## 21 December 2022



COMBINED AUTHORITY

Email:

Dear

## Re: Freedom of Information request ref CA199

Thank you for your request for information received on 23 November 2022. The response is given below:

## Request

I wish to be supplied with the following information ... I would like to be informed the daily cost of each and all supported bus services contracts (including those recently awarded under emergency tenders) by the cpca. For the areas in which the cpca is responsible.

## Response

The Combined Authority does hold the information you have requested. A table providing all contracts and routes is attached. However, costings are classified as commercially sensitive and disclosure of the information would severely prejudice the commercial interests of the company. Disclosure of the costs of each contract has not been granted on the grounds set out in Section 43 of the 2000 Act.

The Authority has also considered the application of the exemption at Section 43 of the Act.

Section 43(2) of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 ["the Act"] provides that:

(2) Information is exempt information if its disclosure under this Act would, or would be likely to, prejudice the commercial interests of any person (including the public authority holding it)

The Information Commissioner's guidance on the commercial interests exemption at Section 43 is available at:

Section 43 - Commercial interests | ICO

2<sup>nd</sup> Floor Pathfinder House St Mary's Street Huntingdon Cambs PE29 3TN In order for this exemption to be engaged the following criteria must be met:

- the actual harm which the public authority alleges would, or would be likely to, occur if the withheld information was disclosed has to relate to the applicable interests within the relevant exemption;
- the public authority must be able to demonstrate that some causal relationship exists between the potential disclosure of the information being withheld and the prejudice which the exemption is designed to protect. Furthermore, the resultant prejudice which is alleged must be real, actual or of substance; and
- it is necessary to establish whether the level of likelihood of prejudice being relied upon by the public authority is met – ie disclosure 'would be likely' to result in prejudice or disclosure 'would' result in prejudice.

The guidance explains that:

"would...prejudice" means that prejudice is more probable than not, ie that there is a more than 50% chance of the disclosure causing the prejudice, even though it is not absolutely certain that it would do so. "Would be likely to prejudice" is a lower threshold. It means that there must be more than a hypothetical or remote possibility of prejudice occurring; there must be a real and significant risk of prejudice, even though the probability of prejudice occurring is less than 50%.

And defines "commercial interest" as follows:

"...a commercial interest relates to a person's ability to participate competitively in a commercial activity, i.e. the purchase and sale of goods or services."

Section 43(2) is a qualified exemption and is therefore subject to public interest considerations.

It is the Combined Authority's view that disclosure of the financial details would be likely to prejudice the commercial interests of both the Authority and the individual bus companies for the reasons given above.

The Section 43(2) exemption is therefore engaged. The Combined Authority must therefore consider the balance of public interest in deciding whether to disclose the information.

There is clearly a general public interest in public bodies being open, transparent and accountable particularly in the context of the expenditure of public funds.

However, there is also a public interest in third parties who are seeking funding having confidence in commercial information that they provide as part of the funding relationship being treated confidentially, given that it may provide a competitor advantage to know that information.

On balance the Combined Authority takes the view that the public interest arguments in favour of maintaining the exemption and withholding the information, in particular the

2<sup>nd</sup> Floor Pathfinder House St Mary's Street Huntingdon Cambs PE29 3TN arguments about the likely prejudice to both the Authority's and participants' commercial interests, outweigh the public interest arguments in favour of disclosure.

I hope this information is helpful but if you are unhappy with the service you have received in relation to your request and wish to make a complaint or request a review, you should write to us via our contact us email address: <u>democratic.services@cambridgeshirepeterborough-ca.gov.uk</u> or write a letter to Complaints, Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Combined Authority, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor, Pathfinder House, St Mary's Street, Huntingdon, Cambs PE29 3TN within 40 days of the date of this e-mail.

If you are not content with the outcome of the internal review, you have the right to apply directly to the Information Commissioner for a decision. The Information Commissioner can be contacted at: Information Commissioner's Office, Wycliffe House, Water Lane, Wilmslow, Cheshire, SK9 5AF, or via their website: <u>https://ico.org.uk/</u>

Generally, the ICO will not undertake a review or make a decision on a request until the internal review process has been completed.

