
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 22	BCT 22
Mrs Mainwaring	Mrs Mainwaring

Consultation questions

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

Not very good and getting worse in our area. There are not enough buses and the times are few and far between. Torfaen has buses running from Blaenavon to Newport every 10 minutes.

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

I think the timing of the buses is inconvenient for most people and you have to keep changing buses which do not always correspond with the bus you want to catch for your onward journey.

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

It is not possible to catch buses to work because the first bus is too late for most employers start time and employees finish work too late to catch the last bus. Most working people have to use their cars for work as the buses do not run at the times they need them.

We stay at home because we are not able to travel to suit our needs. Theatres, cinemas and visiting family is impossible with the bus service as it is.

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

It ought to be fairer to the rural communities who have little choice of bus services. There should be more coordination to ensure bus services are linked so that we are able to travel out of the area as well as locally. There should be more funding available to support the rural areas.

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

The Welsh Government should increase funding in particular to Monmouthshire which is our Authority as it is falling seriously behind other local authorities. Other authorities in Wales are receiving more funding and therefore have a better bus service. It seems that Monmouthshire is always receiving the least funding as we are deemed to be living in an affluent area which is not true. There should be an element of fairness in spreading the funding.

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

The austerity cuts have hit Wales very badly and in particular Monmouthshire and devolved power would certainly need more funding if the bus services are to improve.

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

If further powers are given then the funding has to improve or the bus service will be non-existent

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

A questionnaire should be sent out to ask the people what their requirements are for bus services in Wales. Relying on an on-line form which many people do not know about, is unsatisfactory.

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