

Working in partnership for the people of Herefordshire

Review of Subsidised Bus Services 2011

This consultation is seeking your views and priorities for bus services in Herefordshire. Herefordshire Council is facing significant budget pressures due to Central Government funding cuts and it has to consider priorities for supporting bus services in the county and reducing its cost.

We support a wide range of bus services throughout the county including most daytime services in rural areas, all evening and weekend services and market day services. Other services (principally urban weekday services) are operated commercially.

We are aiming to achieve as much of the saving as we can by improving the efficiency of the supported services and minimising the impacts on bus users. This work is ongoing and the full extent of savings it secures will not be clear until we have received contract proposals from bus operators in July.

If we are unable to achieve all of the required savings through contract efficiencies we may need to consider some service reductions or withdrawal. We want to take into account your priorities to help determine the best course of action and to ensure that any changes to the bus network support those priorities.

You can feedback your views by completing this form and returning it to the freepost address identified overleaf. You can also complete the form online – follow the links on the following web page: www.herefordbus.info. The **consultation will close 15 July** so please ensure you respond before then.

We are also reviewing Community Transport services throughout the County and we would like your views on the role these services could play if there are bus service reductions. There is a separate consultation leaflet to complete on community transport or it can be completed on line through the above address.

Your response will be treated confidentially and used only for the purpose outlined above. Comments you make may be included anonymously when reporting the survey results. If you have any questions or need help in completing this questionnaire, please email public.transport@herefordshire.gov.uk.

Q1 – Whilst we recognise that you might not want any service reduction, if cuts have to be made, which of the following services do you feel are the most important to retain?

(Please prioritise your top three choices 1 to 3, within 1 being the most important)

- | | | | |
|--------------------------|---------------------------------|--------------------------|---------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Monday to Friday early mornings | <input type="checkbox"/> | Saturday daytime |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Monday to Friday daytime | <input type="checkbox"/> | Saturday evenings |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Monday to Thursday evenings | <input type="checkbox"/> | Sundays |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Friday evenings | <input type="checkbox"/> | Market day services |

Q2 – Please tell us your reasons for prioritising these services as being the most important to retain.

Q3 – How often do you use bus services in Herefordshire? – (Please tick only one box)

<input type="checkbox"/>	Daily
<input type="checkbox"/>	2-3 times a week
<input type="checkbox"/>	Weekly

<input type="checkbox"/>	Less often
<input type="checkbox"/>	Never

Q4 – Do you use Community Transport? – (Please tick only one box)

<input type="checkbox"/>	Yes
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<input type="checkbox"/>	No
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Q5a – If buses were withdrawn, would you use Community Transport? – (Please tick only one box)

<input type="checkbox"/>	Yes
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<input type="checkbox"/>	No
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Q5b – Please explain your answer to Q5a below:

Q6 – Please give your post code:

Q7 – Are there any other comments or additional information about passenger transport services that you would like to consider?

Thank you for completing this questionnaire

Please return this form by Friday 15th July 2011 to any of our Customer Service Centres or by post to:

Transportation Department (Community Transport Consultation), Freepost RLSE
HHZC-XTUG, PO Box 236, Plough Lane, Hereford, HR4 0WZ

This form can also be completed online by following the links on the web page
www.herefordbus.info