ITEM 7c



AREA PANEL 1 9 MARCH 2005

Report of Assistant Director, Highways, Transportation and Waste Management

Petition received concerning the bus service on Cornwall Road

SUPPORTING INFORMATION

- 1.1 A petition was brought to the last meeting to request the re-routing of service 102 away from Cornwall Road due to problems with access.
- 1.2 The service is funded through the governments Urban Bus Challenge, with support from Derwent New Deal for Communities. The service is designed to increase access to jobs and services at both Pride Park and Meteor Centre, and to penetrate areas not previously served by bus to allow easier access to the public transport network.
- 1.3 Following the receipt of the petition, the city council contacted Arriva to get their view as operator of the service. Their response was that there had been a small number of claims for damage to parked vehicles, but no more than average, and certainly less than elsewhere where buses have been re-routed (eg Stepping Lane). In addition, the drivers had not reported any major problems for access.
- 1.4 Arriva were also asked about patronage from this part of the route. While patronage is not strong on the route as a whole, there are some regular customers from the Cornwall Road area to Meteor Centre.
- 1.5 The council has looked at alternative routes for the service. The obvious local diversion would be to operate from Cardigan Street via Beaufort Street to Nottingham Road. Other alternative routes also exist via Wiltshire Road or Cumberland Avenue.
- 1.6 While these re-routings would be possible, they would create the problem that customers from the Cornwall Road area would have to go further to use the bus, and it would then duplicate existing bus services on either Beaufort Street or Wiltshire Road.
- 1.7 The council have employed consultants to review both theses routes and the Ring & Ride service, which is funded from the same source, with a view to improving their sustainability. This may result in changes to the route later this year, in terms of both route and method of operation. At this time therefore it is not proposed to amend the route of the service, but bring a further report to the Area panel when a recommendation as to the overall future of the service is made.

PROPOSED ACTION

2.1	No action is proposed at the current time. A further report on the consultant's findings will be brought to a future meeting.

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Background papers: None

List of appendices: