

Cynulliad Cenedlaethol Cymru	National Assembly for Wales
Y Pwyllgor Menter a Busnes	Enterprise and Business Committee
Gwasanaethau Bysiau a Thrafnidiaeth Gymunedol yng Nghymru	Bus and Community Transport Services in Wales
BCT 40	BCT 40
Catherine Hart	Catherine Hart

Consultation questions

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

Abysmal

No vision of the potential we have in Wales to develop an unique, imaginative and creative solution to a fully integrated transport system.

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

Lack of logistical skills. No incentive for potential bus users to use buses.

Huge tourist numbers in North Wales, but nothing being done to take them out of cars and put them on buses. The tourist trade, properly managed, should pay to provide a fuller and more usable service for residents

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

Young unable to have independent social lives
- applies equally to older sector of population

No transport to and from workplaces in many rural areas now. Families leaving for urban areas. Villages becoming simply repositories for car-owning geriatrics.

Environmental, in terms of car emissions - very damaging.

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

Welsh Government should take control.
Control of finances, control of operations.

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

Nothing except consult with users and representatives and convey local requirements to Welsh Government. Convey accurately and truthfully.

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

Excellent proposal. Presently the registration powers are too remote and perhaps do not fully grasp the particular problems in Wales, particularly our more rural areas.

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

Current arrangements are costly, duplicated, unintegrated and simply not working.

Time to abandon experiment and move on.

In reality Wales is currently running on what a remote paymaster thinks is enough. Administration costs are at least therefore double.

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

Consultation, Consultation, Consultation - but this time inclusive - that means real meetings with real people - not just public servants meeting other public servants and deciding what we're going to get

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

Lack of efficient transport system and policy is immobilising a workforce and depriving the whole population of car-free mobility. An efficient public transport system alone would save most of the cost and environmental impact of new road building and maintenance.