

Item 7 - Joint Authority Questions

1. "Could the Council's TfGM Representative advise what discussions have taken place and what efforts have been made to try and secure the First Bus X35 Service that provides a commuter service for residents of Bury North to central Manchester?" **Cllr Bevan**

Members will be aware that the bus network across Greater Manchester is predominantly operated on a commercial basis whereby privately owned bus operators are free to determine their own route, timetable, level of fares and retain overall control of the day-to-day operation of their services. Operators generally operate services in areas where they consider there are sufficient passenger numbers to enable the service to be commercially viable. As part of their commercial network service changes, First Manchester has made the decision to withdraw the X35, effective as of 3 September 2017.

TfGM has limited public subsidy with which to provide socially necessary bus services where no commercial alternative exists. Unfortunately TfGM is unable to fund a replacement service at this time.

Transport for Greater Manchester (TfGM) approached Rosso to ask if they would consider providing a replacement commercial service. Unfortunately they did not consider this to be financially viable, as they would need to acquire extra vehicles to run a service.

Services 472 and 474 operate every 15 minutes Monday to Saturday daytime, hourly evening and half hourly Sundays. Passengers travelling to Manchester on these services would need to change at Bury Interchange to First service 135 or alternatively use Metrolink.

2. 'Mobike' has been a great initiative for making cycling more accessible in Manchester and Salford. What work can T4GM do to encourage an extension of the scheme to cover other areas in Greater Manchester - even as first step areas within the M60? **Cllr D'Albert**

TfGM would be happy to discuss this further with Bury Council officers and members and support discussions with Mobike. Please contact Kevin Toye, Transport Strategy, TfGM on 0161 244 1645 or at kevin.toye@tfgm.com

3. Can the Council's Representative on the Greater Manchester Waste Disposal Authority confirm the cost and service implications for Bury residents of the termination of its Recycling and Waste Management PFI contract with Viridor Laing (Greater Manchester) Ltd and its sub-contractor Viridor?" **Cllr Pickstone**

Bury council will continue to make the arrangements for residents bin collections, the specification of what residents can put in which bin will not change. Also there will be no impact on the Recycling Centres.

4. Could you the representative to the GMWDA inform members what the cost is of the early termination of the Viridor Laing contract? **Cllr Bevan**

The current cost of the recycling and waste management services provided under the contract are £165.88 million per year. Immediately following the termination on the 29th September, refinancing arrangements will have been completed. This works on the same principles as a mortgage and the GMWDA has been able to secure significantly reduced rates. From this alone the savings are £20 million per year.

5. Given the health remit of the Combined Authority, could the Authority's representative on the GMCA inform members how much money the NHS in Greater Manchester spends each year on servicing/repaying 'PFI' contracts? **Cllr Pickstone**

The total PFI payments by GM providers, split by provider in 16/17, are as follows:

| | £m |
|---|--------------|
| Central Manchester Foundation Trust | 27.77 |
| University Hospital South Manchester | 8.41 |
| Tameside | 3.93 |
| Salford | 7.63 |
| Pennine Care | 1.08 |
| Total | 48.82 |