

ENVIRONMENT AND ATTRACTIVE CITY SCRUTINY COMMITTEE 20 SEPTEMBER 2010

PROGRESS ON THE TYNE AND WEAR ACCESSIBLE BUS NETWORK DESIGN STRATEGY

REPORT OF THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE

Strategic Priority : SP5 - Attractive and Inclusive City

Corporate Priorities: CI01 – Delivering Customer Focused Services, CI04 – Improving Partnership Working To Deliver ‘One City’

1. PURPOSE OF THE REPORT

- 1.1 To provide Members with a progress report regarding the Tyne and Wear Accessible Bus Network Design Strategy.

2. BACKGROUND

- 2.1 The Accessible Bus Network Design project was set up in 2009 to design a bus network that better meets the aspirations of local people, in response to the ITA's (Integrated Transport Authority) new Bus Strategy. It includes a review of current operational routes and frequency of local bus services.
- 2.2 The Bus Strategy sets out the ITA's plans to improve bus services between April 2009 and April 2012, and encompasses the objectives of the Tyne and Wear Local Transport Plan 2006-11 to meet targets to:-
 - i) minimise congestion
 - ii) improve accessibility to jobs & services
 - iii) improve air quality (by reduced emissions)
- 2.3 The Accessible Bus Network Design project is led by Nexus, and involves four of the Tyne and Wear Local Authorities (Sunderland, Gateshead, Newcastle, and North Tyneside); a team of transport consultants; and bus operators Go-North East, Stagecoach and Arriva.
- 2.4 At its meeting of 16 November 2009, the Scrutiny Committee received an update from the NEXUS Director General and the Director of Strategy on Public Transport, particularly regarding progress with the development of the Tyne and Wear Accessible Bus Network Design Strategy.
- 2.5 A further progress report on the Accessible Bus Network Design Strategy will be presented by Mr Bernard Garner, NEXUS Director

General and Mr Tobyn Hughes, NEXUS Director of Strategy to the Scrutiny Committee.

3. RECOMMENDATION

- 3.1 The Committee is asked to receive the progress update at Committee from Director General and the Director of Strategy, NEXUS.

4. BACKGROUND PAPERS

None

Contact Officer: Helen Lancaster, Acting Scrutiny Officer: 0191 5611233
Helen.lancaster@sunderland.gov.uk