

Liberal Democrat Notice of Motion

Council Meeting

5 December 2018

60 and 65 Bus Services – Mayoral Decision

This Council notes with grave concern the announcement by the Torbay Community Development Trust concerning the suspension of the 60 and 65 bus services.

Torbay Council recognises the vital service that these bus services provide to frail and elderly residents providing a vital link to the hospital, and also to Torquay Town Centre.

Following the announcement of the suspension, residents have highlighted a number of issues. These include:

- Buses breaking down regularly resulting in an unreliable service which may have put people off using the service resulting in a lack of income;
- Vehicles having to be fixed regularly presumably at some cost;
- The lack of any meetings between the Torbay Community Development Trust and service users, resulting in a lack of communication about the serious financial situation that was developing. This lack of communication has negated any opportunity for users of the service to promote the service or fundraise for it;
- No communication by the Torbay Community Development Trust with Ward Councillors about the financial situation until the suspension announcement denying any opportunity to explore other funding opportunities;
- Limited promotion of the bus services following the launch.

The Council calls on the Elected Mayor to establish an urgent Task and Finish Group to discover what has gone wrong and to explore potential funding solutions to sustain these vital services in the future both short term (so that the services can cover the vital Christmas period) and longer term.

Proposer: Councillor Long
Secunder: Councillor Darling (S)