

From: Graham Newman <Graham.Newman@suffolk.gov.uk>

Subject: RE: Bus Service 110 Galloway

Further to my earlier e-mail, please see the following-
Councillors,

Further to the e mail below informing you of the withdrawal of a local bus service in your division I am pleased to update you on the solution that has been secured. This information may now enter the public domain.

We have now been informed by First Eastern Counties that they have registered changes to the 88 and 88a services (Ipswich to Stowmarket)

Service 88 will remain largely unchanged apart from some changes within Needham Market which should not be detrimental. A new service 89 from Stowmarket will serve the York Crescent area within Claydon and then serve Bramford, continuing into central Ipswich via Bramford Road. This will ensure that each of the areas concerned will retain a bus every hour. New services will commence on Monday 3rd February, 2014. The residential area (Acton Road/Gipping Way) within Bramford will not be served but we plan to cover this with the 111 supported service which is currently out to tender. Once this process has closed we will negotiate a minor diversion to cover this area.

The only negative issue arising from these changes relates to Saturday 1st February, 2014. Galloways will cease their services on Friday 31st January meaning that there will be no bus service for one day (01/02/2014) pending the changes to the First Eastern Counties services on the Monday. These are decisions made by private companies and we are not in a position to seek any change to these. We hope that this will cause minimal inconvenience for the travelling public.

All of the First Eastern County changes are to their commercial network and require no subsidy from SCC. All changes have been secured with SCC acting as the "broker" in the interest of the residents affected and thus discharging our duties under the Transport Act to "*secure such services as it considers appropriate*". In this case (as with several others in the past) we have secured these services without recourse to public funds.

Whilst we are not pleased to see any route withdrawn (particularly when it has been delivered in such a professional manner) this change to the 88 and 89 will have the effect of consolidating the existing patronage onto these key interurban routes and should further underpin their viability in the longer term. Through this entire process Galloways have been extremely helpful in providing data on patronage whilst First have been very positive in securing a revised route that meets the needs of the residents. I am grateful for their assistance and pleased that the professional relationships that this department has with bus operators have once again resulted in the best possible deal for the travelling public, I feel that it is worth recording our appreciation of their assistance.

I have within the last few moments passed the registration documents to our publicity team and revised timetables will appear online at www.suffolkonboard.com within the next week or so.

Finally, because of this outcome SCC has decided to abandon any changes to the 113 and 114 services, these will now continue unchanged for the foreseeable future.

Yours sincerely

Graham L Newman (Cllr)

Member for Felixstowe Coastal Division
Cabinet Member for Roads & Transport
Suffolk County Council