
Cynulliad Cenedlaethol Cymru
Y Pwyllgor Menter a Busnes

National Assembly for Wales
Enterprise and Business Committee

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Gwasanaethau Bysiau a Thrafnidiaeth Gymunedol yng Nghymru	Bus and Community Transport Services in Wales
BCT 21	BCT 21
Awdurdod Parc Cenedlaethol Bannau Brycheiniog	Brecon Beacons National Park Authority

Consultation questions

Question 1 – how would you describe the current condition of the bus and community transport sectors in Wales?

Our observations concern the Brecon Beacons National Park area:

- Weekday core network is generally good for a rural area with some flagship routes such as T4, X43 etc but very limited Sunday network
- Infrequent services – 2 hourly not enough
- Variable quality of bus operators and vehicles
- Lack of train and bus interconnectivity

Question 2 – why do you think the number of bus services and the number of bus passengers is declining in Wales?

- Infrequent services do not provide sufficient flexibility for passengers to use for either work or leisure
- Passengers are left isolated especially at weekends and bank holidays, particularly outside the summer months
- Lack of train and bus interconnectivity makes journeys lengthy and complicated

Question 3 – what do you think is the social, economic and environmental impact of recent changes in bus and community transport service levels?

- Imminent withdrawal of Brecon to Llandovery route is a concern
- Any further cuts would be damaging to the local bus network generally which currently enables visitors to enjoy access to the National Park without a car
- If the concessionary fare contribution is reduced, net income is reduced and potentially not sufficient to support current services, which could mean further losses
- Anecdotal evidence shows there is some support from concessionary pass holders to pay a contributions towards fares to support services, rather than enjoying totally free travel

Question 4 – what do you think the Welsh Government should do to support bus and community transport in Wales?

- Increase investment in routes and infrastructure
- Improve train and bus interconnectivity
- Simplify ticketing including integrated tickets for different modes
- Few examples of community transport are accessible for visitors, this could provide added revenue for these resources
- Tourism is a major contributor to the area's economy. Bus services suitable for visitors have to part of the sustainable tourism offer to provide alternatives to car travel

Question 5 – what do you think Welsh local authorities should do to support bus and community transport services?

Question 6 – what do you think about proposals to devolve bus registration powers to Wales? How should these be used?

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Question 7 – please tell us whether you think further powers to regulate the bus industry in Wales are required and why?

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Question 8 – what other action can be taken to ensure that bus and community transport services meet the needs of people in Wales?

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Please tell us anything else you would like to mention this topic, thank you for contributing to our inquiry.

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