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SOUTHEND-ON-SEA BOROUGH COUNCIL

Meeting of Public Transport and Buses Working Party

Date: Monday, 22nd February, 2016 Place: Committee Room 4 - Civic Suite

Present:	Councillor Aylen (Chairman) Councillors Arscott, Byford, Mulroney and Ware-Lane
In Attendance:	Councillors Folkard, J Garston, Habermel Mr S Knightley Paul Mathieson, J Mayhew, G Newman & T Row
Start/End Time:	6.00 p.m./7.35 p.m.

1 Apologies for Absence

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Woodley, Assenheim and Davies.

2 Declarations of Interest

No interests were declared at the meeting.

3 Minutes of the Meeting held on 25th November 2015

Resolved:-

That consideration of the Minutes of the Meeting held on Wednesday 25th November 2016 be deferred until the next meeting.

4 C2C Timetable and Update on Progress

The Working Party received a presentation from Mr Chris Atkinson, Communications and Stakeholder Manager and Mr Kevin Fraser, Delivery Manager (C2C). The presentation provided an update on:

- the recent changes to the timetable;
- the changes at stations within Southend;
- what has happened since the introduction of the changes;
- the details of seat availability and passenger numbers; and
- the next steps for the service and passengers.

It was noted that since the introduction of the new timetable there had been a huge growth in passenger numbers that were far beyond the expectations. The extra capacity provided as a result of the recent changes was scheduled to last until 2019 but had been filled already. The punctuality of the service however, had been maintained.

The Working Party, officers and other Members present took the opportunity to ask a number of questions regarding the changes, the service currently being provided and the on-going work being undertaken by C2C. Members also took the opportunity to identify ways it could help improve and support C2C in its delivery of the service.

On behalf of the Working, the Chairman thanked Mr Atkinson and Mr Fraser for their detailed and informative presentation.

Resolved:

1. That a copy of the slides used in the presentation be circulated to Members.

2. That the Council supports C2C in pressuring the Government to identify and secure additional rolling stock and additional carriages to provide extra capacity and flexibility.

3. That, in view of the hours lost to the economy as a result of delays experienced by commuters on the C2C line, C2C be recommended to approach large businesses within "the square mile" and organisations such as the "Big Business Corporation Ltd.", as well as local businesses and partnerships within Southend, to support and assist C2C in acquiring additional rolling stock as a matter of urgency.

Chairman: