

	<h2>Environment Committee</h2> <h3>29 September 2016</h3>
<p style="text-align: center;">Title</p>	<p>London Borough of Barnet Response to Transport for London’s (TfL) consultation on Bus Service Proposals; Routes 13, 82, 113, 139 and 189</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">Report of</p>	<p>Environment Commissioning Director</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">Wards</p>	<p>All</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">Status</p>	<p>Public</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">Urgent</p>	<p>No</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">Key</p>	<p>No</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">Enclosures</p>	<p>Appendix 1: Transport for London’s Bus Service Proposal overview document Appendix 2: Draft LB Barnet response to Transport for London’s Bus Service Proposals</p>
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Summary

This report sets out the background and proposed Council response to Transport for London’s (TfL) consultation on Bus Service Proposals; Routes 13, 82, 113, 139 and 189. TfL are currently consulting on the Bus Service proposals and are seeking comments from stakeholders and the public on the proposals by 30 September 2016. Note, TfL have granted us an extension of a few days to allow enough time for this report to be discussed at Environment Committee.

The Environment Committee is asked to approve the draft response to the consultation set out in appendix 2, which highlights LB Barnet’s support of the principle of matching bus

provision to demand, subject to delivering a minimum level of service; however overall the proposal does give some cause for concern. The proposal suggests a number of negative impacts and potential challenges to Barnet residents which should be taken into consideration by TfL. Notably, the proposals highlight the loss of a direct link currently provided to the West End. The extension of the 139 to Golders Green provides an alternative that would be both less frequent and involve significantly increased journey times. In addition, there are some concerns regarding the frequency and journey times on other routes within the proposal.

Recommendations

- 1. That the Environment Committee approves the proposed response to Transport for London's consultation on the Bus Service Proposals; Routes 13, 82, 113, 139 and 189, to allow for the response to be submitted before the consultation closes on 30th September**
- 2. That the Environment Committee note that Transport for London have granted the London Borough of Barnet with an extension to allow the Environment Committee to consider the report and the details outlined in appendices in order to resolve recommendation 1 above.**

1. WHY THIS REPORT IS NEEDED

- 1.1 The London bus network is kept under regular review and as part of this, TfL develop proposals for changes to services. TfL have recently carried out a review of routes to and from Abbey Road and Finchley Road serving the Baker Street corridor (routes 13, 82, 113, 139, 189, N13, and N113). In turn, TfL have produced a proposal for routes 13, 82, 113, 139, 189, N13, and N113 which includes changes to both day and night bus services.
- 1.2 TfL are proposing that some bus routes would change their frequencies, and that others be re-routed, extended or withdrawn to better match current demand for bus services and to improve reliability.
- 1.3 The current proposal re-routes the number 13 bus to serve the line of the current route 82 from Finchley to Victoria. Passengers from Golders Green wishing to travel to Aldwych (the current route 13 destination) might do so direct via an extended 139 route (which would be a slower journey) or by changing. The new hopper fare may make this more attractive to passengers who might otherwise have had to pay a second fare.
- 1.4 Route 113 from Edgware would be extended to Oxford Circus with increased frequency and might also be convenient from passengers wishing to change from the new route 13 to travel to Oxford Circus. Route 189 from Brent Cross would terminate at Marble Arch rather than continuing to Oxford Circus.
- 1.5 These and other changes are more fully described in the consultation information on the TfL website (a link can be found in section 6 below) and a copy of which can be found in Appendix 1.

- 1.6 The consultation follows a similar consultation undertaken in Spring 2015 (a link to the consultation can be found in section 6 below). Owing to concerns expressed regarding that consultation being partially undertaken during the pre-election period TfL decided not to progress the proposal but use the responses to inform future planning. The current proposal is similar to the previous one, although some adjustments have been made.
- 1.7 The previous consultation similarly replaced routes 13 and 82 with a single route from North Finchley to Victoria, but retaining the route number 82 for the proposal. It also extended the 139 to Golders Green. The previous consultation did not propose increased day-time frequencies for the 82 whereas the current proposal does increase the frequency of the 13. (Current frequencies for the two routes are similar to each other).
- 1.8 Cllr Dean Cohen responded to the previous consultation in his capacity as ward councillor and as Chair of the Environment Committee opposing the withdrawal of route 13 and noting that the extension of the 139 route did not sufficiently compensate for or mitigate the challenges.
- 1.9 On 29 July, TfL launched a consultation on the Bus service proposals: Routes 13, 82, 113, 139 and 189 and is seeking comments from stakeholders and the public on the proposals by 30 September 2016. TfL have granted us an extension of a few days to allow for this report to be discussed at Environment Committee and the response amended if required.
- 1.10 All Ward Members were asked for their views on the proposal to help inform a borough response to the consultation. Two ward members provided comments and this information has been used to inform the proposed response. A proposed response to the consultation is included at Appendix 2.

2. REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATIONS

- 2.1 It is proposed that LB Barnet provides a response to the consultation, to help ensure that any changes to the bus routes addresses the needs of passengers in London generally and in Barnet in particular taking into account issues identified from the proposal.

3. ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS CONSIDERED AND NOT RECOMMENDED

- 3.1 The Committee could choose to not respond to the consultation, however we do not recommend this action as it is important that the opportunity is taken to put forward the councils views.

4. POST DECISION IMPLEMENTATION

- 4.1 If approved the consultation response in Appendix 2 will be formally submitted to TfL and will help to inform their final decision.

5. IMPLICATIONS OF DECISION

5.1 Corporate Priorities and Performance

- 5.1.1 The Council's Corporate Plan 2015 – 2020 states in its strategic objectives that it will work with partners to create the right environment to promote responsible growth, development and success across the borough. In particular Barnet's roads will be managed to reduce congestion, with regeneration areas designed effectively to keep traffic moving. Additionally, we want to ensure that the borough continues to be a place where people aspire to live.

5.2 Resources (Finance & Value for Money, Procurement, Staffing, IT, Property, Sustainability)

- 5.2.1 There are no direct resource implications arising from this report.

5.3 Social Value

- 5.3.1 The Public Services (Social Value) Act 2013 requires people who commission public services to think about how they can also secure wider social, economic and environmental benefits. This report does not relate to the procurement of services contracts.

5.4 Legal and Constitutional References

- 5.4.1 No specific legal issues have been identified.

- 5.4.2 The Council's Constitution (Responsibility for Functions, Annex A) gives the Environment Committee certain responsibilities related to the street scene including pavements and all classes of roads, parking provision, and enforcement and transport and traffic management.

5.5 Risk Management

- 5.5.1 There would be a reputational risk if LB Barnet does not respond to the consultation. This can be fully addressed through this report.

5.6 Equalities and Diversity

- 5.6.1 The Public Sector Equalities Duty under section 149(1) of the Equalities

Act 2010, requires the Authority, in the exercise of its functions to, have regard to the need to advance equality of opportunity between persons, who share relevant protected characteristics and persons who do not share them.

5.6.2 Having due regards means the need to (a) remove or minimise disadvantage suffered by persons who share relevant protected characteristics that are connected to those characteristics (b) take steps to meet the needs of persons who share relevant protected characteristics that are different from the needs of people who do not share (c) encourage persons who share relevant protected characteristics to participate in public life in any other activity in which participation by such person's is disproportionately low.

5.6.3 The relevant protected characteristics area age, disability, gender reassignment, pregnancy and maternity, race, religion or beliefs, sex and sexual orientation.

5.6.4 Bus users are disproportionately on lower incomes, elderly and those with freedom passes and consequently these groups are more likely to be affected by TfL's proposals.

5.6.5 Responding to the consultation does not compromise the Council in its compliance with its statutory equality duty. As the final decision maker, TfL will also need to have due regard to the Public Sector Equalities Duty.

5.7 Consultation and Engagement

5.7.1 This is a response to a consultation being undertaken and led by Transport for London (TfL).

5.7.2 All Ward Members were asked for their views on the proposal to help inform a borough response to the consultation. Two ward members provided comments and this information has been used to inform the proposed response.

5.7.3 There is no intention to undertake any further consultation at this time.

5.8 Insight

5.8.1 No specific insight has been undertaken in order to inform the consultation response.

6. BACKGROUND PAPERS

- 6.1 Summer 2016 consultation - Bus service proposals: Routes 13, 82, 113, 139 and 189. Full details regarding the consultation can be found on the TfL consultation website at <https://consultations.tfl.gov.uk/buses/routes-13-82-113-139-189>
- 6.2 Spring 2016 consultation - Proposed changes to bus routes serving Abbey Road and Finchley Road <https://consultations.tfl.gov.uk/buses/finchleyroad>