Yours sincerely



Sue Hall Acting Data Protection Officer



2<sup>nd</sup> Floor Pathfinder House St Mary's Street Huntingdon Cambs PE29 3TN

Contract	Service	Route	Gross Annual Cost (Based on Nov 22 daily price) (£)	Annual Passenger Journeys (21/22)	Days of Operation	Operator
74	7A	Trumpington P&R – Hinxton – Whittlesford – Trumpington P&R		751	Mon - Sat	A2B Travel Group Ltd
2	Citi 5 & 6 / Busway A	Madingley / Boxworth – Cambridge		231	Citi 5 & 6: Every day Busway A: Mon - Sat	Stagecoach
19	19	Haverhill - Linton - Burrough Green		1,120	Mon - Fri	Star Cabs
15A	15	Over - St Ives		371	Mon & Fri Only	A2B Travel Group Ltd
31A	31	Cambridge - Stapleford - Fowlmere		2,107	Mon - Sat	A2B Travel Group Ltd
22	22	St Ives - Warboys		1,358	Mon - Sat	Vectare Ltd
10		Newmarket -			Tue & Fri	A2B Travel
18	18	Fulbourn		614	Only	Group Ltd
75	75	Cambridge - Orwell - Wrestlingworth		3,495	Mon - Sat	A2B Travel Group Ltd
415	415	Peterborough - Upwood		411	Wed Only	Dews Coaches
8	8	Cambridge - Dry Drayton - Papworth Everard		4,033	Mon - Sat	C Myall & Son
400 & 401	400 & 401	400: Huntingdon - Grafham - Spaldwick / 401: Huntingdon - Leighton Bromswold		4,791	Mon - Fri	Dews Coaches
65	65	St Neots - The Offords - Buckden		2,428	Mon - Fri	Dews Coaches
150	150	St Neots - Kimbolton - Tilbrook		4,412	Mon - Sat	Dews Coaches
1A	1A	St Ives – Fenstanton – Bar Hill		5,283	Mon - Fri	A2B Travel Group Ltd
17	17	Meldreth – Royston		7,290	Mon - Sat	A2B Travel Group Ltd
TING	TING	West Huntingdonshire Demand Responsive Transport		29,600	Mon - Sat	Stagecoach

204		12: Newmarket - Ely / 47: Brinkley - Newmarket / 204: Isleham - Newmarket	2,826	Mon - Fri	Star Cabs
34	56	March - Manea/Benwick	4,740	Mon - Sat	Stagecoach
203	203	Newmarket - Isleham	1,347	Tue & Sat Only	Mil-Ken Travel Ltd
117	117 / 129	117: Ely - Upware / 129: Ely - Brandon Creek	656	Thu Only	Lords Travel
114B	114	Cambridge City Centre - Grafton - Beehive - Addenbrookes	5,397	Mon - Fri	A2B Travel Group Ltd
110	110	Ely - Cottenham - Impington	1,737	Thu & Sat Only	Mil-Ken Travel Ltd
16A	16A	Cambridge - Long Rd - Teversham - Fulbourn - Balsham - Great Thurlow	7,054	Mon - Sat	Stagecoach
900	901, 902, 903, 904	Newmarket Area Services	4,671	901, 902, 903: Mon - Sat except Wed / 904: Mon - Fri except Wed	Star Cabs
125	125	Ely - Little Downham	5,277	Mon - Sat	Lords Travel
C2	C2	St Neots - Longstowe - Orwell - Arrington - Croydon - The Hatleys	890	Thu Only	C G Myall & Son
68	68	Wisbech Town Service	4,246	Mon - Fri	FACT
48	46	Newmarket - Dullingham - Linton	808	Tue Only	A2B Travel Group Ltd
199	199	Cambridge - Newnham	1,668	Tue & Fri Only	C G Myall & Son
60		Peterborough Community Bus	26,934	Mon - Fri	Stagecoach
101	101	Whittlesford - Duxford - Saffron Walden	798	Tue Only	C G Myall & Son

