

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT 2000 - Bus Services & Subsidies

Your request for information has now been considered and the Council's response to your questions is shown below.

You asked:

7 July 2011 10:10

- 1. The number of bus services that received subsidies in your area in the last financial year (2010/11)**

Answer: 41 of which 20 are local bus services and 21 are school services

- 2. The percentage of bus services that received subsidies in the last financial year (2010/11)**

Answer: 33% excluding school services

- 3. The amount that you spent on bus subsidies in the last financial year (2010/11)**

Answer: £1.01m

- 4. The amount of money that will be spent on bus subsidies this financial year (2011/12), in 2012/13 and in 2013/14**

Answer: £0.5m

- 5. The percentage cut that was made to your formula grant from Government this year (2011/12)**

Answer: For LCC overall formula grant and specific grants were reduced by 13% or £34m between 2010/11 and 2011/12.

7 July 2011 10:16

- 1. The number of bus services which will be subject to a reduction or withdrawal of Council subsidy this financial year, in 2012/13 and in 2013/14.**

Answer: The final figure will not be known until later in the year.

- 2. The number of previously subsidised bus services that have already been entirely lost following the withdrawal of subsidy. If you have withdrawn subsidy and are waiting to find out how the bus operator is going to react please also let us know about these buses.**

Answer: Subsidy was withdrawn from evening and/or Sunday services on 7 routes in March. None affected daytime journeys.

- 3. The number of previously subsidised bus services that have not been totally lost, but that have been reduced in terms of route or frequency following the withdrawal of subsidy. If you have withdrawn subsidy and are waiting to find out how the bus operator is going to react please also let us know about these buses.**

Answer: See above

- 4. If you can provide a list of the services in question and how they have been or will be affected please let us know.**

Answer: The services concerned were First's 16, 18, 21, 22, 74 and 94 and Arriva 104.

- 5. Have you calculated the number of bus passenger journeys the changes in subsidy could impact once your cuts have been fully implemented? If yes please state the number. I would like to know how many are at risk even if there is a chance that the operator will in fact run the service commercially going forward.**

Answer: The number of bus passenger journeys at risk is estimated at 361,000

- 6. Have you calculated the number of bus miles the changes in subsidy could impact once your cuts have been fully implemented? If yes please state the number. I would like to know how many are at risk even if there is a chance that the operator will in fact run the service commercially.**

Answer: No we haven't calculated the number of bus miles and we don't currently hold that data. Therefore this letter acts as a refusal notice under section 17.1 of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 because, in accordance with section 1.1 of the Act, this information is not held by Leicester City Council.

- 7. If you are still going through a process of consideration or consultation and have not yet made a decision on your budget for bus subsidies please let us know how many bus services, how many passengers and how many journey miles could be at risk in each proposal you are considering.**

Answer: 3 bus services are still under review.

7 July 2011 10:23

- 1. Whether there have been cuts in Council funding to home to school transport, and what changes to school transport provision are**

foreseen as a result of that cut. If you are still considering proposals we would like to know what these are.

Answer: None

2. Whether there have been cuts to council funding for post 16 education transport provisions, and what changes to post 16 transport provisions are foreseen as a result of that cut. If you are still considering proposals we would like to know what these are.

Answer: None

3. If you have had any scheme for concessionary fares in 2010 for young people please let us know if that will see changes going forward as a result of funding decisions this year. If you are still considering proposals we would like to know what these are.

Answer: No such scheme

4. How much your budget has been reduced this financial year for capital funding improvements for bus provision, such as bus priority schemes? Are there, as a result, schemes that you had planned to go forward with that you now have to shelve or undo?

Answer: We do not have a set budget per year for capital schemes. We are allocated a budget from the Department for Transport generally on an annual basis. The capital budget for transport improvements has been allocated by the DfT for the next two years. We were advised of that allocation in December 2010 and have prepared a capital programme that was approved by Council on 24th March 2011 that includes a small number bus related schemes. Due to the restrictions on Major Schemes funding by the Department for Transport the only large scheme that has been put back is the Glenfield Park and Ride scheme.

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If you are dissatisfied with the handling of your request please write to:

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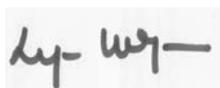
Your request for internal review should be submitted to the above address within 40 (forty) working days of receipt by you of this response. Any such request received after this time will only be considered at the Council's absolute discretion.

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Yours sincerely



Lynn Wyeth
Head of Information Governance