

25 March 2019  
Public Transport Consultation  
AE

Dear Sir or Madam

## **Reduction of Local Bus Service Subsidies - Financial Year 2019\20**

Shropshire Council has today (Monday 25 March 2019) launched a six-week consultation into proposed reductions to its public transport budget, which would see a reduction in the number and frequency of bus services subsidised by the Council.

The Council's financial strategy for 2019/20 includes a budget reduction of £405,000 in public transport and £50,000 for Shrewsbury Park & Ride. To achieve these reductions a number of initiatives will have to be implemented and this consultation asks for views about these proposed changes.

The details of these proposals are provided below;

### **Public Transport - Those services financially supported by the Council.**

To help identify the £405k budget reduction we requested that all our bus operators providing Local Bus Services on behalf of the Council, provide details of the level of service that they could provide on each of these services with a reduction in funding.

In the majority of cases this will represent a reduced timetable on each of the services the Council supports, details of how this will impact individual services is shown in the table at the bottom of this letter.

### **Shrewsbury Park & Ride**

To achieve the budget reduction of £50k set out in the Council's 2019/20 financial strategy, we are proposing to undertake the following;

- a) To remove the concessionary fare discount that allows passengers on presentation of their concessionary card to travel for a 50% discount, this discount is currently provided at the Councils discretion.
- b) To increase the return fare for the service from its current level of £1.60 to £2.00.
- c) To remove the Group ticket from Park & Ride which allows for up to 5 passengers to travel for the price of £2.50.

The consultation runs from 25 March to 6 May 2019 and can be found at [www.shropshire.gov.uk](http://www.shropshire.gov.uk)

Any responses to this consultation should be emailed to [passtrans@shropshire.gov.uk](mailto:passtrans@shropshire.gov.uk) or in writing to:

**Public Transport Consultation**

**Passenger Transport Services**

**Shropshire Council**

**Shirehall**

**Abbey Foregate**

**Shrewsbury**

**SY2 6ND**

All responses to the consultation will be included in a report that will be considered by Shropshire Council's Cabinet on Wednesday 22 May 2019.

Yours faithfully

Passenger Transport Commissioning Group  
Shropshire Council



| <b>Service Number</b> | <b>Route Description</b>                | <b>Days of Operation</b> | <b>Operator</b>       | <b>Proposed Service Reduction</b>   |
|-----------------------|---|--------------------------|-----------------------|---|
| 553                   | Plox Green to Bishops Castle            | Mon - Sat                | Minsterley Motors     | Reduction from 5 Journeys per day to 2  |
| 101                   | Bridgnorth Town service                 | Mon - Sat                | Arriva Midlands North | Reduction in frequency to hourly from 30 minutes  |
| 113, 114,             | Telford - Bridgnorth                    | Mon - Fri                | Arriva Midlands North | Currently a two hourly frequency Monday to Friday, little scope for amendment.  |
| 115, 116              | Telford - Bridgnorth                    | Saturdays Only           | Arriva Midlands North | Withdraw service, which provides the Saturday journeys for the above (113/114)  |
| 436                   | Shrewsbury to Bridgnorth                | Mon - Sat                | Arriva Midlands North | Reduction from a 1 to 2 hourly service Peak Journey in the morning will operate to Shrewsbury & not Bridgnorth                            |
| 208                   | Ellesmere Town Service                  | Tue & Fri                | Lakeside Coaches Ltd  | Removal of the last journey of the day and one late morning Journey   |
| 738, 740              | Ludlow - Knighton                       | Mon - Sat                | Arriva Midlands North | One bus service with an already limited 2 hourly timetable, little scope for amendment.   |
| 301                   | Market Drayton Town Service             | Mon - Sat                | Bennetts Travel       | Revised timetable – Service to commence at 0900 rather than 0700, operating at a 30 minute frequency, compared to the current 20 minutes. |
| 297                   | Bridgnorth – Kidderminster              | Mon - Sat                | Arriva Midlands North | Remove Saturday journeys - Currently a 2 hourly service with little scope for further amendment.  |
| 54                    | Trefonen – Oswestry                     | Sch                      | Arriva Midlands North | 2 School journeys only transporting entitled pupils, little scope for amendment.  |
| 400, 402, 403, 404    | Oswestry Town Services                  | Mon - Sat                | Arriva Midlands North | Revised timetable with an hourly frequency across all Oswestry Town services.   |
| 405                   | Oswestry Town Service                   | Sch                      | Arriva Midlands North | Withdraw service - Currently one journey am and one journey pm, transporting non-entitled pupils to school.                               |
| 449                   | Oswestry – Welshampton                  | Mon - Fri                | Arriva Midlands North | Limited timetable already exists which is subsidised by Shropshire Council - little scope for amendment                                   |
| 576                   | Oswestry to Shrewsbury                  | Mon - Sat                | Arriva Midlands North | Reduction from a 1 to 2 hourly service Peak Journey in the morning will operate to Shrewsbury only.                                       |
| 71A                   | Oswestry – Llynclys                     | Mon - Sat                | Tanat Valley Coaches  | Limited timetable - no scope for amendment at this stage  |
| 2,3, 12               | Shrewsbury Town Services                | Mon - Sat                | Arriva Midlands North | Revised Journey frequency   |
| 21                    | Shrewsbury Town Services                | Mon - Sat                | Arriva Midlands North | Revised Journey frequency   |
| 23                    | Shrewsbury Town Services                | Mon - Sat                | Arriva Midlands North | Curtailment of service 23 at Belvidere, Monkmoor to be served by route 1  |
| 26                    | Shrewsbury Town Centre to Meole Village | Mon to Sat               | Arriva Midlands North | Reduction in frequency to hourly from every 30 minutes.   |
| 8                     | Telford, Broseley to Bridgnorth         | Mon to Sat               | Arriva Midlands North | Removal of evening Journeys (1810 from Telford, 1915 from Bridgnorth & 2000 from Telford).  |
| 18                    | Telford, Ironbridge,                    | Mon to Sat               | Arriva Midlands North | Currently a 2 hourly service with 7 journeys throughout the day, little   |

