

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 12	BCT 12
Andrew Davies	Andrew Davies

## Consultation questions

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

I would say that, particularly in rural areas the sector is in a parlous state with reduction / complete removal of routes and services the norm.

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

It is a Catch 22 situation with uneconomical services being reduced, thereby seeing less usage ergo becoming even ~~less~~ less economical. Buses also, particularly in rural areas also make many stops to improve viability making for long arduous journeys ergo people won't use them

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

Reductions in services leaves people in rural areas isolated with contraction of services in other sectors eg NHS. It makes accessing services harder. It reduces ability to access central hubs for shopping etc reducing the economic vibrancy of town centres and leads to greater car use increasing carbon emissions and traffic congestion.

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

While recognising the difficult financial situation all sectors of government are facing there should be more funding to maintain an adequate level of provision in rural areas in particular

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

As above

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

As certain elements of policy regarding these services are already devolved, this makes sense.

These powers could be used to ensure that service providers maintain adequate provision

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

*No opinion*

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

*A complete overview needs to be taken when other service provision contraction is considered to fully evaluate the impact in relation to transport links, and car ownership/availability eg the decision to remove MIU provision in Tenby by HDVHA did not take account of the distance to the nearest available A&E nor the fact that 40% of our population do not own cars (in our view)*

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