

Your Ref:
Our Ref: HT/PT//WJ/839/9
Date 4th January 2007

Councillor Dean

Tony Ciaburro
Service Director for Highways &
Transportation
Essex County Council
County Hall
Chelmsford
Essex CM1 1QH

Dear Councillor Dean

Re: Service 333 – Stansted Mountfitchet-Epping

Thank you for your email regarding the withdrawal of service 333. As you note this is a commercial decision and the County Council has considered its response to the change. Whenever we are informed about a service withdrawal we consider a number of factors relating to the service in question. These include

- The alternatives available
- The effect on County minimum service level commitments
- Usage
- The Likely cost to the Council of replacing the service.

In this case, Maitland Road is also served by our subsidised Village Link 7 service, connecting directly with Bishops Stortford and Stansted Airport bus park at an hourly frequency. This allows connections to both Harlow and Epping to be made, admittedly at the cost of a longer, less convenient journey. The remaining services continue to meet to the County Councils weekday minimum service level standard for a settlement of its size.

At the moment the County Council's budget for supporting local bus services is almost totally committed to the support of existing services and the County is under fairly severe pressure from a significant level of service registration changes across the County as a whole.

In light of these factors, it is unlikely that the County Council will be able to fund a replacement service for 333. However, those who are unable to make use of the revised service might like to consider the use of Uttlesford Community Transport, which is also funded by the County Council and provides transport for those unable to make use of public bus services. They can be contacted on 01371 875787.

Yours sincerely,
Wendy Jackson
Transport Liaison Manager

Please reply to Wendy Jackson
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