IPT Local Bus Service Consultation

Changes to Commercial Services

- Bus Operators can introduce new services, make changes to the route and/or timetable for any existing local bus service or cease to operate a local bus service by giving 56 days notice to the Traffic Commissioner. At the same time they must send a copy of the same information to the County Council. Most bus services in North Yorkshire are operated commercially and the County Council has no direct control over changes. In a typical year we will be notified of 150 service changes.

- The vast majority of these changes are minor in nature, for example a few minutes change to the departure time of one or more journeys, and do not have a significant impact on passengers. In those instances we advise members fortnightly via e-mail that our website has been updated. "Notice of forthcoming changes to bus services" is available at   . (As a result of a query from a member we have made this easier to find with a direct link to the document from the homepage)

- Where there is a more significant change e.g. a reduction in service we have recently amended our procedures to ensure that the individual member is contacted and informed of the changes by an officer from Integrated Passenger Transport.

Changes to Contracted Services

- Contracts are renewed through an Area Review Process which starts in April. Part of that process includes consultation, 12 months prior to new contracts starting, with Local Members, Parish and District Councils, Neighbouring Authorities, National Park and ANOB Authorities, User Groups.

- Once the tender documents have been sent out in September we send members a summary of changes and alternatives that we are exploring.

- Following the return and analysis of tenders an officer will contact the individual member to seek their views where a reduction in service is being considered.

- 6 weeks prior to the commencement of the new contracts, letters are sent to members and all other consultees summarising the changes to supported bus services in each area.