196		Citi 3: Fison Road - City Centre - Rail Station - Cherry Hinton / 19: Cambridge – Horningsea – Landbeach / 9(B): Cambridge - Waterbeach - Ely - Littleport		6,053	See Timetables	Stagecoach
21	21	St Ives - Earith - Somersham - Ramsey		9,017	Mon - Fri	Dews Coaches
50	50	Wisbech - Long Sutton		9,722	Mon - Sat	Stagecoach
4S	4	Hospital		699	Sunday	Stagecoach
15	15	Haslingfield - Bassingbourn - Royston		887	Wed Only	A2B Travel Group Ltd
63	63	St Neots - Rail Station Eynesbury - Eaton Socon - Eaton Ford - St Neots		8,199	Mon - Fri	Whippet Coaches Ltd
56	56	Wisbech - March		8,964	Mon - Sat	Stagecoach
31	31	Peterborough - Whittlesey - Ramsey			Mon - Sat	Stagecoach
Zip	Ely Zipper	Ely - Stretham - Haddenham - Witcham - Ely		24,468	Mon - Sat	Dews Coaches
4E	4	Parnwell - City Hospital		6,245	Mon - Sat	Stagecoach
<u>2</u> S		Paston - Bretton			Sunday	Stagecoach
46		Wisbech - March			Mon - Sat	Stagecoach
35		Bretton - Park Farm			Sunday	Stagecoach
5S 61	5 61	Welland - Yaxley Eynesbury - St Neots - Eaton's			Sunday Mon - Wed	Stagecoach Whippet Coaches Ltd
2E	2	Paston - Bretton		16 022	Mon - Sat	
2E 6S	6	Paston - Bretton Peterborough - Hampton			Mon - Sat Sunday	Stagecoach Stagecoach
X2/X3/X 3A	ХЗ	Huntingdon - Papworth - Cambourne - Cambridge	1	77,463	Mon - Sat	Whippet Coaches Ltd
ЗE	3	Bretton - Park Farm		19,754	Mon - Sat	Stagecoach
5E	5	Welland - Yaxley		22,580	Mon - Sat	Stagecoach
<u>1</u> 5		Orton - Werrington			Sunday	Stagecoach

6E	6	Peterborough - Hampton	8,142	Mon - Sat	Stagecoach
1E	1	Orton - Werrington	44,486	Mon - Sat	Stagecoach
Citi4	Citi4	Cambourne - Hardwick - Cambridge		Daily	Stagecoach
5A	5A			Mon - Sat	Stagecoach
18	18	St Neots - Cambourne - Bourn - Comberton - Barton - Cambridge		Mon - Sat	Whippet Coaches Ltd
66	66	Huntingdon - Brampton – Buckden – Little Paxton – St. Neots		Mon - Sat	Whippet Coaches Ltd
V5	ХЗ	Godmanchester - Huntingdon		Mon - Sat	Whippet Coaches Ltd
23	23/23A	Peterborough > Thorpe Meadows (23) / Woodston (23A) > Orton Mere > Lynch Wood		Mon - Fri	Vectare Ltd
8A	8A	March - Doddington - Chatteris - Sutton - Witcham - Haddenham - Wilburton - Cottenham		Mon - Sat	Stephensons of Essex
9A	9A	Ely West -City Centre		Mon - Sat	Stephensons of Essex
11	11	Newmarket - Burwell - Reach - Swaffham Prior - Lode - Cambridge		Mon - Sat	Stephensons of Essex
12A	112	Ely - Stuntney - Soham - Fordham - Newmarket		Mon - Sat	Stephensons of Essex
33A	33A	March Town Service		Mon - Sat	FACT
V4	V4	St Ives Bus Station - Fenstanton - Hilton - Elsworth - Boxworth		Mon - Sat	A2B Travel Group Ltd
915	26	Royston - Cambridge		Mon - Sat	Centrebus
29	29	Hampton - Peterborough City Hospital		Mon - Sat	Dews Coaches
V2	302	March - Chatteris - Warboys - St Ives		Mon - Sat	Dews Coaches

V1/V3	301	Ramsey - Warboys - Somersham - Earith - St Ives		Mon - Sat	Dews Coaches
22A	22A	St Ives Town Circular		Mon - Sat	Dews Coaches
30/35	305	Huntingdon - Warboys - Ramsey - Chatteris		Mon - Sat	Dews Coaches
39	Ely Zipper 2	Chatteris - Mepal - Sutton - Witchford - Ely		Mon - Sat	Dews Coaches
Nete		TOTAL	7,551,635		

Note

Services highlighted in green have only recently started and there is no data yet