

Keolis renews its contract in Montargis, France

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- On 20 December 2018, the municipality of Montargis renewed its trust in the Keolis Group to operate and develop its transport network, Amelys
- This new public service concession, which started on 1 January 2019, will last six years. It is expected to generate a cumulative revenue of 25 million euros.
- Keolis will support the municipality of Montargis in overhauling its urban public transport network and incorporating new forms of mobility.
- Keolis is committed to increasing the number of journeys by 16% across the entire network by 2024.

Keolis, the long-standing operator of the Amelys network, has been re-selected following a call to tender by the municipality of Montargis, in the Loiret department, to manage the Amelys transport network, which serves 15 communes in the municipality (65,000 residents).

As part of the new public service concession, lasting six years, Keolis will be responsible for operating and developing the bus network and the transport service for passengers with reduced mobility, as well as incorporating new forms of mobility (including carpooling, ridesharing and bike rental).

Introduction of free transport for schoolchildren

The municipality of Montargis has decided to introduce free transport for schoolchildren, namely one daily return journey during the school term, corresponding with school opening and closing times. Families will only be required to pay an annual fee of 25 euros per child to cover administration costs. The aim of this measure, which comes into force in September 2019, is to improve family purchasing power and to facilitate access to education for all schoolchildren. And, for those families who want to give their children the freedom to travel all year round, regardless of the time period, an unlimited subscription will still be on offer.

An ambitious cycling policy

The municipality of Montargis has launched a very ambitious cycling policy, including, as of 2019:

- The construction of three secure bike storage areas in the train station, at the hospital and at Port St Roch

- The construction of three bike parking terminals along the path of the 'Scandibérique' (the French section of the EuroVelo 3 long-distance cycling route)
- 230 electric bicycles and electric scooters available for long-term hire
- 25 bike parking stands installed throughout the region.

More sustainable mobility

The municipality of Montargis is keen to deploy ridesharing and carpooling platforms, including Cmabulle, a networking app that enables families to pool their children's journeys to school, and to extra-curricular activities. With the creation of strategically placed pick-up/drop-off points, new services like these will help the residents of Montargis to get around more easily and make transport easier for people living in suburban areas.

AME (Agglomération Montargoise et Rives du Loing) also wanted to continue certifying the activities of its Amelys network with the ISO 14001 environmental standard and incorporate electric vehicles from 2019 to reduce the environmental impact of its on-demand transport service. A proactive investment plan has also been scheduled to rejuvenate the bus fleet using new vehicles that meet the latest environmental standards in terms of reducing pollutant emissions.

An innovative ticketing system

From 2019, an innovative ticketing system will be rolled out across the entire vehicle fleet, including a feature allowing passengers to pay by credit card, unprecedented for the public transport network of a French medium-sized town. This innovation will modernise and facilitate boarding on buses, thus supporting the increase in commuter numbers expected by AME.

By the year 2024, Keolis is committed to increasing the number of passenger journeys by 16% across the entire network, and to significantly increasing the modal share of the Amelys network in the region covered by the municipality of Montargis.

Key elements of the new contract

- 25 million euros invested in public transport
- 230 electrically-assisted bikes (EAPCs) available for long-term hire
- Six new bike storage areas
- Free travel for schoolchildren
- A four-fold increase in the number of passengers at the train station
- A 16% increase in the number of passenger journeys

The (existing) Amelys network at a glance

- 5 regular bus routes
- 1 million kilometres covered every year
- 2.4 million passenger journeys in 2017
- A 30% increase in commuter numbers between 2007 and 2017

About Keolis

Leading the way in public transport, Keolis partners with public decision makers to make shared mobility an asset for cities and their communities. Internationally recognised as the leading operator of trams and automated metros, Keolis adopts a determined innovation approach with all its partners and subsidiaries (Kisio, LeCab, EFFIA, Keolis Santé and Cykleo) to develop new forms of shared and customised mobility, and reinforce its core business across a range of transport modes including trains, buses, cars, trolleybuses, shared private hire vehicles, river shuttles, ferries, cycles, car sharing services, electric autonomous vehicles and urban cable cars. In France, Keolis is now the leader in medical transport services through the creation of Keolis Santé in July 2017 and positioned as the number two car park operator, through its subsidiary EFFIA.

The company is 70% owned by SNCF and 30% by the Caisse de dépôt et placement du Québec (CDPQ). Keolis employs 63,000 people in 16 countries and recorded a turnover of 5.4 billion euros in 2017. Today, over 3 billion passengers worldwide have used one of the shared mobility services offered by Keolis. www.keolis.com

*Historically based in France, Keolis has expanded its operations in Australia, Belgium, Canada, China, Denmark, Germany, India, Luxembourg, Norway, the Netherlands, Portugal, Qatar, Sweden, the UK and the USA.