

## Planning Committee

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<b>Title:</b>	<b>Community Bus Working Group Update</b>
<b>Date:</b>	<b>08 April 2025</b>
<b>Contact Officer:</b>	<b>Becky Reid, Environmental Project Officer</b>

### Purpose of Report

1. To inform the committee about action taken by the Community Bus Working Group (CBWG) since the last report 10 December 2024.

### Update

2. As reported to the Planning Committee on 10 December 2024, the Community Bus Working Group has decided not to progress with establishing a Hopper Bus at this time. Instead, the group is focusing on the wider role that is needed around travel as a whole in Thame, as well as taking action to support the success of the 121 service.

### Wider Work to support Travel

3. Since the last report Thame Town Council has been progressing the development of a Strategy for the town/Town Council as a whole. This group decided that it was prudent to delay work on the wider travel needs within Thame until the overall strategy is more advanced to ensure that any action taken clearly links in with this wider process. Following the completion of the Strategy it will become clearer about the role of this group going forward, at which point the group will review and updated its Terms of Reference.
4. As previously reported, we anticipate the remit of the group will widen to include travel and connectivity as a whole in Thame, with responsibility to take the following action:
  - 4.1. Identifying and engaging relevant stakeholders involved in travel and connectivity in Thame,
  - 4.2. Mapping all transport and travel options that already exist in Thame more thoroughly.
  - 4.3. Identifying the gaps that exist, where travel needs are not met by any service at all.
  - 4.4. Planning for expected/possible future changes in this area.
  - 4.5. Understanding the wider socio-political context of transport and travel and the possible impacts on Thame

### Supporting the 121 service

5. Liaison with OCC Public Transport team continues, with the ambition of:
  - 5.1. Creating a bus timetable leaflet for Thame that will highlight the 121. This could include delivery of the flyer through relevant doors.
  - 5.2. Building better connections with Red Rose to help to promote the service.
  - 5.3. Exploring ideas for a campaign to boost awareness of this service that can be implemented in 2025.

### Action Required

- To note the report*