



---

**Christchurch City Council  
EXTRAORDINARY MINUTES ATTACHMENTS**

---

**Date:** Thursday 7 May 2020  
**Time:** 10am  
**Venue:** Held by Audio/Video Link

---

<b>TABLE OF CONTENTS</b>	<b>PAGE</b>
<b>Written Deputation</b>	
A. Deputation - Keep Our Assets Canterbury.....	3

---



---

**From:** KOA Convenor <[convenor@koa.org.nz](mailto:convenor@koa.org.nz)>

**Sent:** Wednesday, May 6, 2020 9:34 PM

**To:** Aaron Keown; Andrew Turner; Anne Galloway; Catherine Chu; Jake McLellan; James Daniels; Jamie Gough; Jimmy Chen; Lianne Dalziel; Melanie Coker; Mike Davidson; Pauline Cotter; Phil Mauger; Sam MacDonald; Sara Templeton; Tim Scandrett; Yani Johanson

**Subject:** No Selloff Of Red Bus Behind Closed Doors

Kia ora councillors,

### **Possible sale of Red Bus?**

Keep Our Assets Canterbury requested to be heard by Councillors at your meeting on Thursday (May 7) in relation to the “public excluded” Council agenda item relating to Red Bus. However, we have been denied the opportunity on the basis the Council says it will not receive deputations on public excluded agenda items. Hence this email.

We do not know the nature of the Red Bus issue on the agenda but it has been alluded to by Mike Yardley in his *Press* column this week where he implies the Council will be selling Red Bus.

If the sale of Red Bus is the issue before the Council we would be gravely concerned.

Firstly, the issue of asset sales is highly contentious and for the Council to attempt such a sale under cover of Covid 19, out of sight of the public, without public notification and refusing even to allow any public knowledge of such a sale would be a cynical abuse of Council democracy.

Secondly, we are aware Red Bus has lost some large bus contracts which have gone to Go Bus (formerly owned by Ngai Tahu and Tainui, but which has now been sold to an Australian company). Irrespective of the financial situation with Red Bus it would be foolish for the Council to sell its bus operator when we know public transport will be a much bigger part of future travel in the city. Without a Council-owned bus operator the Council and ECan would be at the mercy of a cartel of private bus operators.

Thirdly, we are aware ECan is giving consideration to a trial of free public transport (aside from the free buses operating during lockdown) and it is much easier to reorganise and modernise public transport through a publicly-owned bus operator than negotiate with a phalanx of private bus company lawyers.

Fourthly, we are unable to respond to any arguments put up by Council staff in favour of a sale of Red Bus because we have been denied access to even knowing if the sale of Red Bus is the topic up for discussion. It would therefore be quite wrong to take at face value advice from Council officials which is one-sided and untested.

Ngā mihi mahana,

Nā,

Murray Horton

John Minto

Steve Howard

--

Murray Horton  
Convenor

Keep Our Assets-Canterbury  
Box 2258, Christchurch 8140  
[convenor@koa.org.nz](mailto:convenor@koa.org.nz)  
[www.koa.org.nz](http://www.koa.org.nz)