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Report 02.349

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Report to the Passenger Transport Committee
From Anthony Cross, Manager Public Transport

Public Transport Update

1. Purpose

To update the Committee on recent developments and work in progress in the Public Transport Department.

2. Otaki Service

The long-awaited Otaki commuter service began on Monday 10 June 2002. The service had originally been intended to commence in August/September 2001, but was delayed because of uncertainties about the performance of the originally preferred tenderer.

The contract is now being operated by Tranzit Coachlines, who also operate local services for us in the Wairarapa, although the Otaki service is being overseen by their Palmerston North manager.

A copy of the service details from the new Kapiti service booklet is attached (**attachment 1**).

3. Kapiti To Hospitals Service

This service was introduced as a trial in August last year, but has not been successful. It will operate for the last time on Thursday 1 August 2002. We will be producing a "How to get to Kenepuru and Wellington Hospitals" leaflet to help make the bus – train – bus journey less daunting for people who need to make the journey for the first time. The leaflet will also advertise the existence of a single ticket option in the form of the recently launched "Capital Explorer" ticket.

4. Paparangi And Grenada Village

At Councillor McDavitt's request I recently met with Kerry Waddell, Managing Director of Mana Coach Services, and a Paparangi resident who had expressed concerns to Councillor McDavitt that the suburb had been disadvantaged by the changes to the local bus route which were introduced in December 2000.

In order to further define the concerns of both Paparangi and Grenada Village users about the new services, I have arranged for market research focus groups to be carried out in both areas in the near future. These groups will be the first outside the Hutt Valley, and will tie in with the Region-wide programme outlined in Helen Wood's report elsewhere on the Committee's agenda. They will also provide us with a point of comparison for the Hutt Valley work.

5. Hutt Valley

The Hutt Valley Bus Service Review is proceeding. The market research focus groups have been completed and are the subject of a separate preliminary presentation to the Committee. A full written report will be presented at a later date.

As at 13 June, 1500 submissions had been received in response to the "Steer Us in Your Direction" campaign. Each submitter who has left a name and address has been sent a postcard thanking them for their input.

A copy of the feedback form is attached (**attachment 2**). Posters, newspaper advertisements, acknowledgement postcards, bus advertisements for both inside and outside buses, and an Internet feedback form, have been produced in the same style.

The Mayors and Chief Executives of both Upper Hutt and Hutt City Councils have been briefed on the Review and were very supportive of it. There will be opportunities to present proposals to the appropriate Committees of each Council in due course. Both City Councils have put a link to our web feedback form on the home pages of their websites.

The next stage in the process, to take place in August/September, will be to advertise and seek feedback on specific route and service proposals.

6. Tenders Being Called

We will shortly be calling for tenders for the services listed below.

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| Kapiti Coast | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All local services in the Paraparaumu, Raumati and Waikanae area, except for a small number of trips which are registered as commercial services (ie, not funded by the Regional Council except for concessionary fares reimbursement for travel by school children). |
| Porirua | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All services on Porirua Routes 21, 26 and 27 between Ascot Park, Waitangirua and Porirua, except on weekdays in the afternoon peak period, when all services are registered as commercial services (ie, not funded by the Regional Council except for concessionary fares reimbursement for travel by school children). • Associated school bus trips |
| Wellington | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Miramar and Seatoun Express services |
| Harbour Ferry | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Days Bay – Matiu Somes Island – Queens Wharf |

We have also asked for an exemption from Transfund to allow a number of Hutt Valley contracts to be extended beyond their expiry dates, to allow us to complete the Hutt Review prior to releasing Requests for Tender.

Unfortunately this round of tenders will not be able to incorporate the results of the review of tendering and contracting procedures and documentation which is currently underway and which will be implemented with the Hutt Valley tendering round scheduled for October – November this year.

7. Recommendation

That this report be received.

Report prepared by:

Report approved by:

ANTHONY CROSS
Manager, Public Transport

DAVE WATSON
Division Manager, Transport

Attachments:

- 1- Otaki service details**
- 2- Hutt Valley Bus Service Survey form**