Recommendation from Economic Growth Overview and Scrutiny Committee – 25 January 2017

Notice of Motion Clause 21 of the Bus Bill/ Bus Subsidies Working Group

6 The Committee took the opportunity to consider the motion 'Clause 21 of the Bus Bill' proposed by Councillor Ros Kayes, County Councillor for Bridport which was primarily concerned with effect the Bill would have on effectively prohibiting a local authority from forming a company for the purposes of providing a local bus service, which might in turn have an adverse effect on the effectiveness of any combined authority. As the motion considered that Clause 21 contradicted the general powers of competence and the spirit of the Localism Act 2011 and given the weight of public support for local bus services, it asked for support that Clause 21 should be omitted from the Bus Services Bill and that a submission be made to the Secretary of State on this matter.

A statement was circulated to the Committee from Councillor Kayes further emphasising the importance of opposing Clause 21.

The Committee supported the broad principle of the motion and considered it appropriate that Cabinet be asked to endorse this.

Resolved

That the Chairman of the Committee, the Cabinet Member for the Environment, Infrastructure and Highways and the Director for Environment and the Economy write to the Secretary of State on the basis of the motion.

Recommended

That Cabinet be asked to endorse the approach taken by the Committee and their broad support for the principle of the motion, and that the Leader might consider agreeing to add his name to the letter being written.