



Belfast City Council

Report to	Town Planning Committee
Subject:	Use by Buses of Ordinary Traffic Lanes – visit from representatives of Translink
Date:	20 February 2014
Reporting Officer:	Mrs P Scarborough, Democratic Services Section, ext 6003
Contact Officer:	

1	Relevant Background Information
1.1	Following its meeting on 28 October with the officials from the Roads Service, the Committee had agreed to write to Translink with regard to the practice by bus drivers of using ordinary traffic lanes. On 12 December 2013, the Committee considered a response which had been received from Translink in that regard. The Committee noted the information which had been provided and agreed to invite representatives to attend a future meeting to explore the matter in greater detail.
2	Key Issues
2.1	The Committee will recall that there have been various discussions with the Roads Service regarding the ongoing difficulties which have been experienced by drivers exiting the rear of the City Hall, including the seeking of clarification on the right of way for those vehicles exiting the building. In that regard, the Committee, at its meeting on 12 December, had agreed to write to the Department for Regional Development to request that the current yellow box junction on Donegall Square South be extended to include the area immediately outside the rear gate of the City Hall.
2.2	The Committee will recall also that, at its meeting on 6 February, it had been advised that the Roads Service was considering currently a request which had been received from Translink to extend the yellow box markings towards May Street as bus drivers had been experiencing some difficulty crossing from the bus lane on the south side of Donegall Square South to the City Hall side.
2.3	It has been confirmed by Translink that Mr Ciaran Doherty, General Manager, and Mr Damian Bannon, Belfast Area Manager, will be in attendance at the meeting.

3	Resource Implications
	None
4	Equality and Good Relations Implications
	None
5	Recommendations
	To receive the representatives from Translink and to explore in greater detail the use by buses of ordinary traffic lanes.
6	Decision Tracking
	Mrs P Scarborough to undertake any actions arising from the meeting.
7	Key to Abbreviations
	None
8	Documents Attached
	None