

Mrs M. Baker
 1 Finwell Road
 Rainham
 Kent ME8 7PY

Ms Julie Keith
 Head of Democratic Services
 Medway Council Civic HQ
 Gun Wharf, Dock Road
 Chatham ME4 4TR

27th June 2014

cc: Mr Robin Cooper
 cc: Cllr Vaughan Hewett
 cc Mr Rehman Chishti MP

Dear Ms Keith

Improvement to bus services in Rainham North

Following the reply to our petition to improve bus services in Rainham North, I write to ask if this can be looked at again as we do not feel our concerns have been fully addressed.

In our petition we made some suggestions to improve our bus services, but not exclusive. From your reply we feel the following changes would very much improve the service, increasing passenger numbers and saving Medway Council on the financial support you provide. We would like these revised suggestions listed below based on your comments reviewed by the committee as referred to in the acknowledgement letter. Our Councillor for Rainham North, Cllr Vaughan Hewett, supports these proposals.

	Bus route	Change	Advantages	Disadvantages
1	132 & 121	re-route 132 bus to replace the 121 bus loop on the A2 from Mierscourt Road to Otterham Quay Lane, Wakeley Road, Station Road and back to the A2 at the Cricketers in Rainham High Street. This removes 121 service to Rainham, but remains to serve Gillingham & Chatham. Both 132 & 121 are run by the same operator; 'Arriva'	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Save Medway Council £16,500 per annum for 121 Rainham loop subsidy ▪ Improves the 121 bus service in Gillingham & Chatham ▪ Maintains a 12 minute bus service, 5 services an hour ▪ Now not a loop, as with 121 bus. 132 service runs to both directions ▪ Access to both Chatham & Hempstead shops 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Adds 12 minutes to 132 bus journey from Hempstead to Chatham and visa versa. Originally 36 minutes now it will be 48 minutes

2	121	If option 1 above is not accepted, re-route 121 bus on the Rainham loop at the William St & Station Rd junction so the bus turns right going north on Station Rd to Angel Pub. Then travel back to Station Road via Lower Rainham Road, Berengrave Lane & Childscroft. Turn right to go south on Station Road to continue on normal route.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Serves Macklands estate, Tilbury estate, houses on Lower Rainham Road, Berengrave Lane & Childscroft estate ▪ This additional loop will serve over 2100 additional residents. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Adds 5 minutes to the existing 121 Rainham route. Additional 1.5 miles
3	131	Extend the 131 bus route on Beechings Way on Twydall loop so the 131 bus turns round at the roundabout for Beechings Way & Yokosuka Way intersection.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Extends the 131 service from Twydall shops to Will Adams NHS Treatment centre. ▪ Provides a bus service from Rainham to Will Adams Treatment centre 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ none
4	327 /326	On Saturday for 327 bus to maintain the same route as the Monday to Friday route. This is from 3 Sisters Pub to Angel Pub on Lower Rainham Road. If 1 above is not adopted, the 326 bus on Saturday to divert from the A2 at Men of Kent and go north down Otterham Quay Lane to Wakeley estate (Harwood Rd).	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Simplify timetable ▪ Quicker service for 327 passengers coming from Upchurch ▪ Lower Rainham Road & lower Station Road Macklands & Tilbury estates served on Saturday by 327 bus ▪ All communities are served by either 326 bus or 132 bus in option-1 ▪ Uses Medway's bus subsidy to serve all the residents in Rainham North 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ 6 mins longer for 326 Newington passengers
5	327	Alternatively for just the 327 bus route on Saturday via Wakeley estate, add the same loop as proposed in option-2 above.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ 326 bus route is not altered ▪ Serves an additional 2100 residents 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Additional 1.5miles

Yours sincerely,

Mabel Baker.