

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF PLACE SCRUTINY COMMITTEE HELD AT COUNTY HALL, LLANDRINDOD WELLS ON THURSDAY 3 JULY 2015

Present: County Councillor R G Thomas (Chair)
County Councillors K Curry, D O Evans, V Evans, E T Morgan, D C Jones, T J Van Rees

A Public Transport Seminar had been held prior to the Committee meeting as a scrutiny review group to consider responses to a consultation exercise regarding two options for future public transport delivery.

A good response had been received to the consultation but further comments were to be sent to the Portfolio Holder for final presentation to Cabinet. It was agreed that individual Members would raise concerns regarding particular routes as appropriate but the Committee would address strategic issues.

The following points would be communicated to the Portfolio Holder:

- Consultation very much welcomed and Members pleased to note that responses have been considered
- Specific local comments will be raised by members as they see fit
- Revision of options following consultation welcomed
- Will Option 3 be subject to public consultation?
- Flexibility is essential
- Further work on integration of transport should continue
- A level of concern still remains that the more frequent services could be reduced slightly to protect some services from withdrawal
- Concern regarding how far the service can be cut before Welsh Government funding reduces
- 25% of consultees were non bus users – as we move forward we must ascertain why more residents do not use bus services
- Welcome suggestion for improved marketing
- Must encourage concessions to use their bus passes as it supports the service
- Whilst it is acknowledged that the decision whether or not to charge 16-19 year olds for school/college transport is a political one, consideration must be given to the impact this may have on the viability of schools
- Grant to community transport providers – if additional providers are encouraged to operate services, will existing schemes lose funding and be less viable?
- Timetables and bus stops are not visible in a number of locations
- Essential to have planning over the longer term across services – an example of raising kerbs to accommodate access to buses that are now being removed was raised