

# Information

for County Councillors

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From:	Jane Newell Service Manager-Transporting Somerset/Highways & Transport Commissioning
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Date:	04 November 2015
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To:	All County Councillors
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## Review of Subsidised Local Bus Services and Discretionary Concessionary Fares 2015 – Consultation

Further reductions in public transport bus subsidy and the reduction or withdrawal of discretionary elements of the Concessionary Fare Scheme have been submitted as part of the Medium Term Financial Plan process.

Two consultations will be undertaken simultaneously, one focusing on a number of options for reduction or withdrawal of bus services and the other focusing on changes to the discretionary elements of the National Concessionary Fares Scheme. These elements include: the withdrawal of free travel prior to 9.30, the withdrawal of free companion travel for disabled pass holders and a reduction in the half fare scheme currently in place for travel on Community minibus and Community Car transport. The proposal is to reduce the discretion to 25% of the fare in the future.

The subsidised bus services for consultation are attached to this briefing sheet for your information

Both public consultations commence on Monday 9 November 2015 for a period of 9 weeks ending on 11 January 2015. The responses from this consultation will be used to inform a final decision on funding reductions with any changes to services likely to take place in May 2015.

The surveys can be accessed at [www.somerset.gov.uk/bussubsidysurvey](http://www.somerset.gov.uk/bussubsidysurvey) and [www.somerset.gov.uk/concessionaryfareconsultation](http://www.somerset.gov.uk/concessionaryfareconsultation)

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Route No	Service Details	Operator	Days Operated	Frequency	Proposal
1	Yeovil – Shepton Mallet	South West Coaches	Mon – Sat	5 return journeys per day.	Withdraw Saturday service – Mon to Fri services remain.
6	Bridgwater Town Service	Bakers Dolphin	Mon - Fri	Hourly between 9am – 2pm	Withdraw service – Alternative services are available within walking distance, and for those unable to access these, SCC's demand responsive transport (Slinky service) and community transport is available.
16	Langport - Bridgwater	Hatch Green Coaches	Mon – Sat	Every 2 hours	Withdraw Saturday service and revise weekday timetable to remove 0715 journey from Bridgwater and 1800 journey from Huish Episcopi.
20	Seaton – Taunton	Devon County Council (Stagecoach South West)	Mon – Sat	Every 3 hours	Withdraw contribution to Devon CC for this service – Frequent services available between Wellington and Taunton. West Buckland could be served by the Slinky service if service 20 is withdrawn or re-routed.
22	Tiverton/Cullompton - Taunton	Buses of Somerset	Mon – Fri	College days only	Withdraw funding from July 2016. Service likely to continue to be provided commercially.
25	Taunton – Dulverton	Buses of Somerset	Mon – Sat	Every 2 hours	Withdraw all funding for this service – Service 25 will continue to operate commercially between Wiveliscombe and Taunton Mon to Sat. New reduced service to be introduced between Dulverton and Wiveliscombe to connect with service 25 Monday to Friday (see attached timetable)
29	Wells - Street - Taunton	Buses of Somerset	Mon –Sat	5 return journeys per day.	Withdraw funding – peak service to continue to be provided on a commercial basis. Partial off peak service to be provided either commercially or through Demand Responsive Transport.
33	Wincanton – Frome	South West Coaches	Wed only	1 journey in each direction	Withdraw service – Slinky service available
38	Huish Episcopi Extension	Webberbus	Mon - Fri	College days only	Re-route other existing public transport service to cover Huish Episcopi extension. Timetable revised accordingly.
40	Bridport – Yeovil	Dorset County Council (Damory Coaches)	Mon – Sat	Every 2 hours	Withdraw contribution to Dorset County Council for Saturday service – Mon to Fri service remains.
51	Stoke St. Gregory – Taunton	Hatch Green Coaches	Mon – Sat	Every 2 hours	Withdraw Saturday service – Mon to Fri services remain.
53/58	Warminster/Westbury - Frome	Wiltshire County Council (Frome Minibuses)	Mon – Sat	Hourly	Withdraw contribution to Wiltshire CC for Saturday service – Mon to Fri service remains.

67	Burnham on Sea – Wookey Hole	Webberbus	Mon – Sat	9 return jnys per day	Withdraw minor funding contribution – Service to continue on fully commercial basis.
81	South Petherton – Yeovil	South West Coaches	Mon – Sat	Hourly	Withdraw funding – This may result in some reduction to the current timetable as funding supports two return journeys Monday to Saturday. The remainder of the service is commercial.
99	Chard – Yeovil	Stagecoach South West	Mon – Sat	Hourly	Reduce frequency on service between Yeovil and Chard. (see attached timetable)
113	Highbridge - Berrow	Hatch Green Coaches	Mon – Fri	5 return journeys per day.	Withdraw service – Other public bus routes available within walking distance. Slinky service also available in the area.
158	Wincanton – Shaftesbury	Dorset County Council (South West Coaches)	Mon – Sat	5 return journeys per day.	Withdraw contribution to Dorset County Council for Saturday service – Mon to Fri services remain.
198	Minehead – Dulverton	Webberbus	Mon – Sat	5 return journeys per day.	Service to be reduced and provided by smaller vehicle. (see attached timetable)
414/424	Frome – Midsomer Norton	Frome Minibuses	Mon – Sat	Every 2 hours	Withdraw Saturday service – Mon to Fri services remain.
667	Wincanton – Street	Nippy Bus	Mon – Sat	Every 90 mins	Withdraw Saturday service – Mon to Fri services remain.
668	Shipham – Street	Bakers Coaches	Mon – Fri	4 return journeys per day.	Minor timetable revisions when contract is retendered in 2016.
669	Shepton Mallet – Street	Frome Minibuses	Mon – Sat	Every 2 hours	Withdraw Saturday service – Mon to Fri services remain.
776	Shepton Mallet – Midsomer Norton	Hatch Green Coaches	Mon – Sat	5 return journeys per day.	Withdraw service – Other public bus routes available within walking distance. Slinky service also available in the area.
N9	Martock - Yeovil	Nippy Bus	Mon - Sat	Hourly	Withdraw funding from 0800 journey on Saturday. Mon – Fri service and balance of Saturday service remains.
N10C	Stanchester School – Taunton	Nippy Bus	Mon – Fri	One journey in each direction	Withdraw funding from non-college day journeys.