route and timetable of service 8A, within contract W058B, with effect from 16 July 2017, at a reduced cost of £1,612 per annum;
- (i) alteration to the route and timetable of service 206, within contract LS009D, with effect from 16 July 2017, at a reduced cost of £684 per annum;
- (j) alteration to the route and timetable of service 147/147A, within contract 2827M, with effect from 16 July 2017, at an increased cost of £10,567 per annum;
- (k) alteration to the timetable of service 399, within contract 4833K, with effect from 19 March 2017 and contract 4833M with effect from 16 July 2017, no additional cost will apply;

and

- (l) alteration to the timetable of service 125, within awarded contract LS060D, from the contract commencement date of 16 July 2017, no additional costs will apply.

4. Consequences

- Policy consequences: *In line with Regional Transport Strategy.*
- Legal consequences: *All amendments are permitted in terms of the conditions of contract.*
- Financial consequences: *The amendments to contracts detailed in the committee paper will result in additional costs of £2,067 in 2016/17 and £8,271 in 2017/18.*
- Personnel consequences: *None.*
- Equalities consequences: *Seeks to reduce the incidence of social exclusion by supporting socially necessary services.*
- Risk consequences: *None.*

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