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**Cynulliad Cenedlaethol Cymru**  
Y Pwyllgor Menter a Busnes

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**National Assembly for Wales**  
Enterprise and Business Committee

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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 04	BCT 04
Newtown & District Dial A Ride	Newtown and District Dial A ride

## Consultation questions

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

Within the main town areas the services are excellent and the people of the cities get a full service where as the people within the rural areas are at a disadvantage with the spread of housing being so thinly spread. The rural areas also as a rule have older people with needs. It is with this in mind you find that transport is not properly thought out.

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

The reason for the decline in passenger numbers is the lack of thought as to when the services are most required. This results in bus services being withdrawn due to lack of use. More thought out better consultation with the customer base gives a better service as we at dial a ride with limited resources have proven .

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

This has resulted in transport and social deprivation for many who having no personal transport through illness, age or personal reasons. This also has resulted in less people accessing local towns and shops.

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

We feel that a financial input into local community transport would be of great benefit to a large number of Welsh communities as having

affordable transport that can access smaller areas gives much better transport links and these links are able to connect up with main services such as trains and main bus transport. This would have the effect of main bus routes running better connecting services. Also larger vehicle's would not be on small country roads traveling more or less empty.

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

CONSULT< CONSULT, CONSULT. With the traveling public as to how they feel their need for transport is. Yes everyone has personal needs but with a full and dedicated consultation a pattern evolves that gives a wide over view of people's needs. This would result in buses running as and when needed. School transport could also be incorporated into being public transport and parents could travel at the same time as their children giving greater flexibility to their working and social lives.

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

These powers should be looked at carefully as to will we be better of financially as a country or would income remain the same from central sources. Most important that the persons doing the administration of this should be of a calibre to make certain the general public get full value for money. That they are able to take on board the wide and varied transport needs of a country as diverse as Wales.

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

NO THERE ARE TO OUR MIND MORE THAN ENOUGH ALREADY. Just use them better.

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

The old **Answer** consultation. Consultation, Consultation without this nothing will improve. Community Transport has to get along on a very very tight budget and to do this we need to be constantly improving our services. To do this we consult not just with our clients but get together through our association ( Powys Association of Voluntary Organisations ) in Llandrindod Wells where we are able to cross reference ideas and get help in putting them in to operation. Perhaps if this idea was used by the Welsh Government and yes if they talked to the people who use the services we may just start to get a coherent public and community transport service together. Without using Community Transport to its fullest capacity it will struggle and it must given the funding it deserves.

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

**WE HOPE THE ANSWERS WE HAVE PROVIDED WILL HELP WITH THIS INQUIRY AND MAY BE GIVE YOU SOME FOOD FOR THOUGHT. WE MUST HAVE A FULLY INTERGRATED TRANSPORT SYSTEM AND THIS MUST INCLUDE A FULLY FINANCIALLY SUPPORTED COMMUNITY TRANSPORT AS WELL AS OTHER TRANSPORT SERVICES.**