

# Have your say

on options for bus journeys subsidised by  
Staffordshire County Council



**Making the most of taxpayers' money  
- tell us what you think**

You can take part by filling in the online survey at  
[www.staffordshire.gov.uk/busreview](http://www.staffordshire.gov.uk/busreview)

**Or you can:**

- Fill in this consultation document and post it to us
- Fill in this consultation document and hand it in to any Staffordshire library

**Have your say by Sunday 17th September 2017**

# Making the most of your money - taxpayer subsidised bus routes

## What's happening?

All bus journeys made in Staffordshire are operated by either private bus companies or by voluntary and community organisations.

More than 90 per cent of these journeys are operated without being subsidised with money from taxpayers. So if you use the bus, or know someone who does, there is a good chance it will be one of these.

The rest of the bus journeys are only possible if they are subsidised by the county council and therefore taxpayers. In some cases this can be as much as £10 every time a passenger boards the bus. This is generally because of low passenger numbers and revenue.

In Staffordshire, we have to balance what we can spend funding subsidised transport services, against the support of services for which we have a legal duty to provide, such as adult social care and looking after children in care. Therefore, the decision was made last year to review the amount

we can continue to pay towards bus travel.

This consultation is about how best to spend the budget we have available. The consultation is also about the use of community and voluntary run transport schemes.

In the county there, are already individuals and groups running community and voluntary transport schemes and we are also keen to support communities to develop schemes which are tailored to meet local needs.

As part of the consultation, we would like to know what schemes are running in your area and whether you are already involved in providing transport, or would be interested in running a new scheme.

This consultation only affects public bus and Dial-A-Ride journeys which are subsidised by taxpayers and not those run by operators on a fully commercial basis.

## Why are we consulting?

As a county council, we have a legal responsibility and duty to fund certain services such as adult social care, support for people with learning disabilities and looking after the children in our care.

In 2017-18, the county council will spend £300m on care, more than we have ever spent before.

By 2020/21 our government grant will fall to zero, so critical county council services will only be funded by local council tax and business rates.

So it is more important than ever that we make the best use of taxpayers' money to ensure we can continue to fund statutory services.

While some councils have stopped subsidising bus travel altogether, we are not doing that.

Although there will be a smaller bus subsidy "pot" available, £1.3 million will still be spent subsidising journeys from April 2018.

We are holding this consultation to let you know how the current network may change and we would welcome your views on subsidised travel and how the budget should be spent.

With this in mind, we have developed four potential options which are possible with the budget available. At this stage, Option 1 is our preferred option as it allows the greatest number of journeys to be made and has the lowest average subsidy per passenger journey.

## The facts:

- More than 90 per cent of passenger journeys in Staffordshire are made on buses operated without funding from Staffordshire County Council
- A review showed some bus journeys are being subsidised by up to £10 every time a passenger steps on board, which is simply not sustainable
- Some councils have already stopped subsidising bus services – we are not doing this. Around £1.3m will still be spent helping people travel around the county from April 2018
- In order to protect statutory services, we will have less money to subsidise bus journeys next year

We want to increase work with local towns, parishes and communities interested in running community and voluntary transport schemes to complement commercial public transport. This is your chance to have your say on how this £1.3m bus service subsidy pot can be best spent and also share your views on subsidised travel.

## Some other transport options

As well as the buses provided by private operators and voluntary and community organisations, there are a number of local initiatives managed by residents to meet local needs.

The county council can offer advice in setting up a scheme and signposting groups to possible sources of funding. These include:

### Voluntary Car Schemes

These schemes are usually run by local people and organisations. The majority of drivers are volunteers providing transport in their own cars for a small contribution towards the running costs.

### Community Transport Schemes

These are local non-profit schemes that operate cars, minibuses and adapted vehicles. Passengers register beforehand for journeys including medical appointments, shopping trips, day centre attendance and luncheon clubs. These schemes are supported by a combination of paid and voluntary staff and they have fare schemes depending upon the type of journey and distance.

