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**Democratic Services  
Office**

Date: 27<sup>th</sup> January 2015

Neath Port Talbot County Borough Council

**Chief Executive:**  
Stephen Phillips

Dear Councillor

**ENVIRONMENT AND HIGHWAYS CABINET BOARD - THURSDAY, 29TH JANUARY, 2015**

I am now able to enclose, for consideration at next Thursday, 29th January, 2015 meeting of the Environment and Highways Cabinet Board, the following reports that were unavailable when the agenda was printed.

**Agenda No    Item****12.    Urgent Report - Bus Route 32-36 Croeserw and Cymmer (Pages 1 - 4)**

Report of The Head of Engineering and Transport

Yours sincerely

Chief Executive

Encs

**Distribution**

1. Agenda and reports to all Members of the Environment and Highways Cabinet Board for attendance
2. Agenda and reports to Group Director, Director of Legal Services and Director of Finance for attendance.
3. Agenda to all remaining Councillors and Chief Officers for information.

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## ENVIRONMENT AND HIGHWAYS CABINET BOARD

### URGENT REPORT OF THE HEAD OF ENGINEERING AND TRANSPORT – D.W. GRIFFITHS

29<sup>TH</sup> JANUARY 2015

#### SECTION A – MATTER FOR DECISION

**WARD(S) AFFECTED: CYMMER**

#### **UPDATE ON CONSULTATION WITH LOCAL MEMBERS AND SERVICE OPERATOR WITH REGARD TO PROVISION OF EVENING SERVICE ON ROUTE 32/36**

##### **Purpose of Report**

To update Members on the outcome of further consultation in relation to the evening journeys of route 32/36 between Croeserw and Cymmer between Local Members and the service operator.

To formally seek Members' approval to advise Bridgend CBC of this Council's intention to withdraw its funding contribution to route 32/36.

##### **Background**

That having given due regard to the Equality Impact Assessment, the E&H Scrutiny Cabinet Board on the 18<sup>th</sup> of December 2014, agreed that the legal notices be served on operators, to terminate and alter services to subsidised bus routes for implementation by the 5<sup>th</sup> April 2015. There was one exception in relation to the Bridgend CBC contracted service 32/36 Croeserw to Cymmer the decision was to defer to allow for further consultation to be undertaken in conjunction with Local Members and the Service Operator, and the results be reported back at the earliest opportunity.

##### **Current Position:**

The service operator, First Group, will not be in a position to provide the journey commercially without any subsidy from Bridgend CBC. The demand does not justify the continuation of the journeys on a commercial basis.

Passenger loadings are on average:-

Ex.Croeserw Time	Ex. Cymmer Time
19.11 – 2 passengers	19.24 – 3 passengers
20.11 – 1 passenger	20.24 – 2 passengers
21.11 – 1 passenger	21.24 – 2 passengers
22.11 – 1 passenger	
23.11 – 1 passenger	

Bridgend CBC's Cabinet Board Members met on the 13<sup>th</sup> January 2015 to discuss the rationalisation proposals within their County Borough. The outcome of which, indicates that there is currently no intention to reduce the subsidy on route 32/36.

First Group's intention is to continue with the current level of service, as long as the income from Bridgend CBC remains at its current level.

If the funding reduces in the future, then the service provision will have to be revisited.

### **Recommendation**

It is recommended having due regard to the Equalities Impact Assessment:-

That Members note the updated position and that First Group will continue to provide the service at its current level, whilst Bridgend CBC's funding arrangement also remains at its current level.

That Officers be authorised to write to Bridgend CBC advising them that NPT's funding contribution towards service 32/36 will be withdrawn from 31<sup>st</sup> March 2015.

### **List of Background Papers**

Minutes of Consultation meeting on 6<sup>th</sup> January 2015.

Equalities Impact Assessment of 15<sup>th</sup> September 2014 presented to E&H Board 18<sup>th</sup> December 2014.

### **Ward Affected**

Cymmer

### **Officer Contact**

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## **COMPLIANCE STATEMENT**

### **UPDATE ON CONSULTATION WITH LOCAL MEMBERS AND SERVICE OPERATOR WITH REGARD TO PROVISION OF EVENING SERVICE ON ROUTE 32/36**

#### (a) **Implementation of Decision**

The decision is proposed for implementation after the three day call-in period.

#### (b) **Sustainability Appraisal** **Community Plan Impacts**

Economic Prosperity	-	Negative
Education and Lifelong Learning	-	Negative
Better Health and Well Being	-	Negative
Environment and Transport	-	Negative
Crime and Disorder	-	Negative

#### **Other Impacts**

Welsh Language	-	Negative
Sustainable Development	-	Negative
Equalities	-	Negative
Social Inclusion	-	Negative

#### (c) **Consultation**

This was subject to initial consultation as part of the removal of Council subsidised bus services reported to the Environment and Highways Cabinet Board on the 18<sup>th</sup> December 2014, including groups with protected characteristics. A further consultation with the Operator and Local Members was undertaken on the 6<sup>th</sup> January 2015.

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