

Gill Dixon  
Baildon Town Council

14 January 2021

Dear Gill,

Further to our ongoing discussions surrounding bus services in the Baildon area, I wanted to provide a summary of some of the outcomes we have managed to deliver in partnership with the Baildon 'finding a way' group.

Firstly can I thank you and other members of the group for your time, and for bringing the transport issues and community frustrations to our attention. This feedback has been constructive, and we have used it to help shape bus services in the area.

As you are aware, most bus services are operated on a commercial basis (no support from the Combined Authority) so we do not have any influence on the routing of these services. The Combined Authority do support some services (including the Higher Coach Road service) but our budget is limited.

However I am pleased to confirm that following on from our discussions over the last year, we have managed to improve the supported bus service offer for the Higher Coach Road community.

Previously service 675 served the area with a limited link to Shipley only (approximately ever two hours).

The Combined Authority have redesigned the supported network in the area, and from 1<sup>st</sup> September 2021 new service 660 was introduced. This service brings significant improvements serving Higher Coach Road every hour, and providing a direct service to Shipley, Five Land Ends Morrisons and Bradford. We have awarded the contract for this service to local bus company TLC Travel for a period of three years. This has provided a solution to most of the issues raised.

The contract has been awarded on a 'gross cost' basis, which means that the Combined Authority take the revenue risk (with regards to fares etc). This will give the operator financial assurances throughout these unpredictable times.

I have enclosed a copy of the 660 timetable FYI.

These changes have increased our expenditure, but in line with your feedback we feel that the new service provides the community with the required level of service going forward. We are hopeful that patronage will increase (when we come out of this pandemic), which will help to make the service sustainable for years to come.

With the new 660 service in place, there seems little requirement for an additional community transport service, particularly as we are still recovering from the COVID pandemic. Such a service may also retract revenue from service 660 making it less sustainable which is something we do not want to happen. However happy to review this at a later stage if necessary.

Please do not hesitate to contact me if you require any further information.

Yours sincerely,



Dave Keady  
**Bus Network Manager**  
[David.keady@westyorks-ca.gov.uk](mailto:David.keady@westyorks-ca.gov.uk)  
0113 2517412