### Car Sharing

Employees can sign up for Car Share for home to work journeys at [www.share-a-lift.co.uk](http://www.share-a-lift.co.uk). This reduces travel to work costs and helps the environment.

## Making the most of your money – the options we would like your views on

This consultation is not about the overall budget, but what services we can provide for the budget available.

When we developed the options we looked at factors including:

- The actual cost of the subsidy per passenger journey to taxpayers
- The numbers of passengers and locations
- Alternative transport options
- The need to prioritise employment, education and health journeys where possible

Although no final decision has been made, at this stage Option 1 is our preferred option because it protects the greatest number of current journeys for the lowest average subsidy.

### Option 1

#### Description

This option is based on the lowest subsidy per passenger journey and maintaining priority routes.

There would be no Dial-A-Ride services.

Staffordshire County Council would continue to subsidise bus journeys on 18 routes, some of which also support eligible children with home to school travel.

#### What would this mean?

- More than 815,000 bus journeys would continue to be subsidised by the county council. Based on passenger numbers this would have the least impact on the number of people currently using the services
- The average subsidy per passenger journey would be £1.60
- Where possible this prioritises employment, health and education bus journeys
- No Dial-A-Ride services would be funded by the county council
- Some areas would have no access to public transport
- 560,000 current journeys would no longer be subsidised by the county council

### Option 2

#### Description

This option is based on a slightly higher subsidy than Option 1 per passenger journey and maintaining some priority routes.

There would be two Dial-A-Ride services maintained - Staffordshire Moorlands Connect and South Staffordshire Connect.

Staffordshire County Council would continue to subsidise bus journeys on 10 routes, some of which also support eligible children with home to school travel.

#### What would this mean?

- Around 680,000 bus journeys would continue to be subsidised by the county council
- The average subsidy per passenger journey would be £1.80. Dial-A-Ride services would be subsidised by an average of £8.20 per passenger journey
- Where possible this continues to support some employment, health and education bus journeys
- The two Dial-A-Ride services operating in Staffordshire Moorlands and South Staffordshire would be maintained
- Fares for these Dial-A-Ride services would be applied
- Some areas would have no access to public transport
- 695,000 current journeys would no longer be subsidised by the county council

## Option 3

### Description

This option is based on a slightly higher subsidy than Option 1 per passenger journey and maintaining fewer priority routes.

There would be four Dial-A-Ride services maintained - Staffordshire Moorlands Connect, South Staffordshire Connect, Needwood Forest Connect and Lichfield & Rugeley Village Connect.

Staffordshire County Council would continue to subsidise bus journeys on seven routes, some of which also support eligible children with home to school travel.

What would this mean?

- Around 550,000 bus journeys would continue to be subsidised by the county council
- Each bus journey would be subsidised by an average of £1.80 per passenger journey. Dial-A-Ride services would be subsidised by an average of £8.80 per passenger journey
- Where possible this continues to support some employment, health and education bus journeys
- The four Dial-A-Ride services, Staffordshire Moorlands Connect, South Staffordshire Connect, Needwood Forest Connect and Lichfield & Rugeley Village Connect would be maintained.
- The Border Car Dial-A-Ride service would no longer run
- Fares for these Dial-A-Ride services would be applied
- More remote areas of the county may have access to public transport
- 870,000 current journeys would no longer be subsidised by the county council

## Option 4

### Description

Under this option, Staffordshire County Council would subsidise Dial-A-Ride services only.

The existing Dial-A-Ride services – Staffordshire Moorlands Connect, South Staffordshire Connect, Needwood Forest Connect, Lichfield & Rugeley Village Connect and the Border Car would be maintained.

An additional seven new Dial-A-Ride services would be introduced to provide countywide coverage in areas where there may be limited public transport provided commercially.

There would be no other subsidised local bus services. Home to school travel for eligible children would still be provided.

What would this mean?

