BRISTOL CITY COUNCIL Dundry View Neighbourhood Partnership 27th June 2012

Report of: Geoff Mills, Passenger Transport Manager

Title: Bus Service 52 – Financial Support and Service Extension

Contact Telephone Number: (0117) 92 22397

RECOMMENDATION

- 1. That the Neighbourhood Partnership decides whether it wishes to utilise s106 funding from the Imperial Park development to provide financial support to the ABUS Service 52 (including extending some journeys to/from Hengrove Park) at a cost of £18k for the period 2 April 2012 to 29 March 2013.
- 2. If Recommendation 1 is agreed, that the Neighbourhood Partnership considers setting aside a further £82k of Imperial Park s106 funding (£100k total) to support service 52 for a total period of up to 5 years (until 31 March 2017).

Background

- Service 52 is presently operated on a wholly commercial basis by ABUS. It provides 9 journeys per day in each direction on Monday to Friday (not public holidays) between Highridge (Lakemead Grove) and the City Centre via the Bridgwater Road and Bedminster. Five journeys in each direction are extended to Imperial Park via Hareclive Road. The current timetable is at Appendix A.
- ABUS have approached the Council for financial support stating that without it they will have to cut back the service to five journeys in each direction operating between Lakemead Grove and the City Centre only, ie journeys to/from Imperial Park would be withdrawn.

Proposal

3. Following negotiations, the proposal is that, in return for a payment of £18k, abus will retain the current service level and extend the Imperial Park journeys to/from the new Hengrove Park development. In addition the current 15:17 journey from Bond Street would be extended to Hengrove

Park and a 15:57 return provided. The proposed timetable is attached as Appendix B. The period of support would be from 2 April 2012 until 29 March 2013 with the operation to/from Hengrove Park being introduced as soon the service registration requirements allow (6th June 2012). From the 23rd July, there would be an additional journey, from Hengrove Park to Broadmead at 13:52, and the extension and re-timing of the current 14:45 from Lakemead Grove, to depart from Hengrove Park at 14:52. Extension beyond March 2013 would be the subject of future negotiations in the context of the service's performance.

- 4. The Transport Acts permit the Council to provide support to bus operators without competitive tender under the 'de minimus' service subsidy arrangements. The limit on this is a maximum of 25% of the Council's total service subsidy budget. The requested level of support would not breach this limit.
- 5. Following the Medium Term Financial Plan's requirement to save a total of £1m from the service subsidy budget over 2011/12 & 2012/13, there is no funding available within this budget to support the service. However, the Neighbourhood Partnership has access to \$106 funds totalling some £270k from the Imperial Park development that are earmarked for public transport benefits/improvements and could therefore be utilised. It is recommended that the Neighbourhood Partnership sets aside a total of £100k of this \$106 funds, to enable the support of the 52 for a 5 year period.

Appendices

Appendix A – Current Service 52 timetable

Appendix B - Proposed Service 52 timetable 6th June & 23rd July

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BRISTOL CITY COUNCIL Dundry View Neighbourhood Partnership 27th June 2012

Report of: Steve Bird, Group Manager – Infrastructure, Passenger Transport

Title: Bus Stop upgrades

Contact Telephone Number: (0117) 92 23769

RECOMMENDATION

That the Neighbourhood Partnership agrees to utilise £173,110 s106 funding from the Imperial Park and £65,623.65 from The Groves developments, to fund bus stop upgrades in the Dundry View area.

Background

- 1. Section 106 (s106) is part of planning legislation. It can require developers to pay money to the council to provide measures to mitigate the impact of their development. A substantial amount of s106 funding (£270k) has been devolved to the Neighbourhood Partnership from the Imperial Park development, for improvements to Public and/or Sustainable Transport to the site. Also, a total of £65,623 is available from s.106 funding from the Groves development.
- 2. The delivery of the Greater Bristol Bus Network (GBBN) has involved comprehensive improvements to existing bus infrastructure on a number of bus routes into the city. This included the installation of new high quality bus shelters, longer bus stop bays to improve passenger access to vehicles, raised boarding platforms and real time information (RTI) with audio functionality.

Proposal

3. The Neighbourhood Partnership has access to s106 funds totalling £270k from the Imperial Park development that are earmarked for public transport benefits/improvements. It is recommended in a separate report to the Neighbourhood Partnership that £100k of that funding is utilised for the support of service 52, retaining enough for a 5 year period of support. It is therefore proposed that the remaining £173,110 of Imperial Park funding be used to upgrade bus stops on routes to the Imperial Park site.

- 4. The proposal is to upgrade bus stops on **Bishport Avenue**, on the route of service 36, and **Hareclive Road**, on the route of service 52, to GBBN standards. These were identified as the most suitable locations, as the 36 and 52 bus services are the only 2 services to penetrate the Imperial Park development. As a number of stops in this area were improved as part of Showcase 1, the proposal is to approach the upgrades in stages. This would address the stops with no raised kerb, shelter or RTI provision, or any combination of these elements as a priority. Following this, we would seek to replace existing infrastructure where necessary, to the improved GBBN standard.
- 5. The upgrading of a bus stop with a new shelter and associated paving works, new raised kerb and RTI display costs approximately £25k.
- 6. It is also proposed to utilise the £65,623.65 s.106 funding from the Groves development to upgrade the 4 stops in the vicinity of this site to GBBN standards. As above, this may not be enough to fund all four stops but this will depend on site and works required. The Groves s.106 is specifically identified for this purpose.

Appendices

None