

## PLYMOUTH CITY COUNCIL

5 JULY 2010

### **MOTION ON NOTICE No 1 10/11: WITHDRAWAL OF THE ST BUDEAUX AND WESTON MILL TAXIBUS SERVICE**

This Council notes with disappointment the withdrawal of the St Budeaux and Weston Mill taxibus service, to take effect from 6<sup>th</sup> August. No discussion took place with the Council prior to notice being given to the Traffic Commissioner, so no prior discussion over a replacement service has been possible. The Council further notes the content of the leaflet that the operator is distributing, with its implication that the withdrawal is the fault of the Council for providing no subsidy.

Prior to the introduction of this service, the previous taxibus service received a small Council subsidy. This had to be withdrawn when Taxifast registered its commercial service.

With the introduction of this service 4 years ago, the other weekday services that operated along parts of these routes have been withdrawn. This means that residents, including elderly and disabled people, have no alternative than to pay the cost of a taxi to get to the doctors' surgeries or to shops.

The Council resolves -

- 1) to request the present operator to consider an extension to the withdrawal date to allow discussions to take place with other operators so that a reliable service may be provided to take the place of the current operation;
- 2) to open discussions as a matter of urgency with other potential operators;
- 3) to consider offering subsidy to support a replacement service;
- 4) to offer publicity regarding the Council's responsibility for supporting the present service, to correct the publicity being distributed by the present operator.

**Proposed by Councillor Wheeler**

**Seconded by Councillor Evans**