

Agenda Item No: 4.2

Demand Responsive Transport

To: Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Combined Authority Board

Meeting Date: 30 March 2022

Public report: Yes

Lead Member: Mayor Dr Nik Johnson

From: Rowland Potter, Head of Transport

Key decision: No

Forward Plan ref: n/a

Recommendations: The Combined Authority Board is recommended to:

Note that the DRT trial has been extended from ending in April to ending in July. The service will be retendered to allow a seamless transition from

original contract to new contract.

Voting arrangements: n/a

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1. Purpose

- 1.1 On 25 October 2021 the Combined Authority started a new demand responsive transport (DRT) service in west Huntingdonshire named Ting. The service employs four small single deck Stagecoach East buses to provide bus services on demand across 360 sq kms of the county. Passenger levels have continued to increase significantly, with over 110 journeys per day. This level of patronage is encouraging and the Transport & Infrastructure Committee on 14 March authorised the extension of the 6-month trial for a further 3 months (the maximum permitted on this contract). This additional time will be used to review progress and potentially tender for a revised service to commence in July 2022, upon the successful completion of the trial.
- 1.2 These proposals were considered by the Transport and Infrastructure Committee on 14 March 2022. Following discussion, the Committee resolved unanimously to approve the proposals.
- 1.3 The Committee report and appendices can be viewed via the link below. Item 2.2 refers:

Transport and Infrastructure Committee 14 March 2022

2. Considerations

- 2.1 The TING Demand Responsive Transport (DRT) service has proved successful in providing far greater public transport access from deep rural areas, and has been consistently rated on Trip Advisor at 4.9/5.0 out of 5. On average the buses are carrying 110 passengers a day. The cost of the service is higher than conventional bus services.
- 2.2 The Transport & Infrastructure Committee meeting on 14 March unanimously approved the extension of the TING contract by three months to late July to give officers time to assimilate data and negotiate and activate a new DRT contract.

3. Appendices

3.1 None.

4. Background Papers

4.1 Combined Authority Board 30 September 2020- Item 4.3 - Bus Reform