

Lothian Buses**Report by John Blair, Director, Resources****1 Purpose of Report**

The purpose of this report is to seek Council approval to appoint a representative to the Lothian Buses Regional Sub Committee.

2 Background**2.1 Minority Shareholder Agreement**

As part of the Minority Shareholder Agreement reported to Council on 5 November 2013 it was reported that;

"A regional Sub Committee be established as a subcommittee of the Lothian Buses Board. The purpose of the subcommittee is to review the integration of the bus networks in Edinburgh and the Lothians as part of an integrated work of public transport service. The terms of reference of the Regional Subcommittee shall be agreed by the Board of Lothian Buses. The minutes of the meetings of the Subcommittee shall be referred to the Lothian Buses Board for consideration."

2.2 Accordingly the Council at its meeting on 5 November 2013 agreed**Decision**

- (a) To note the arrangements established with regard to Lothian Buses; and
- (b) To note that the Director, Resources would, in due course, provide further reports to Council regarding minority shareholding representation.

(Action: Director, Resources)

2.3 In the intervening period the Director, Resources has attended two Lothian Buses Board meetings and has been progressing the establishment of the regional subcommittee with colleagues from East and West Lothian Councils.

In terms of the Minority Shareholder Agreement each Council as minority shareholder is able to appoint "at least one representative."

Accordingly it is proposed that the Council appoint an elected member to the Regional Subcommittee who would be supported by the Director, Resources or other senior Council officer.

3 Report Implications**3.1 Resource**

There are no direct resource implications arising from the proposals outlined in this report.

3.2 Risk

By progressing the above arrangements the interests of the minority shareholders have now been formalised.

3.3 Single Midlothian Plan and Business Transformation

Themes addressed in this report:

- ☐ Community safety
- ☐ Adult health, care and housing
- ☐ Getting it right for every Midlothian child
- ☐ Improving opportunities in Midlothian
- ☐ Sustainable growth
- ☐ Business transformation and Best Value
- ☒ None of the above

3.4 Impact on Performance and Outcomes

None

3.5 Adopting a Preventative Approach

None

3.6 Involving Communities and Other Stakeholders

The proposals as set out in this report have been discussed and developed in liaison with colleagues in the West Lothian and East Lothian Councils together with Lothian Buses Board.

3.7 Ensuring Equalities

There are no equality implications arising from this proposal.

3.8 Supporting Sustainable Development

There are no sustainability issues at this stage.

3.9 IT Issues

There are no IT implications arising from this report.

4 Summary

This report sets out

- The Minority Shareholding Agreement Representation
- The requirement for the Council to appoint a representative to the Regional Sub Committee

5 Recommendations

Council is invited to;

- a) Note the arrangements established with regard to Lothian Buses Regional Subcommittee;
- b) Appoint a representative to the Regional Subcommittee.

3 February 2014

Report Contact:

John Blair Tel No 0131 271 3102

john.blair@midlothian.gov.uk

Background Papers:

Declaration Box

Instructions: This box must be completed by the author of the report. The box will be copied and saved by the Council Secretariat who will delete it from the report prior to photocopying the agenda.

Title of Report: Lothian Buses

Meeting Presented to: Midlothian Council

Author of Report: John Blair, Director, Corporate Resources

I confirm that I have undertaken the following actions before submitting this report to the Council Secretariat (Check boxes to confirm):-

- ☐ *All resource implications have been addressed. Any financial and HR implications have been approved by the Head of Finance and Human Resources.*
- ☐ *All risk implications have been addressed.*
- ☐ *All other report implications have been addressed.*
- ☐ *My Director has endorsed the report for submission to the Council Secretariat.*

For Cabinet reports, please advise the Council Secretariat if the report has an education interest. This will allow the report to be located on the Cabinet agenda among the items in which the Religious Representatives are entitled to participate.

Likewise, please advise the Council Secretariat if any report for Midlothian Council has an education interest. The Religious Representatives are currently entitled to attend meetings of the Council in a non-voting observer capacity, but with the right to speak (but not vote) on any education matter under consideration, subject always to observing the authority of the Chair.