

5 September 2022

Email: [REDACTED]



**CAMBRIDGESHIRE
& PETERBOROUGH**
COMBINED AUTHORITY

Dear [REDACTED]

Re: Freedom of Information request ref CA184

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

Request

It has come to my attention that A2B Travel Group, a subcontractor of CPCA, have made changes at short notice to supported local bus services operated under contract to CPCA. I draw your attention to this Tweet for further details:

<https://twitter.com/a2btravelgroup/status/1540315614778105856>

In respect of the services which have been reduced - services 7A and 31 - please clarify the following:

Question 1

How much were A2B Travel Group paid by CPCA per day for each service prior to the changes.

Response 1

- 7A - £319.95, 31 - £384.95

Question 2

How much are A2B Travel Group now paid by CPCA per day following the changes.

Response 2

- 7A - £314.95, 31 - £384.95 but discussions ongoing.

Question 3

Please supply copies of the correspondence between CPCA and A2B Travel Group covering the request for the changes, permission for them being granted and and subsequent correspondence reviewing these arrangements, alongside internal correspondence discussing the arrangements both before and after they came into effect.

The Mayor's Office
72 Market Street
Ely
Cambs
CB7 4LS

Response 3

The information requested is attached. Names and email addresses of junior members of staff of the Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Combined Authority and all personal names from other organisations and personal email addresses have been redacted.

Section 40 of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 [“the Act”] includes the following:

Section 40 exemption

Section 40 of the Act provides that:

40.— Personal information

(1) Any information to which a request for information relates is exempt information if it constitutes personal data of which the applicant is the data subject.

The Information Commissioner’s guidance on the requests for personal data about public authority employees is available at:

[s40 Personal information \(section 40 and regulation 13\) version2.3 \(ico.org.uk\)](https://ico.org.uk/for-organisations/guide-to-the-free-information-act/20160401/section-40-and-regulation-13)

The guidance confirms that it covers data which can identify individual employees.

The above exemption IS *absolute*. This means that there is no public interest test to consider when applying the exemption.

Question 4

Why did CPCA opt to allow these service reductions to go ahead without first asking other local operators to cover some / all of the affected journeys?

Response 4

- The bus industry is facing many issues at present around driver shortages, increased driver and fuel costs, reduced income from lower patronage figures and the upcoming end of government funding. This has led to reliability problems and rather than have daily problems that varied and occurred at short notice it was agreed that changes would be made on the 7A to operate a revised timetable so that there could be some more surety to the range of services operated by A2B. To include other operators would involve issuing notice on the contract of 70 days and require a procurement exercise and it was felt that the amendment to the timetable would give short term improvements.

Question 5

How long is the reduced service level expected/permitted to continue for?

Response 5

- This was initially agreed until the start of the school term in September and is currently under review.

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: democratic.services@cambridgeshirepeterborough-ca.gov.uk or write a letter to Complaints, Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Combined Authority, the Mayor's Office, 72 Market Street, Ely, Cambs CB7 4LS 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: <https://ico.org.uk/>

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
Governance Assistant

From: [A2b bus And Coach](#)
To: [Paul Nelson](#)
Subject: 31/71 temp
Date: 27 May 2022 11:15:00
Attachments: [temp 31&7a.docx](#)

Thoughts paul

From: [Paul Nelson](#)
To: [REDACTED]
Subject: RE: 31/71 temp
Date: 27 May 2022 13:32:23
Attachments: [image001.jpg](#)
[image002.png](#)
[image003.png](#)
[image004.png](#)
[image005.png](#)
[CPCA_newlogooptimised_31636706-cef1-440f-858f-e9efcc8c5c75.jpg](#)
[TBB_Logosig_681b9afe-a177-499e-a961-437a23868ed5.png](#)
[livingwageoptimised_4d0e77c6-45bb-416e-acd3-03d478aee8e0.png](#)
[2021.07.26_step4_esignature_1708x479_150ppioptimised_d0a4ed7b-4e18-4b67-a280-3fdcdd11d28a.png](#)
[ltcpemailfooter\(1\)_4079192e-ae7a-4f7a-8f5c-4a5c67c2fc4a.png](#)

Thanks, [REDACTED]

He has two drivers awaiting their tests, which are scheduled for July, so in theory for about two months. I suspect he is already running this timetable based on some of the feedback we have received... I don't think we have much choice and by getting him to advertise the new timetable at least people will know what he is doing and I will add the rider that we reserve the right to review based on any comments we receive.