|          |  |                      |                        |  |
|----------|--|----------------------|------------------------|--|
|          | Broseley to Much Wenlock                   |                      |                        | scope for amendment.   |
| 37       | Meole School - Weeping Cross               | Sch                  | Tanat Valley Coaches   | Withdraw service, currently one journey (pm) for non-entitled school children. Am journey not subsidised by the Council                              |
| 19       | Telford – Ironbridge - Shrewsbury          | Mon - Sat            | Arriva Midlands North  | Reduction from a 1 to 2 hourly service Peak Journey in the morning will operate to Shrewsbury and the respective peak journey return in the evening. |
| 501      | Ellesmere to Shrewsbury                    | Mon - Sat            | Lakeside Coaches Ltd   | Reduction in subsidy agreed with operator, no change to timetable.   |
| 540      | Cardington - Shrewsbury via Acton Burnell  | M-F sch days,Sat     | Boultons of Shropshire | Withdraw Saturday Service.   |
| 524      | Rodington - Shrewsbury                     | Mon - Fri            | Arriva Midlands North  | Removal of 0659 & 0720 journey due to low passenger usage.   |
| 544,/546 | Lyth Hill, Pulverbatch                     | Mon - Sat            | Arriva Midlands North  | Withdraw 544 service from Lyth Hill to Shrewsbury, very low passenger usage.   |
| 64       | Shrewsbury - Market Drayton                | Mon - Sat            | Arriva Midlands North  | Removal of 18:20 Journey from Shrewsbury to Market Drayton and the 19:12 journey from Market Drayton to Shrewsbury                                   |
| 558      | Shrewsbury - Montgomery                    | Mon - Sat            | Tanat Valley Coaches   | Reduction in subsidy agreed with operator, no change to timetable.   |
| 745      | Clun Valley                                | Mon, Tue & Sat       | Shrewsbury Dial a Ride | Withdraw Saturday journeys.  |
| 201      | Wem Town Service                           | Mon, Tue, Thur & Sat | Lakeside Coaches Ltd   | Removal of 1145 & 1400 Journeys on Tuesday or Saturday   |
| 205      | Whitchurch Town Service                    | Mon - Sat            | Lakeside Coaches Ltd   | Removal of 4 Journeys per day, 0749, 1149, 1349 & 1749.  |
| 208      | Ellesmere town Service                     | Tues & Fri           | Lakeside Coaches Ltd   | Removal of late morning journey & last journey at 2pm  |
| 511      | Shrewsbury - Wem - Whitchurch              | Mon - Sat            | Arriva Midlands North  | Reduction from a 1 to 2 hourly service Peak Journey in the morning will operate to Shrewsbury & not Whitchurch                                       |
| 74       | Llanfyllin to Shrewsbury                   | Mon - Sat            | Tanat Valley Coaches   | Contracted by Powys - not included in proposals  |
| 79       | Llangynog to Oswestry                      | Mon - Sat            | Tanat Valley Coaches   | Contracted by Powys - not included in proposals  |
| 701      | Ludlow Town Service                        | Mon - Sat            | Minsterley Motors      | Reduce journey frequency from 30 minutes to 45 minutes.  |
| 292      | Ludlow, Cleobury Mortimer to Kidderminster | Mon to Sat           | R&B Travel             | Contracted by Worcestershire Council – not included in proposals   |

### Responses to Town Clerks questions about cuts to 501 Service

501 bus what buses are peak bus times? How many buses are in total going to be cut per day as a result of these proposals?

*It is likely that should these proposals be agreed, this service will need to be retendered and so some of these times may change, but essentially the peak journey from Whitchurch into Shrewsbury on the 511 service would operate at approximately 07.05 from Whitchurch and arrive in Shrewsbury at 08.35, the first Journey to Whitchurch would then depart Shrewsbury at approximately 0845 and a return journey in the afternoon would also be included from Shrewsbury for these peak journey passengers. In between these journeys the service will operate approximately every 2 hours between Shrewsbury, Whitchurch and return*