

# Meeting: Economic Prosperity Sub-Committee

**Date:** 13 July 2016

**Title:** Nexus Review of Local Transport Services

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<b>Service:</b>	Democratic Services	
<b>Directorate:</b>	Law and Governance	
<b>Wards affected:</b>	All	

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## 1. Purpose of Report

The purpose of this report is to set out the background and context to this evening's scrutiny exercise to contribute to Nexus' ongoing consultation in relation to its review of local transport services.

## 2. Recommendations

The sub-committee is invited to:

- a) give consideration to and discuss the consultation questions; and
- b) on the basis of the points to emerge from the discussion, consider submitting a formal response to the consultation to Nexus.

## 3. Information

Nexus is carrying out a public consultation from 6 June to 1 August 2016 in order to collect views from a wide variety of stakeholders, in particular users of its services in order to help understand how people access public transport and what is important to them. This will shape the future of public transport services that Nexus will provide on behalf of the North East Combined Authority (NECA).

The sub-committee is invited to consider the consultation paper, which is attached and is available online at <http://www.nexus.org.uk/consultation>, with a view to submitting a formal response to Nexus.

Officers from Nexus are due to present details of the review and answer any questions at the member briefings to be held on:-

Tuesday 5 July 2016 at 6.00pm in Room 0.01, Quadrant East

and repeated on Wednesday 6 July 2016 at 2.00pm in Room 2.26, Quadrant East.

Members of the sub-committee are encouraged to attend either of these briefings as officers from Nexus will not be present at the sub-committee meeting.

#### **4. Background**

This year Nexus is running an approved budget deficit but in agreeing that services could be protected in this way, the NECA asked that the Tyne and Wear Sub-Committee (TWSC) lead a review of Nexus service provision during 2016, for implementation in 2017/18.

The consultation document describes the public transport services Nexus provides, and those that it doesn't. It asks users whether they use these services and how important they are.

Nexus is considering making savings across the services covered by the consultation – but there are some areas which are not included. Nexus can't make changes to the basic element of the English National Concessionary Travel Scheme (the 'bus pass' for older and disabled people), covering travel on buses from 9:30am to 11pm on weekdays and all day at weekends. This is because Nexus has a statutory duty to reimburse bus operators for carrying anyone with the bus pass.

Nexus is also not currently considering any plans to cut the Metro timetable, for financial reasons, because Metro receives most of its money from the fares that passengers pay, along with a grant from the Department for Transport. There have not been any major reductions in this funding.

Over the summer Nexus will analyse the results and make recommendations. The NECA will then consider those recommendations and there will be a further round of consultation on them later in the year.

Members may also wish to take part in the consultation as individual users either by completing and returning the attached form or online at [www.nexus.org.uk/consultation](http://www.nexus.org.uk/consultation).

#### **5. Background Documents**

The following background documents have been used in the compilation of this report and available from the author:

- Have your say: Review of local transport services in Tyne & Wear (attached)