He did say he had data but as you rightly say it doesn't seem to have arrived...

Thank you

Paul

Paul Nelson
Public Transport Manager
07824623259

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 27 May 2022 12:47
To: Paul Nelson <paul.nelson@cambridgeshirepeterborough-ca.gov.uk>
Subject: RE: 31/71 temp

Hi Paul,

My main concern is Hinxton. The bus calls at Hinxton on the way back from Sawston, but they need to go to Sawston to access onward travel towards Cambridge. Another concern is the loss of the later journeys – though it is difficult to evaluate the impact as no data has been provided on how many use them. Any students using 7A will struggle, assuming there is any. A minor point on 31 is that the slightly earlier times on the current 16:10 journey (to be 16:00) is that Hills Road students might be a bit pushed to catch it in time. The loss of the two 31 journeys might excite some Shelford residents.

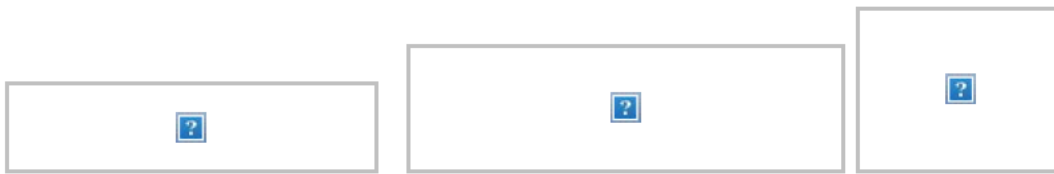
It will be interesting to see how long 'temporary' is.

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

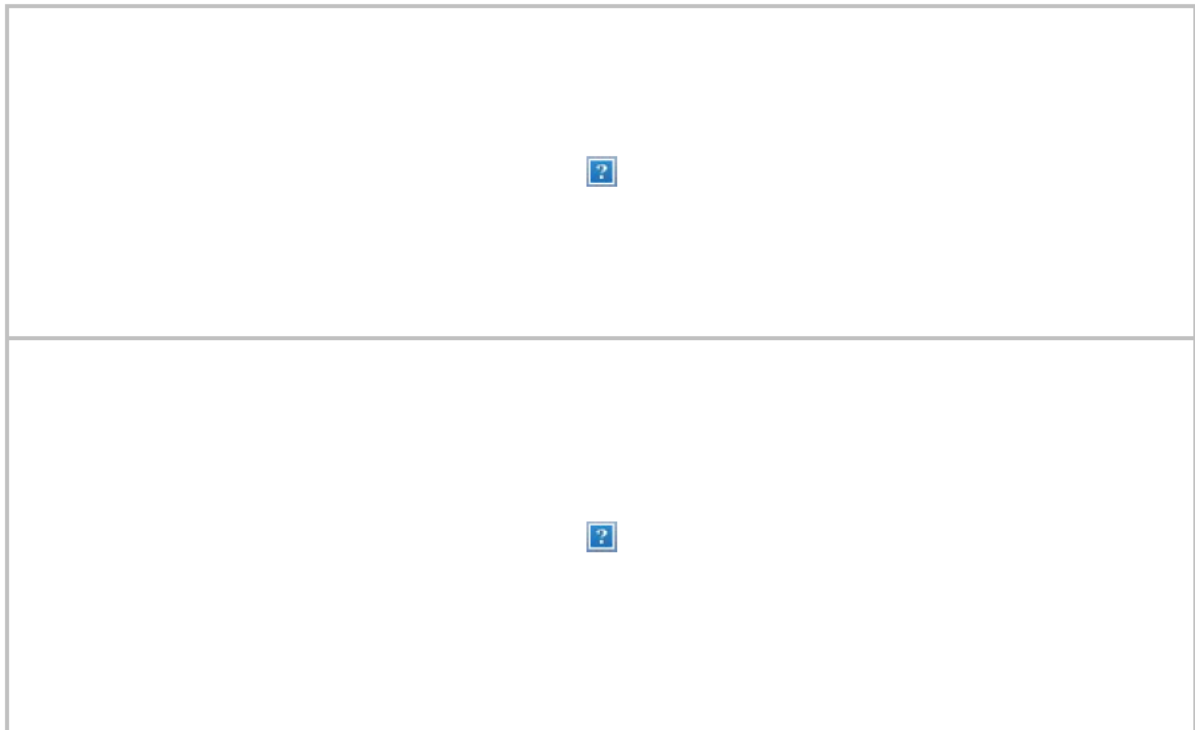
[REDACTED]

