

BSWB 24 - Evidence from: Jane Griffiths

Senedd Cymru | Welsh Parliament

Pwyllgor Newid Hinsawdd, yr Amgylchedd a Seilwaith | Climate Change, Environment, and Infrastructure Committee

Bil Gwasanaethau Bysiau (Cymru) | Bus Services (Wales) Bill

1. What are your views on the general principles of the Bill, and is there a need for legislation to deliver the stated policy intention?

I have had a Quick Look at the bill, and the notion of an integrated sustainable system, which is eminently sensible.

My concern is around those services which support very rural buses.

We have a bus on four days, on two days it goes to Carmarthen, one day to Llandovery and one to Ammanford via Llandeilo. The bus is clearly meant for residents to go shopping or visit a doctor/dentist but are not suitable for linking into longer journeys given the return journeys are lunchtime/early afternoon.

I do not know how many people use these buses on a regular basis, but I am concerned that it is the sort of service which will be lost under the proposals. Please bear in mind in rural areas there are no reliable taxi services to offer alternative travel, so eventually once we are unable to drive we will be forced to move home. The bus although not ideal or that convenient at least is an option. It's currently run by Morris travel, but I'm sure if you let big contracts such as to Stagecoach they will not want to run the small bus services.

I think your proposals should look at expanding cross country buses eg from Lampeter down to Llandeilo to link into other travel opportunities, and not just look at buses which run on the main A roads and major settlements. We would regularly use public transport if it was a regular service and integrated into the transport system.

Please will you provide reassurance that rural buses will not be disadvantaged under the current proposals.

Yours, E J Griffiths

2. What are your views on the Bill's provisions (set out according to Parts below), in particular are they workable and will they deliver the stated policy intention?

- **Part 1 - Key concepts and general objectives (sections 1 to 4)**

3. What are your views on the Bill's provisions (set out according to Parts below), in particular are they workable and will they deliver the stated policy intention?

- **Part 2 - Functions of the Welsh Ministers relating to local bus services (sections 5 to 20)**

4. What are your views on the Bill's provisions (set out according to Parts below), in particular are they workable and will they deliver the stated policy intention?

- **Part 3 - Restriction on providing local bus services (sections 21 to 24)**

5. What are your views on the Bill's provisions (set out according to Parts below), in particular are they workable and will they deliver the stated policy intention?

- **Part 4 - Information and data (sections 25 to 31)**
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6. What are your views on the Bill's provisions (set out according to Parts below), in particular are they workable and will they deliver the stated policy intention?

- **Part 5 – Local authority powers and duties (sections 32 to 34)**

7. What are your views on the Bill's provisions (set out according to Parts below), in particular are they workable and will they deliver the stated policy intention?

- **Part 6 – Miscellaneous and general (sections 35 to 44)**

8. What are the potential barriers to the implementation of the Bill's provisions and how does the Bill take account of them?

9. How appropriate are the powers in the Bill for Welsh Ministers to make subordinate legislation (as set out in Chapter 5 of Part 1 of the Explanatory Memorandum)

10. Are any unintended consequences likely to arise from the Bill?

11. What are your views on the Welsh Government's assessment of the financial implications of the Bill as set out in Part 2 of the Explanatory Memorandum?

12. Are there any other issues that you would like to raise about the Bill and the accompanying Explanatory Memorandum or any related matters?