

From: Van Der Nest Christian (ST) on behalf of Powell Gareth
Sent: 28 February 2018 16:03
To: [REDACTED]@southwark.gov.uk'; [REDACTED]@london.gov.uk';
'sadiq.khan [REDACTED]'; Brown Mike (Commissioner)
Cc: [REDACTED]@london.gov.uk'; [REDACTED]@southwark.gov.uk';
[REDACTED]@southwark.gov.uk'
Subject: FW: Proposed Reduction in the RV1 bus service (GP18-038)
Attachments: Mr Gareth Powell TfL-RV1 February 2018.pdf

Dear Cllr Noakes

Thank you for your email and accompanying letter regarding route RV1.

We constantly review the bus network to take into account and reflect the changing ways that Londoners travel. For example, with the arrival of the Elizabeth line from the end of this year, the proposed transformation of Oxford Street, and new cycling routes across London, we need to review the bus network to make sure our services match customer demand. By strategically reconfiguring the bus network, we can ensure that our services are run more efficiently, provide more capacity where it is needed and remove excess capacity where passenger numbers have dropped. This approach can enable ridership to grow more quickly in areas with growing demand, whilst improving reliability and reducing congestion where demand is falling.

Passenger demand for the RV1 has been falling for a number of years, with a significant drop over the last twelve months. It is very lightly used for a central area route, and there is a significant amount of spare capacity. Just over two buses per hour are required at its busiest point at Aldwych, in the afternoon towards Covent Garden. It is one of only four bus routes that operate wholly within central London and our strategy is to reduce these where reduced demand dictates they are not needed.

There are alternative routes to the RV1. It is paralleled by route 381 between Waterloo and City Hall, the 78 and 42 between City Hall and Tower Gateway, and by many routes between Waterloo and Aldwych. It is also paralleled by the Jubilee line and national rail services between Waterloo, Waterloo East and London Bridge.

Reducing the frequency from six buses to three buses per hour was carefully evaluated and is worthwhile. This change will save over £340,000 per year which represents a significant saving that can be reinvested across the wider bus network.

We are investing heavily to clean up our bus fleet, including delivering 3,000 Ultra Low Emission double-deck buses in central London by 2019 and over 250 Zero Emission single-deck buses into central London by 2020. Money saved by tailoring the network to reflect changing travel patterns helps fund this important work.

As well as saving money to help fund cleaner buses, the change to the RV1 will bring a more immediate environmental benefit as the route will change from being operated by a mix of diesel and hydrogen buses to being operated by hydrogen buses only.

We will keep this route under review to check if and how demand is changing to ensure capacity is able to match future changes in passenger demand. We will keep you informed of this.

Please be assured that we do not take these decisions lightly. However, it is vital that we run a cleaner, more efficient and more cost-effective bus service across London.

Kind regards


Gareth Powell
Managing Director – Surface Transport

From: Noakes, David [<mailto:>]
Sent: 08 February 2018 12:31
To: Mills Princess (ST)
Subject: RE: Proposed Reduction in the RV1 bus service (GP18-038)

Princess,

Thank you.

Councillor David Noakes
Liberal Democrat Councillor for Cathedrals Ward
Opposition Spokesperson for Health and Member of the Health and Wellbeing Board
Vice Chair of Healthy Communities Scrutiny Sub Committee

Tel. no. [REDACTED]
E-mail [REDACTED]
 @cathedralsdavid

From: Mills Princess (ST) [<mailto:>]
Sent: Tuesday, February 06, 2018 4:09 PM
To: Noakes, David
Subject: RE: Proposed Reduction in the RV1 bus service (GP18-038)

Dear Cllr Noakes

Thank you for your email to Gareth Powell, Managing Director of Surface Transport and Mike Brown MVO, Commissioner for TfL.

I am writing to acknowledge receipt of your email and to assure you that we are looking into the queries you raise.

We will provide you with a full response as soon as possible.

Kind regards

Princess Mills

Princess Mills | Communications & Engagement Officer, Managing Director's Office
TfL Surface Transport, 11th Floor, Zone R3, Palestra, 197 Blackfriars Road, London, SE1 8NJ

Email: [REDACTED]

From: Noakes, David [<mailto:>]
Sent: 06 February 2018 14:49
To: Powell Gareth; 'sadiq.khan' [REDACTED]; [REDACTED]@london.gov.uk'; Brown Mike (Commissioner)
Cc: Caroline Pidgeon; Morris, Adele; Linforth-Hall, Maria
Subject: Proposed Reduction in the RV1 bus service

Mr Powell,

Proposed reduction in the RV1 bus service

Please find an attached letter from Cathedrals ward councillors regarding our concerns about TfL's proposals to half the number of buses on the RV1 route.

We would appreciate your urgent attention to this matter as the proposals are meant to come into effect on the 10th February

Councillor David Noakes
Liberal Democrat Councillor for Cathedrals Ward
Opposition Spokesperson for Health and Member of the Health and Wellbeing Board
Vice Chair of Healthy Communities Scrutiny Sub Committee

Tel. no. [REDACTED]

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