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From: Paul Nelson <paul.nelson@cambridgeshirepeterborough-ca.gov.uk>

Sent: 27 May 2022 11:55

To: [REDACTED]

Subject: FW: 31/71 temp

Hi [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] is having difficulties with drivers and would like to operate the attached revised timetable as a temporary solution. We have agreed such changes with Stagecoach and Whippet this year so although not ideal it is agreeable in principle. I would be grateful, however, if you could have a look and see if there are any major issues you think it might cause us.

Thank you

Paul

Paul Nelson
Public Transport Manager
07824623259

Paul Nelson
Public Transport Manager

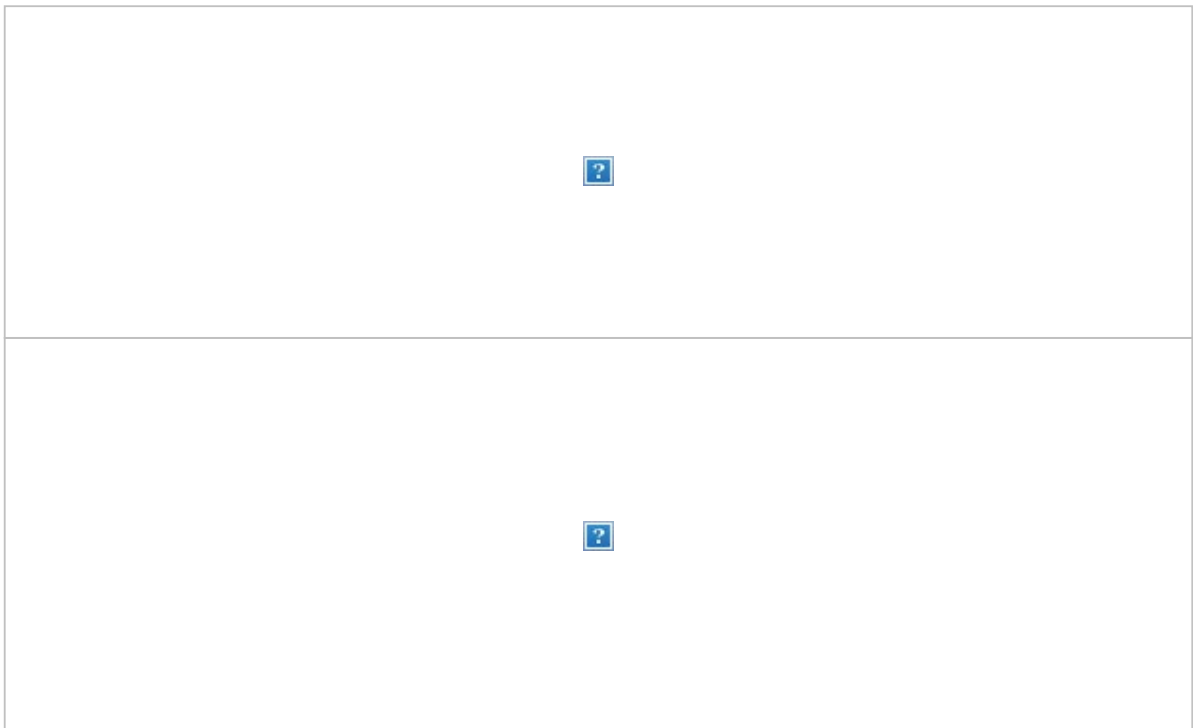
paul.nelson@cambridgeshirepeterborough-ca.gov.uk
Tel: 07824 623259

