

Epping Forest District Transport Task and Finish Group Notes

Date: Tuesday May 18th Time: 2pm

Venue: Epping Forest District Council Offices



Present (initials)

- Cllr Alan Smith – Epping Town Council
- Cllr Chris Pond – County Councillor member for Loughton Central and Loughton Town Councillor (CP)
- Cllr Janet Whitehouse - Epping Hemnall, County and District Councillor (JW)
- Cllr Syd Stavrou – District Councillor for Waltham Abbey High Beach, Community Safety & Transport Portfolio Holder (SS)
- Mary Young – Principal Transport Planner (MY)
- Nick Roberts, Passenger Transport Coordination Centre Manager (NR)
- Rachael Price – Accessibility Planning Officer (RP)
- Wendy Jackson - Senior Transport Liaison Officer (WJ)
- Chris Benson – Epping Forest Works Experience (CB)


Apologies

- Cllr Elizabeth Webster – Waltham Abbey Paternoster, County and District Councillor
- Colin Rowell – LSP admin Support Officer
- Stephen Fry – West Essex PCT

No.	Item	Action
1.	Introductions	
2.	Election of Chair and deputy chair <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Cllr Chris Pond was elected as Chair ➤ Nick Roberts was elected as deputy chair 	
3.	Terms of Reference <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Terms of reference were discussed ➤ Agreed to add <p style="margin-left: 20px;"><i>Encourage all sustainable modes of transport, including walking and cycling.</i></p> <p style="margin-left: 20px;"><i>Try to influence the services provided by commercial operators, including Transport for London.</i></p> <p>The amended terms of reference are attached</p>	

	 <p>H:\Accessibility Planning Team\Eppinç</p>	
<p>4.</p>	<p>What is the current situation and what do we want to know?</p> <p>Bus Services</p> <p>Bus services were deregulated in 1985 and competition was introduced on local bus services.</p> <p>Any bus operator can run whatever commercial service it wants to as long as they give 56 days notice to the Traffic Commissioner of either an introduction of a new service, withdrawal of a service or timetable changes to a service.</p> <p>If there are gaps in the commercial bus network Essex County Council as the Passenger Transport Authority can design bus services which they pay bus operators to run. These services are socially desirable and usually not commercially viable. Often these routes are rural, Sunday or evening services.</p> <p>Some service are run commercially but ECC pay for part of the route to be covered. Other services in the South of the district are operated by Transport for London, receiving some payment from ECC.</p>  <p>H:\Accessibility Planning Team\Eppinç</p> <p>Train and Underground Services</p> <p>The railways were privatised in 1993. Before this time British Rail provided an integrated rail service.</p> <p>Railtrack initially took over the role of the infrastructure. This was transferred to Network Rail in 2002. They are responsible for the running, Maintaining and developing railway tracks, signalling, rail bridges, tunnels, level crossings, viaducts and 18 key stations. It leases out the 2500 other stations and rail track to train operating companies.</p> <p>The Train Operators compete for franchise contracts let by the Department of Transport for the provision of rail services. The franchise currently operated by National Express East Anglia includes the rail services in the Epping Forest District.</p> <p>Since 1948 Transport for London and their predecessors have run the Central Line tube out to Epping Forest District.</p> <p>Community Transport</p>	

	<p>When there is no conventional bus service Community transport fills the need. There are 13 CT schemes including Epping Forest Community Transport.</p> <p>The Local Transport Act 2008 introduced an important change in relation to Community Transport Schemes. Previously, there was a legislative requirement for Community Transport Schemes to operate on the basis that vehicles were driven by voluntary drivers. However, the new act allows the use of paid drivers.</p> <p>Previously CT journeys have to be booked by the public in advance and this is not a popular aspect of the schemes and also depends on the availability of the voluntary driver. Paid drivers will ensure consistency and a guarantee of service.</p> <p>Using paid drivers allows a lot more scope to provide, for example, peak hour work for a commuter services from villages to railway stations, and between the services provide a more conventional CT service.</p> <p>Issues discussed</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◦ High frequency of service in the South of District ◦ Some areas not meeting the Minimal Service Level as set out in the ECC Passenger Strategy document ◦ Problems accessing GP surgeries/primary care, hospitals and education ◦ Integration of services <p>What do we want to know?</p> <p>Agreed we need to know the views of everyone in the EPDC and therefore need representatives from the following groups</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◦ Young People (rep Nick Robinson) ◦ Epping Forest Older Peoples Group (contact AS for name) ◦ Primary care/ GP / Link (rep John Carr) ◦ Epping Forest Woodland Area ◦ Disabled Community ◦ Homeless Hostel, South Weald (contact warden, Norway House) ◦ Park Homes – residential representation (Pat Brookes?) ◦ Schools – there is a difference between the London and ECC schools (contact?) <p>(request for service 240 to be diverted via High Beech – NR to take to local bus team))</p> <p>Areas of sustainable transport needed to be covered</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◦ Taxi (contact Kim Tuckey, licensing officer, Andrew James, Quality Taxi Partnership and new portfolio holder) ◦ Underground (Contact TfL) 	<p>RP to invite recommended contacts to next meeting</p> <p>NR</p> <p>RP to invite recommended contacts to relevant meetings</p>
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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◦ Community Transport (ask Angela Canham to attend) ◦ Social car schemes – Loughton Voluntary Care (Margaret Lawrance) ◦ Healthcare/Ongar (Sheila Jackman) ◦ Crime & Fear of Crime (Caroline Withams) ◦ Bus Operators – Arriva (London North), First, Excel, TfL 	
5.	<p>Epping Forest Area Review The consultation and aims of the EF area review were described. See attachments</p>  <p>H:\Accessibility Planning Team\Epping</p> <p>Points raised</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◦ Areas within a larger population/parish may not have a service but are not included in target areas failing the criteria ◦ Suggestion to promote the survey via Everything Epping Forest, EFDC web page, One Epping Forest, and West Essex Forum ◦ A hard copy is available on request and in libraries 	RP/WJ
6.	<p>The next steps of the study – Calling witnesses to attend to provide further oral evidence.</p> <p>Agreed to call taxi representatives for next meeting.</p>	RP
13.	<p>Dates of Next Meeting</p> <p>July 6th 10am Loughton Council Offices Loughton Town Council, 1 Buckingham Court, Rectory Lane, Loughton, Essex IG10 2QZ</p>	CP has confirmed booking