



Havering
LONDON BOROUGH

Andrew Beesley
Committee
Manager

Administration

TO:
All Mayoral Candidates

London Borough of Havering
Town Hall Main Road
Romford RM1 3BD

Please contact: Wendy Gough
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Dear Sir/Madam

DIAL A RIDE SERVICE IN THE LONDON BOROUGH OF HAVERING

As Chairman of the London Borough of Havering's Individuals Overview and Scrutiny Sub-Committee, I am writing on behalf of the Sub-Committee to express our concerns about the continuing poor Dial a Ride service received by residents of the London Borough of Havering. For over a period of 10 years Councillors here at Havering have been trying, with very little success, to achieve a better Dial a Ride service for the growing elderly population of Havering.

In brief, Havering is the third largest borough by area in London and has the eldest population, meaning of course that the Dial a Ride service is of key importance to many residents of the borough. Discussions have been repeatedly held with senior representatives of Transport for London concerning the Dial a Ride service which both parties agreed does not sufficiently serve the demography and land mass of our borough.

A number of possible solutions, many of which were supported by senior Members, officers of the Council, user representatives and Transport for London management, were discussed. Importantly all parties agreed that the Dial a Ride service did not meet the specific needs of Havering. To date, however, no long term solution or improvements in the local Dial a Ride performance has been achieved.

Financially the Sub-Committee had identified that significant savings could have been made by running a bespoke service which would better serve our elderly population, at a much lower cost per journey than the current Transport for London charges. The Sub-Committee has also identified the stresses of isolation in our elderly population and feel that your campaign may benefit from identifying with this much overlooked group within our society.

We would therefore like to invite you to Havering during your Mayoral campaign, to show your support to both our substantial elderly population and of the importance of an economically sound Dial a Ride or equivalent service.

I would therefore be grateful if you could please contact Wendy Gough, Committee Officer on 01708 432441 or wendy.gough@onesource.co.uk with your availability.

Councillor June Alexander
Chairman, Individual Overview and Scrutiny Sub-Committee

Copies to

Boris Johnson, Mayor of London
All Councillors, London Borough of Havering
Andrew Blake-Herbert, Deputy Chief Executive, Communities and Resources,
London Borough of Havering
Michael Lloyd, Dial a Ride Service User Representative