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From: A2b bus And Coach [REDACTED]
Sent: 27 May 2022 11:15
To: Paul Nelson <paul.nelson@cambridgeshirepeterborough-ca.gov.uk>

Subject: 31/71 temp

Thoughts paul

From: [Paul Nelson](#)
To: [A2b bus And Coach](#)
Cc: [REDACTED]
Subject: RE: 31/71 temp
Date: 27 May 2022 13:42:27
Attachments: [CPCA_newlogooptimised_31636706-cef1-440f-858f-e9efcc8c5c75.jpg](#)
[TBB_Logosig_681b9afe-a177-499e-a961-437a23868ed5.png](#)
[livingwageoptimised_4d0e77c6-45bb-416e-acd3-03d478aee8e0.png](#)
[2021.07.26_step4_esignature_1708x479_150ppioptimised_d0a4ed7b-4e18-4b67-a280-3fdcdd11d28a.png](#)
[ltcpemailfooter\(1\)_4079192e-ae7a-4f7a-8f5c-4a5c67c2fc4a.png](#)

Hi [REDACTED]

Our main concern is Hinxton. Your timetable enables them to return from Sawston but doesn't enable them to get to Sawston, either for the village itself or onward into Cambridge, without sitting for a long period of time at Heathfields. Would it work better if the break time was taken at Sawston after/before the full loop?

Thank you

Paul

Paul Nelson
Public Transport Manager
07824623259

Paul Nelson
Public Transport Manager

paul.nelson@cambridgeshirepeterborough-ca.gov.uk
Tel: 07824 623259

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From: A2b bus And Coach [REDACTED]
Sent: 27 May 2022 11:15
To: Paul Nelson <paul.nelson@cambridgeshirepeterborough-ca.gov.uk>
Subject: 31/71 temp

Thoughts paul

From: [A2b bus And Coach](#)
To: [Paul Nelson](#)
Subject: Re: 31/71 temp
Date: 28 May 2022 21:27:37
Attachments: [CPCA_newlogooptimised_31636706-cef1-440f-858f-e9efcc8c5c75.jpg](#)
[TBB_Logosig_681b9afe-a177-499e-a961-437a23868ed5.png](#)
[livingwageoptimised_4d0e77c6-45bb-416e-acd3-03d478aee8e0.png](#)
[2021.07.26_step4_esignature_1708x479_150ppioptimised_d0a4ed7b-4e18-4b67-a280-3fdccd11d28a.png](#)
[ltcpemailfooter\(1\)_4079192e-ae7a-4f7a-8f5c-4a5c67c2fc4a.png](#)
[CPCA_newlogooptimised_31636706-cef1-440f-858f-e9efcc8c5c75.jpg](#)

No probs Paul

I hadn't noticed that I will have a juggle see what we can do however apart from that all is good with it ??

Regards



On Fri, 27 May 2022, 13:42 Paul Nelson, <paul.nelson@cambridgeshirepeterborough-ca.gov.uk> wrote:

Hi 

Our main concern is Hinxton. Your timetable enables them to return from Sawston but doesn't enable them to get to Sawston, either for the village itself or onward into Cambridge, without sitting for a long period of time at Heathfields. Would it work better if the break time was taken at Sawston after/before the full loop?

Thank you

Paul

Paul Nelson

Public Transport Manager

07824623259

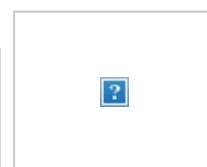
Paul Nelson

Public Transport Manager

paul.nelson@cambridgeshirepeterborough-ca.gov.uk

Tel: 07824 623259

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From: A2b bus And Coach <[REDACTED]>
Sent: 27 May 2022 11:15
To: Paul Nelson <paul.nelson@cambridgeshirepeterborough-ca.gov.uk>
Subject: 31/71 temp

Thoughts paul

From: [REDACTED]
To: [A2b bus And Coach; Paul Nelson](#)
Subject: RE: Service Alterations
Date: 20 June 2022 10:00:48
Attachments: [Pro-forma for A2B 7A.pdf](#)
[Pro-forma for A2B 31.pdf](#)
[Pro-forma for A2B 202.pdf](#)
[CPCA_newlogooptimised_31636706-cef1-440f-858f-e9efcc8c5c75.jpg](#)
[TBB_Logosig_681b9afe-a177-499e-a961-437a23868ed5.png](#)
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[2021.07.26_step4_esignature_1708x479_150ppioptimised_d0a4ed7b-4e18-4b67-a280-3fdcdd11d28a.png](#)
[ltcpemailfooter\(1\)_4079192e-ae7a-4f7a-8f5c-4a5c67c2fc4a.png](#)

Hi [REDACTED]

I have attached completed pro-forma for 7A, 31 and 202.

The tender for 17 is not yet completed. The pro-forma for 17 will follow, if necessary, rather than hold up the others.

Regards,

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Public Transport Network Co-Ordinator

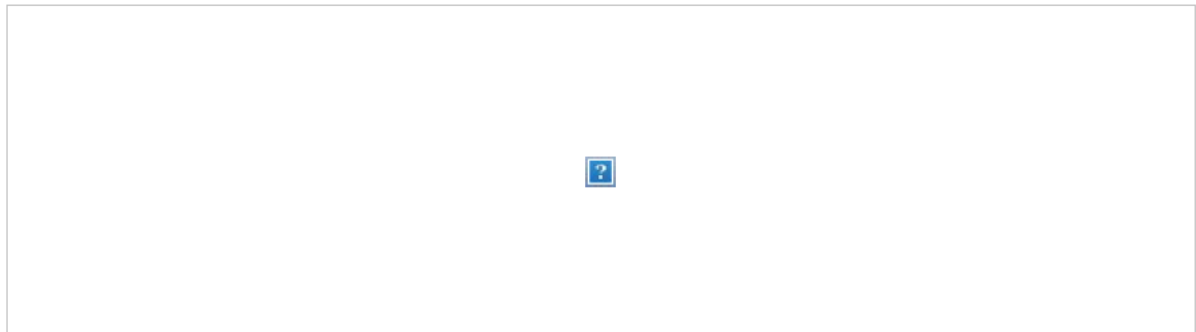
[REDACTED]

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From: A2b bus And Coach <[REDACTED]>

Sent: 18 June 2022 23:30

To: [REDACTED] Paul Nelson

<paul.nelson@cambridgeshirepeterborough-ca.gov.uk>

Subject: Service Alterations

Hi [REDACTED] and Paul

Attached are ..

Revision paperwork for service 31 as discussed with PN (INC HCC FORM)

Revision paperwork for service 7a as discussed with PN

Cancellation paperwork for service 17 in the event of us not obtaining contract

Cancellation paperwork for service 202 (HCC cross boundary contract)

I would appreciate prompt return of pro formas as to keep and return to previous levels of reliability

Regards

[REDACTED]



Office of the Traffic Commissioner

LOCAL REGISTERED SERVICE IN ENGLAND CONFIRMATION OF LOCAL AUTHORITY NOTIFICATION

Local authorities can use this pro-forma to confirm that they have received a copy of an application. They may alternatively supply an operator with their own method of confirmation. The operator must then enclose this in the same way when their application is sent to the traffic commissioner.

OPERATOR NAME:

A2B Travel Group Ltd

LICENCE NUMBER:

PF2020005

**REGISTRATION
REFERENCE:**

8

TYPE OF APPLICATION:
(place X in relevant box)

NEW

VARIATION

CANCELLATION

X

SERVICE NUMBER:

7A

START POINT:

Duxford, IWM

FINISH POINT:

Sawston, High Street

**REQUESTED START
DATE:**

21/06/2022

**DATE RECEIVED IN
LOCAL AUTHORITY:**

18/06/2022

**NAME OF LOCAL
AUTHORITY:**

Cambridgeshire & Peterborough Combined Authority



Office of the Traffic Commissioner

LOCAL REGISTERED SERVICE IN ENGLAND CONFIRMATION OF LOCAL AUTHORITY NOTIFICATION

I confirm a copy of the application and supporting documentation has been received (tick if yes)



Please confirm on what date 18/06/2022

Please use the space below (or on a separate sheet) if you wish to provide the traffic commissioner with any further comment regarding the registration.

