

Item No.	Classification: Open	Date: 20.5.03	MEETING NAME Executive
Report title:		Motion Submitted in accordance with Council Procedure Rule 3.9 – Bus Routes	
Ward(s) or groups affected:		All	
From:		Chief Executive (Borough Solicitor and Secretary)	

RECOMMENDATION

1. That the Executive consider the motion as set out in paragraph 4 below.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

2. This report was on the Executive agenda for 25th February 2003. The Executive however agreed at that the meeting to defer consideration of the motion, pending the attendance of a Transport for London (TfL) Officer. It has now been decided to consider the motion without the attendance of the Transport for London Officer.
3. At the Council Assembly meeting on 22nd January 2003 a motion was submitted in accordance with Council Procedure Rule 3.9 (1) by Councillor William Rowe and seconded by Councillor Kim Humphreys.
4. Council Assembly considered this motion and it was subsequently amended. The amended motion was referred to the Executive:-

Council notes that South London has a disproportionately high share of badly performing bus routes and in particular that routes 322, 185 and 3 through Southwark are three of the worst five routes in London. Council Assembly requests the Executive to instruct officers to consult with the bus companies, Transport for London and residents borough-wide on measures to reduce delays and to bring forward a plan to achieve substantially improved performance on the 322, 185, 3 and other poor performing routes within the next year.

KEY ISSUES FOR CONSIDERATION

5. In accordance with Council Procedure Rule 3.9 (3), the above motion was referred to the Executive, which shall report upon the outcome of their deliberations upon the motion to the next meeting of Council Assembly.
6. Any key issues, policy or funding implications are included in the advice from the relevant Chief Officer.

SUPPLEMENTARY ADVICE FROM OTHER OFFICERS

Strategic Director of Regeneration

7. Southwark Transport Group works closely with Transport for London, London Buses and service operators to identify problematic sections of existing bus routes within the Borough. Once issues have been identified, proposals are then drafted to address these problems.
8. The Council's Transport Group holds regular meetings with the above authorities to discuss schemes that are beneficial to improving existing bus routes in Southwark. This opportunity allows for feedback from service operators and for the Council to express concerns that have been raised by members of the public and Local Ward Councillors.
9. Currently Southwark Transport Group are managing over 80 bus priority improvement schemes within the Borough. This is the second highest number of schemes being progressed out of all 22 London Boroughs.
10. Over the past two years, as part of the London Buses Initiative and London Bus Priority Network proposals, Routes 68, 35, 343, 47, 185, 381, C10, 1, 78, P12, 12, 344, 63, 37, 225 have all been upgraded to improve bus stop accessibility, reduce passenger journey times and where possible introduction of bus lanes, waiting restrictions and bus priority signalling at road junctions. All routes have shown improvements in passenger journey times as a result of bus priority measures introduced.
11. Currently the 185 Bus Route is being run by a number of operators, which has resulted in inconsistent timetabling. However, contract tenders for the route are to be sent out in March 03, with appointment of a long-term service operator in May 03.
12. Improvements are currently underway for the Route 3 along Croxted Road. This will involve improvements to existing bus stop environments, improving passenger and disabled access as well as allowing buses to more easily rejoin the general traffic flow when exiting a bus stop.
13. Operation of Route 322 is to be reviewed later this year. Following the review, funding applications for improvements will be made for the 04/05 financial year.
14. All schemes are subject to consultation and Local Ward Members' approval. Southwark Transport Group endeavours to work closely with local residents and traders to ensure equitable solutions are achieved if concerns or objections are raised.

15. Members of the public and Councillors can report existing problems and suggest improvements for existing bus services to Transport Group officers either by post or email. Suggestions can then be forwarded to Transport for London and London Buses at the quarterly Southwark bus liaison meeting. Accordingly TfL and London Buses can consider suggested improvements and implementation of future schemes to address bus service issues within Southwark.

Borough Solicitor and Secretary

16. There are no specific legal implications arising from the consideration of this report.

REASONS FOR URGENCY

This motion was originally referred from Council Assembly on 22nd January 2003 and on the Executive agenda for 25th February 2003. Due to the amount of issues the Executive has needed to consider since then, it has not been possible to consider the motion. Any positive outcome arising from the consideration of the motion will be delayed further if the item is not considered at this meeting.

REASONS FOR LATENESS

It was not possible to clarify the position relating to the attendance of the Transport for London officer and whether the motion should be considered in the absence of the TfL officers' absence until after the agenda dispatch.

BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS

Background Papers	Held At	Contact
Original Motions	Room 315, Town Hall, Peckham Road, London SE5 8UB	Beverley Olamijulo 020 7525-7222

APPENDIX A

Audit Trail

Lead Officer	Ian Millichap, Constitutional Support Manager	
Report Author	Everton Roberts, Constitutional Support Officer	
Version	Final	
Dated	16 th May 2003	
Key Decision	No.	
CONSULTATION WITH OTHER OFFICERS/ DIRECTORATES/EXECUTIVE MEMBER		
Officer Title	Comments Sought	Comments included
Borough Solicitor & Secretary	Yes	Yes
Chief Finance Officer	No	No
Strategic Director of Regeneration	Yes	Yes
Executive Member	No	No
Date Final Report sent to Constitutional Support Services	16th May 2003	