

Cross-Party Group Minutes

Meeting Minutes:

Cross Party Group Title:	Public Transport
Date of Meeting:	28 th April 2025, 10:30am
Location:	Microsoft Teams

In attendance:

Name:	Title:
Aaron Hill, CPT Cymru	
Carolyn Thomas MS	
Barclay Davies	
Bob Saxby	
James Burgess	
Christina Reed	
Cllr William Powell	
Craig Hampton Stone	
David Beer	
David Mark Davies	
David McKinney	
Ryland Doyle, MSSS	
Gareth Stevens	
Gemma Lelliot	

Hannah McCarthy, MSSS	
John Birtwistle	
Kaarina Ruta, WLGA	
Martin Murphy, Unite	
Owen Griffkin	
Peter Kingsbury	

Apologies:

Name:	Title:

Summary of Meeting:

The CPG received a briefing from Welsh Government representatives Lee Robinson and James Burgess on current Welsh Government policy including the Bus Services Bill and pilot fare schemes.

James Burgess

Bus services are crucial for huge number of people ¾ of all public transport journeys.

Seen significant decline in patronage since 1985 - result of deregulation

Complex ticketing currently - info hard to find and hard to trust

White paper showed appetite for real change - over 75% support franchising

Bill establishes national bus network through TFW, want to do it through LAs and CJsCs - important to recognise their knowledge and expertise.

Bill places duty to better connect buses with rail

Collection and sharing of data to manage network and make info available to public

Want to use tech to give live updates on network
Lifts ban on public authority owned bus services
Cannot run services apart from those from TfW
Want to see mix of operators running services
SMEs nervous about what franchising will mean for them
Starting in South West Wales to develop network in 2027 and then rolling out

Young people's fare offer, £1 single ticket price with a £3 multiple journey day ticket

Plan to run it as a trial from September this year to August next year

Well received from young people and children's commissioner

TfW working with operators to look at details

Number of challenges around eligibility

Can't force operators to join the scheme, but hope to make it attractive to operators

Not a learner travel scheme. It is available to all 16-21 year olds.

Lee Robinson

South West – know depot and fleet requirements. Involved LAs in decision making

Next stage is consultation around packages. Will go to the public for consultation

Currently working on national overlay

One of things discussing with LAs is what will be better for passenger

It may not be a more expansive network at this stage

Taken learning and experience from TfGM and London