To prevent staff shortages impacting on reliability.

Unable to provide 'wet' signature due to home working.

If the operator is applying for short notice grant of the registration, you can use the box below to provide further information in order for the traffic commissioner to assess the request.

Please confirm;

1. The date the operator was notified of the change and this was agreed
2. If any other operators are affected and if there are any commercial implications
3. If you support this application

1. 13/06/2022
2. No
3. Yes

Print Name:



Position: Public Transport Network Co-ordinator

Date: 20/06/2022

I confirm that the Local Authority has been notified of the proposed registration in accordance with the Regulation 3 of The Public Services Vehicles (Registration of Local Services) Regulations 1986 and are content for the registration period to commence on receipt of this notice (or the registered particulars if received by the traffic commissioner after this form).

The completed form should be provided to the operator (either electronically or by post) for submission to the Traffic Commissioner with the registered particulars.



Office of the Traffic Commissioner

LOCAL REGISTERED SERVICE IN ENGLAND CONFIRMATION OF LOCAL AUTHORITY NOTIFICATION

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OPERATOR NAME:

A2B Travel Group Ltd

LICENCE NUMBER:

PF2020005

**REGISTRATION
REFERENCE:**

7

TYPE OF APPLICATION:
(place X in relevant box)

NEW

VARIATION

CANCELLATION

X

SERVICE NUMBER:

31

START POINT:

Barley

FINISH POINT:

Cambridge

**REQUESTED START
DATE:**

21/06/2022

**DATE RECEIVED IN
LOCAL AUTHORITY:**

18/06/2022

**NAME OF LOCAL
AUTHORITY:**

Cambridgeshire & Peterborough Combined Authority



Office of the Traffic Commissioner

LOCAL REGISTERED SERVICE IN ENGLAND CONFIRMATION OF LOCAL AUTHORITY NOTIFICATION

I confirm a copy of the application and supporting documentation has been received (tick if yes)



Please confirm on what date 18/06/2022

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To prevent staff shortages impacting on reliability.

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Please confirm;

1. The date the operator was notified of the change and this was agreed
2. If any other operators are affected and if there are any commercial implications
3. If you support this application

1. 13/06/2022
2. No
3. Yes

Print Name:



Position: Public Transport Network Co-ordinator

Date: 20/06/2022

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OPERATOR NAME:

A2B Travel Group Ltd

LICENCE NUMBER:

PF2020005

**REGISTRATION
REFERENCE:**

3

TYPE OF APPLICATION:
(place X in relevant box)

NEW

VARIATION

CANCELLATION

X

SERVICE NUMBER:

202

START POINT:

Ashwell

FINISH POINT:

Ashwell & Morden Railway Station

**REQUESTED START
DATE:**

07/07/2022

**DATE RECEIVED IN
LOCAL AUTHORITY:**

18/06/2022

**NAME OF LOCAL
AUTHORITY:**

Cambridgeshire & Peterborough Combined Authority



Office of the Traffic Commissioner

LOCAL REGISTERED SERVICE IN ENGLAND CONFIRMATION OF LOCAL AUTHORITY NOTIFICATION

I confirm a copy of the application and supporting documentation has been received (tick if yes)



Please confirm on what date 18/06/2022

Please use the space below (or on a separate sheet) if you wish to provide the traffic commissioner with any further comment regarding the registration.

Staff shortages forcing cancellation.

Unable to provide 'wet' signature due to home working.

If the operator is applying for short notice grant of the registration, you can use the box below to provide further information in order for the traffic commissioner to assess the request.

Please confirm;

1. The date the operator was notified of the change and this was agreed
2. If any other operators are affected and if there are any commercial implications
3. If you support this application

1. Agreed with Hertfordshire County Council
2. No
3. Yes

Print Name: [REDACTED]

Position: Public Transport Network Co-ordinator

Date: 20/06/2022

I confirm that the Local Authority has been notified of the proposed registration in accordance with the Regulation 3 of The Public Services Vehicles (Registration of Local Services) Regulations 1986 and are content for the registration period to commence on receipt of this notice (or the registered particulars if received by the traffic commissioner after this form).

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