
Have your say

Proposed changes to bus services in Solihull



Transport for
West Midlands

Proposed changes to some bus services in Solihull

We are reviewing the bus services that Transport for West Midlands financially supports bus operators to run (tendered bus services). These are the services that operators have not opted to run commercially (for profit). Transport for West Midlands funds these services to ensure that our residents are able to make socially necessary journeys. As such, we are not able to use these journeys to duplicate existing commercial services or the commercial network.

We have looked at the numbers of passengers travelling on routes, requests from councillors and customers, new developments, reliability of the services and any forthcoming proposed changes to commercial routes run by operators, in order to create a better and smarter tendered bus network.

We are keen to highlight that we are not looking to reduce the support for bus services across the borough. We are looking at how we can use that support to give the best possible service to all residents in the area, whilst pursuing opportunities to grow and develop the network further.

We would appreciate your help in shaping the future bus network in your area, by giving us your opinions on our proposals and ideas, before any final decisions are made.

We are considering the following changes and options, with the intention that any changes are introduced from 23rd February 2019. We would really like to hear your views on our proposals and options.

| Existing Service | New Service and Route | Changes |
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| <p>S1 Solihull to Damson Wood Circular</p> | <p>S1 Solihull, Damson Wood, Solihull, Buryfield Rd, Bryanston Rd, Solihull</p> | <p>It is proposed that the S1 route will be combined with existing S11 route and numbered S1. We are considering reducing the frequency from every 30 minutes to every hour. This is because, whilst patronage is high on the first journey every day, the numbers of people travelling at other times do not currently sustain a need for a more frequent service.</p> <p>Whar Hall Road and Huxbey Drive could be served instead of part of Damson Lane (between Huxbey Drive and Whar Hall Lane). This is based on a number of requests that we have received to improve coverage of the service.</p> <p>We would, however, be setting up a diversionary route for this section that will be in place when Solihull Moors are at home, based on traffic problems caused by matchday parking.</p> <p>We are also considering whether we should increase the operating hours of the S1 and would be interested to know if you would benefit from being served by hours outside of the current 0930 to 1530.</p> <p>We will look to see if we can provide real time information for this route.</p> |

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| <p>S11 Solihull to Buryfield Road and Bryanston Road Circular</p> | <p>See S1 new route and service</p> | <p>This service currently operates commercially, but is being removed by the operator from February. To ensure residents continue to have a service, it is proposed that the route will be tendered and paid for by Transport for West Midlands.</p> <p>The route of the S11 would be covered by the renumbered S1 service, as part of this proposal.</p> <p>The first journey of the day may be 45 minutes later than it currently runs. However, passengers could have a service that runs later, with a proposed last journey from Solihull centre at around 1430. This would still give the same amount of time for residents to spend in Solihull.</p> |
| <p>S15 Solihull Circular via Widney Manor Lane</p> | <p>69 and 76</p> | <p>The current bus operator is withdrawing this commercial service from February. To ensure residents continue to have a link to Solihull it is proposed that we continue to serve the majority of the route through an enhanced 69 service.</p> <p>The enhanced 69 will serve Solihull town centre, Monkspath Hall Road, Widney Lane before joining its existing service to Kings Heath via Shirley. This will provide new links to Kings Heath and Shirley.</p> <p>It could also run earlier/later than the current S15.</p> <p>Residents along Blossomfield Road might not be served by the change to the 69, however this section already has a frequent commercial service that operates (76).</p> |

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| <p>82 Solihull to Coventry via Meriden</p> | <p>No change</p> | <p>We are proposing a slight change to frequency in the afternoon peak to assist with bus operations. No change to route.</p> |
| <p>87 Coventry to Solihull via Balsall Common</p> <p>88 Solihull to Balsall Common via Knowle</p> | <p>87 – Solihull town centre, Knowle, Kenilworth Rd, Fen End Road (JLR), Balsall Common, Burton Green & Coventry.</p> <p>87E* Solihull town centre, Knowle, Kenilworth Rd, Fen End Road (JLR), Balsall Common (medical centre*)</p> | <p>Between Solihull town centre and Balsall Common, customers would get a half hourly service (with the 87 and 87E). Warwick Road, Oldwich Lane West and Balsall Street could no longer be served due to low passenger numbers. Fen End Road and the expanded JLR site could be served.</p> <p>87 could continue from Balsall Common to Coventry.</p> <p>87E could continue from Balsall Common to Station Road serving the rail station before ending at the medical centre (giving a new hourly link to the medical centre).</p> <p>We will work around timetables to ensure that the key links to schools that this route currently serves are kept.</p> |
| <p>89 Solihull to Coventry via Hampton in Arden and Meriden</p> | <p>Possible adjustments to route</p> | <p>We are considering an extension to the operating area of this route, and specifically the roaming zones, to see if this can be enhanced to cover other rural areas in the borough that do not have a service.</p> |

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| S2 Dorridge to Cheswick Green via Solihull | S2 EAST Solihull to Dorridge | <p>The S2 could be split into two halves, S2E and S2W to help the services be more reliable.</p> <p>S2E - between Solihull and Dorridge - could maintain a largely similar route to present, but serve Monkspath Hall Road and Alderminster Road instead of Widney Manor Road.</p> <p>Widney Manor Road is already served by the 5, so we are looking to reduce duplication of an existing service, and looking to provide significantly better accessibility for residents of the senior citizens' homes on Alderminster Road in line with requests.</p> |
| | S2 WEST Shirley to Cheswick Green Option 1 | <p>Blossomfield Road and Marshall Lake Road no longer served (served by 6 and 76). Existing S2 route served from Cheswick Green to Stratford Road as far as Shirley before continuing to Shirley Rail Station. There would be the opportunity to interchange at Marshall Lake Road for onward travel to Solihull.</p> |
| | S2 WEST Shirley Circular Option 2 | <p>The full route of this would be Shirley – Wythall – Tidbury Green – Dickens Heath – Blythe Valley – Cheswick Green – Shirley.</p> <p>This would combine the S2 with part of the S3. Solihull would not be served.</p> <p>This service could also be used to provide bus links to Blythe Valley to ensure that residents on this new development have a service when this is complete.</p> |

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| <p>S2 Dorridge to Cheswick Green via Solihull - CONTINUED</p> | <p>S2 WEST – Shirley – Dorridge</p> <p>Option 3</p> | <p>Option 3 is to operate the S2 from Shirley Station – Shirley – Cheswick Green – Blythe Valley – Hockley Heath – Dorridge.</p> <p>This would link Cheswick Green and Blythe Valley to Dorridge Station and Shirley Station, providing links into different rail lines.</p> |
| | <p>S2 CIRCULAR</p> <p>Option 4</p> | <p>Option 4 is to operate the S2 as South Solihull circular service. It could serve Solihull Station – Widney Manor – Dorridge – Blythe Valley – Cheswick Green – Shirley – Solihull Station.</p> <p>This would link Cheswick Green and Blythe Valley to Dorridge Station and Solihull Station.</p> |
| <p>S3</p> | | <p>No change proposed to the existing route from Hockley Heath to Solihull within the February changes.</p> <p>Solihull to Wythall section – see options 2, 3 and 4 under S2.</p> |

Have your say

Exhibition

Come and speak to staff and fill in a questionnaire at our exhibition on Wednesday 3 October 0900 to 1500 in the West Midlands Combined Authority marquee near to the former Maplins, High Street, Solihull.

Online

Visit networkwestmidlands.com/solihull to see a copy of the proposed map of changes and to fill in a questionnaire.

Please give us your views by Sunday 14 October 2018.



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West Midlands