

Rural Bus Funding for 2015-16

Herefordshire Council has advised that the following bus services will cease to operate with effect from 10th April 2016 unless further funding can be found. Herefordshire Council is unable to continue to fund the service beyond 2016 and there are pressures to withdraw a further £250,000 from the budget for 2016-17.

The routes are shown on this table:

One year extension to bus routes for 2015-16			
Service	Route	Operates/costs	Proposal/Comments
33	Hereford - Ross-on-Wye evening journeys	Mon-Sat	To operate additional evening journeys following complaints of isolation and inability to visit the hospital. One Sunday morning journey
40	Ross town service		To operate additional midday journeys – currently a two hour gap in services and numerous complaints received
39A	Hereford – Hay-on-Wye (Hay Ho)	Sundays	Service partly funded by Hay Tourism and Parish Councils. A small gap in funding exists to continue the service
412/413	Garway – Kings Thorn	Mon/Weds/Fri	To operate a through journey to Hereford on a trial basis avoiding changing buses at Kings Thorn (this was converted to a feeder service). This is following representations from Members, Parish Councils and passengers
426/427	Bodenham – Leominster	Mon – Fri	Introduce up to two return journeys. Although several complaints were received when the previous service was withdrawn the usage was very low. This replacement facility could potentially be operated by Community Transport.
449	Hereford – Madley	Friday & Saturday	Operate late evening journeys on Friday and Saturday. Depending on final cost outcome could possibly be operated Mon – Thursday. Several requests from Members and residents to reinstate the service for late workers and hospital visiting.
461	Hereford-Credenhill-Weobley-Kington	Mon – Sat	Operate evening journey. The withdrawal of these journeys has raised criticism from Parishes in Credenhill, Weobley, Lyonshall and bus user groups.
476	Hereford-Ledbury	Mon-Thurs	Reintroduce evening journeys withdrawn on Mondays – Thursdays. Friday and Saturday journeys are operated commercially
490	Leominster-Orleton-Ludlow	Mon-Saturday	Introduce two off peak return journeys to Ludlow following complaints from Members and residents, particularly from Richard's Castle who are unable to access bus services.

Parishioners are encouraged to use the service, or risk losing it. For further information please contact Yvonne Tustain, Project Manager on 01432 260683 or write to Yvonne at Transportation Department, Herefordshire Council, Plough Lane, Hereford. HR4 0WZ.