

No 328 Bus Service

Report by John Blair, Director, Resources

1 Purpose of Report

To present a petition from residents of Danderhall, Millerhill, Newton Village and others calling upon the Council to reinstate the No. 328 Bus Service, which previously served these communities.

2 Background

On 22 April 2014, the Cabinet agreed, having been advised that the operator of the 328 Bus Route (Edinburgh Coach Lines Ltd) had decided to cease operation on commercial grounds, to replace the service with a Ring & Go Service. The ring and go service came into operation on 21 April 2014.

3 Petition

- 3.1 The attached petition (**Annex 1**) has been received from Mrs Mary Murray, 23 Edmonstone Road, Danderhall.

4 Petitions – Rules and Procedures

- 4.1 The adopted Midlothian procedures identify 11 categories for which petitions cannot be entertained. The submitted petition is not proscribed by any of these categories and is therefore valid.

- 4.2 The petition is in the following terms, viz:-

“We want Council to re-instate a bus service. The withdrawal of the 328 Service has left many elderly and disabled residents housebound.”

- 4.3 The petition itself contains a total of 1287 signatures. A copy of this has been placed in the Members Library. The petition is supported by a questionnaire issued by Danderhall and District Community Council “On the impact and effects on our elderly and infirm due to the withdrawal of all local bus services”. A copy of the questionnaire is appended to the Petition document and copies of completed questionnaires have also been placed in the Members’ Library.

5 Comments from Head of Commercial Operations

- 5.1 The comments of the Head of Commercial Operations on the issue raised in the petition are shown in **Annex 2**.

6 Report Implications

6.1 Resource

There/

There are no resource implications arising from this report. In the event that the Committee agrees to support the petition and make recommendations to the Cabinet, the revenue implications of that decision would require to be quantified to allow the recommendation to be considered.

6.2 Risk

There are no risk implications arising from this report.

6.3 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

6.4 Key Priorities within the Single Midlothian Plan

Insert text here

6.5 Impact on Performance and Outcomes

Not applicable.

6.6 Adopting a Preventative Approach

Not applicable.

6.7 Involving Communities and Other Stakeholders

The availability of a Petitions Committee allows stakeholders to raise issues for consideration by the Council.

6.8 Ensuring Equalities

Not applicable.

6.9 Supporting Sustainable Development

Not applicable.

6.10 IT Issues

Not applicable.

7 Recommendation

The Committee is invited to consider the petition submitted by Mrs Mary Murray, in respect of the reinstate the No. 328 Bus Service.

27 October 2014

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