

Mr Barry King

Our ref: 8000040417

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26 February 2016

Dear Mr King

**RE: Lancashire County Council – Supported Services**

Thank you for taking the time to contact Transport for Greater Manchester (TfGM), in relation to Lancashire County Council's (LCC) withdrawal of subsidy to bus services.

As you may be aware, the extension of Monday to Saturday daytime journeys on route 635 between Shevington Vale and Wrightington Hospital, and the evening and Sunday 635 journeys between Wigan and Wrightington Hospital are provided under contracts to TfGM. The Monday to Saturday evening journeys on route 113 between Preston and Wigan are provided under a contract to LCC. TfGM and LCC have a reciprocal agreement to contribute to the cost of these contracts, based on the proportional mileage operated within each authority area.

From 3 April 2016, LCC has indicated that it is withdrawing financial support for all supported bus services. This includes the funding contribution to services 635 and 113. From this date TfGM will wholly fund the contracts for the 635 journeys to and from Wrightington Hospital and, as a result, this service will continue unchanged.

TfGM has received a number of passenger requests for the reinstatement of the evening and Sunday journeys on service 635 to serve Shevington Vale. This route revision would require a change to the timetable and Officers have been negotiating a variation to the existing contracts, with the two operators involved, to ensure that this can be accommodated without adversely impacting on the reliability and punctuality of the service. These negotiations are nearing resolution, and I will provide you with an update on this in the near future.

I would also draw to your attention, that the evening journeys on service 635 have recently been experiencing some issues of anti-social behaviour in the Shevington area, including missile throwing at vehicles and disruptive passengers. As a result, the

decision has been taken to reroute the 08:00pm, 09:00pm and 10:00pm journeys from Wigan, and 08:29pm, 09:29pm and 10:29pm journeys from Wrightington, on a temporary basis, with effect from 25 February 2016. The rerouting means that these journeys will not serve Shevington, Plough and Harrow and New Miles Lane. TfGM, the bus operator and TfGM's TravelSafe Unit (TSU) will continue to monitor this service on a regular basis, with the objective of returning the service to its proper route as soon as possible.

The 113 bus service is largely duplicated by the route 362 between Wigan and Standish. Therefore, TfGM will not continue to fund the Monday to Saturday evening journeys on this service and these will be withdrawn with effect from 4 April 2016. From the same date, Stagecoach Lancashire is making some changes to the timetable for the Monday to Saturday daytime commercial service.

The 206 bus service operating Tuesdays and Fridays between Wrightington Hospital and Wigan via Roby Mill is provided under contract to LCC, bus is not jointly funded by TfGM. With the withdrawal of funding support, this service will be withdrawn, with effect from 4 April 2016.

There are no proposed changes for TfGM supported services 640/641 in April 2016, although we are continuing to monitor the punctuality and reliability of this service.

I hope that this information proves useful to you, and if I can be of any further assistance please do not hesitate to contact me, or a member of our Customer Relations team at [customer.relations@tfgm.com](mailto:customer.relations@tfgm.com) or call on 0161 244 1000.

Yours Sincerely

**Customer Engagement Officer**