

# Transport and Environment Committee

10.00am, Thursday 23 May 2024

## Petition for Consideration: Existing bus service does not have enough capacity to take children to and from Leith to Holy Rood High School

Executive/routine  
Wards

Executive  
Leith/ Craigentiny/ Duddingston

### Recommendations

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- 1.1 To consider the terms of the petition 'Existing bus service does not have enough capacity to take children to and from Leith to Holy Rood High School' as set out in Appendix one.

**Dr Deborah Smart**

Executive Director of Corporate Services

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# Report

## Existing bus service does not have enough capacity to take children to and from Leith to Holy Rood High School

### Executive Summary

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- 1.1 The Transport and Environment Committee is asked to consider a petition at this meeting.

### Background

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- 2.1 The City of Edinburgh Council at its meeting on 22 June 2017 agreed the Petitions Committee be discontinued and that petitions would be sent to the responsible executive committees or in future locality committees for consideration.
- 2.2 At the meeting, the committee can:
  - a) request a report on the issues raised by the petitioner and the committee;
  - b) agree that the issues raised do not merit further action and/or
  - c) agree to take any other appropriate action.

### Main report

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- 3.1 A valid petition entitled 'Existing bus service does not have enough capacity to take children to and from Leith to Holy Rood High School' had been received on 21 February 2024. The petition received 90 signatures.
- 3.2 The petition calls on the Council to reconsider the existing service and to provide a more reliable and timely service going forward.

### Next Steps

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- 4.1 The committee will determine next steps at this meeting.

## **Financial impact**

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- 5.1 Any proposals would be required to be fully costed, including any legal implications and agreed through the annual budget process.

## **Equality and Poverty Impact**

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- 5.2 Any proposals would require an equality and poverty impact assessment.

## **Climate and Nature Emergency Implications**

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- 6.1 Any proposals would require to be considered and agreed in line with the Climate Change (Emissions Reductions Targets) (Scotland) Act 2019 and Nature Conservation (Scotland) Act 2004.

## **Risk, policy, compliance, governance and community impact**

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- 7.1 Any proposals would require full community consultation.

## **Background reading/external references**

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- 8.1 [Minute of the City of Edinburgh Council 22 June 2017.](#)

## **Appendices**

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Appendix 1 – Petition – Existing bus service does not have enough capacity to take children to and from Leith to Holy Rood High School

# Appendix 1 - Existing bus service does not have enough capacity to take children to and from Leith to Holy Rood High School

Date made available for signatures	Date closed for signatures	Petitions Title and Petitions Statement	Wards affected
		<p><b>Existing bus service does not have enough capacity to take children to and from Leith to Holy Rood High School</b></p> <p>I write on behalf of The Parent Council of Holy Rood High School, Duddingston. Leith falls within the catchment area of this school and the number of pupils travelling by bus from Leith to Holy Rood has increased and is set to increase again in the next academic year. The current public bus service is not adequate to ensure that all children can get on due to the bus being full, missing stops or redirecting up Lochend Road instead of Restalrig Road missing out many students. There have also been occasions (29th May 2023) that a Sunday service has been operating that buses did not show at all. This is very unsafe - it has left children in the dark (in the Winter mornings) to navigate their way to school involving taking alternative transport including a change of bus part way to school. All of these scenarios cause the children to be very late or not to attend at all, and it is very disruptive to their education and that of their classmates. Some of these children can be as young as 11 and traveling to High School independently in their first year of High School. Many pupils can be left distressed when unable to get to school on time and be unsure how to get to school using different routes. The lack of adequate and safe bus service acts as a</p>	<p>Leith/            Craigentenny/            Duddingston</p>

		barrier for children at St Mary's (Leith) to attend their catchment Catholic school.	
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