

## 19/486 Response to Resolutions 14/8 and 20/8 – Bus Network (Network 19 and Weekend Services)

Summary of Impacts
<p>This Cabinet Submission seeks agreement to the Action Plan for the Weekend bus service reliability.</p> <p>Overall the Action Plan will increase employment with more bus drivers and provide increased reliability of weekend bus services which will have a positive impact on the community compared to the current state.</p>

*Key to impacts: Red – negative, Blue – neutral, Green – positive.*

### Social

<b>Access to services</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>With the implementation of the integrated light rail and bus network, Transport Canberra introduced a significant increase in weekend services compared to the previous timetable. This was in line with the principle to provide more weekend services more often. The increase in services is working to bring more passengers to the network with around 30 per cent increase in patronage year on year.</li> <li>The Action Plan will improve the current situation around weekend bus service reliability, and therefore improve access to bus services on weekends. This may reduce the number of services overall but will improve reliability.</li> </ul>
<b>Access to Social Networks and community activities</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Action Plan will result in increased reliability of the weekend bus services by implementing an interim weekend timetable to immediately improve reliability</li> <li>The Action Plan will also improve information to the community by promoting NxtBUS for real time services information and journey planner for planning trips.</li> </ul>
<b>Disadvantages and vulnerable</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Action Plan will increase the reliability of the weekend bus services, and provide greater certainty to those who rely on these services.</li> <li>This may result in a reduced number of services on the weekend, but will ensure services that are provided are more reliable.</li> <li>Journey planner will provide accurate service information to plan trips.</li> </ul>

### Economic

<b>ACT Government Budget</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Additional funding for some matters referred to in the action plan (such as Action 4 – introduce a new ticketing system) will be sought in a future budget process.</li> <li>Further, any Government decisions arising from reviews and investigations committed to in the action plan may have a financial impact. If necessary, funding to implement any such decisions will be sought through a future budget process.</li> <li>The funding of additional drivers will be sought as part of a future budget process.</li> </ul>
<b>Income Levels and distribution</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Action Plan will result in continuous recruitment of bus drivers. Applicants for driver positions at the end of August 2019 had reached 185, and this is on track to exceed the applications received in the previous year.</li> <li>The Action Plan will result in increased use of stand-by drivers.</li> </ul>
<b>Employment</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Ahead of the introduction of the new network Transport Canberra recruited an additional 60 drivers and reasonably expected to deliver a consistently reliable weekend service. However, due to a higher than anticipated rate of separation of drivers aligning with the new network and other factors such as the desirability of shift lengths and patterns for drivers volunteering for additional overtime Transport Canberra has not been able to meet the expected level of reliability.</li> <li>The Action Plan will result in continuous recruitment of bus drivers. Applicants for driver positions at the end of August had reached 185, and this is on track to exceed the applications received in the previous year.</li> <li>The Action Plan will result in increased use of stand-by drivers.</li> <li>A new workforce planning tool will see an improved driver allocation with training and leave balances being more optimally modelled.</li> </ul>