- It is anticipated that around 130,000 existing and new Dial-A-Ride journeys would be subsidised by the county council, but there would be no subsidised local bus journeys. This would have the biggest impact on existing bus journeys for Staffordshire residents
- Each Dial-A-Ride journey would be subsidised by an average of £10 per passenger journey.
- To manage demand these services would be limited to essential journeys only, prioritising health travel, such as trips to GPs
- All five existing Dial-A-Ride services; Staffordshire Moorlands Connect, South Staffordshire Connect, Needwood Forest Connect, Lichfield & Rugeley Village Connect and Border Car would be maintained
- Fares for all Dial-A-Ride services would be applied
- Some residents in more remote areas of the county may have improved access to travel
- Around 1.25 million current bus journeys would no longer be subsidised by the county council. This would have the biggest impact on current travel options for Staffordshire residents

Below is a full list of how each subsidised bus route and Dial-A-Ride service would be affected under the different options. You can find out more at [www.staffordshire.gov.uk/busreview](http://www.staffordshire.gov.uk/busreview)

## How subsidised journeys would be affected

X = No longer subsidised ✓ = Continue to be subsidised

Service No.	Operator	Route Description	Days of Operation	Contracted Journeys	Potential Result under Option...			
					1	2	3	4
	ASHBOURNE COMMUNITY TRANSPORT	MOORLANDS CONNECT	Mon-Sat excl Bank Hols	All journeys Mon-Fri 07:00 - 18:00hrs; Sat 08:00 - 18:00hrs	x	✓	✓	✓
	ACCESSIBLE TRANSPORT GROUP	SOUTH STAFFS CONNECT	Mon-Sat excl Bank Hols	All journeys (Northern Section) Mon-Fri 08:00 - 18:00hrs; Sat 10:00 - 16:00hrs	x	✓	✓	✓
	COMMUNITY LINK STAFFORD & DIST	Coppenhall - Ten Butts - Stafford	Tu excl Bank Hols	1 return journey 10:00 Hyde Lea, 13:00 Gaol Square	x	x	x	x
	COMMUNITY LINK STAFFORD & DIST	Lodgefield Park - Stafford	Tu, Th excl Bank Hols	1 return journey 10:35 Lodgfield Park, 13:15 Gaol Square	x	x	x	x
	COMMUNITY TRANSPORT WEST MIDLANDS	SOUTH STAFFS CONNECT	Mon-Sat excl Bank Hols	All journeys (Southern Section) Mon-Fri 08:00 - 18:00hrs; Sat 10:00 - 16:00hrs	x	✓	✓	✓
	MOBILITY LINK	LICHFIELD & RUGELEY CONNECT	Mon-Fri excl Bank Hols	All journeys 09:30 - 15:00hrs	x	x	✓	✓
	MOBILITY LINK	NEEDWOOD FOREST CONNECT	Mon-Sat excl Bank Hols	All journeys 08:00 - 18:00hrs	x	x	✓	✓
	STAFFORDSHIRE BORDER TRAVEL	BORDER CAR	Mon-Fri excl Bank Hols	All journeys 07:00 - 18:00hrs	x	x	x	✓
2E	ARRIVA MIDLANDS NORTH	Cannock - Walsall	Mon-Sat Eves excl Bank Hols	20:25 From Cannock Bus Stn; 21:05 From Walsall Bus Stn	x	x	x	x
2E	ARRIVA MIDLANDS NORTH	Cannock - Walsall	Sun & Bank Hols Eves	From Hednesford 18:10 onwards; From Walsall 19:10 onwards	x	x	x	x
5	ARRIVA MIDLANDS NORTH	Tamworth - Amington	Sun & Bank Hols	All journeys	x	x	x	x
6A	FIRST POTTERIES LTD	Longton - Blythe Bridge	Sun & Bank Hols	All journeys	x	x	x	x
8	ARRIVA MIDLANDS NORTH	Parkside - Stafford - Moss Pit	Mon-Sat Eves excl Bank Hols	Evening Journeys from 20:26	x	x	x	x
9	ARRIVA MIDLANDS NORTH	Stafford - Highfields	Mon-Sat Eves excl Bank Hols	Evening Journeys from 19:50	x	x	x	x
10	MIDLAND CLASSIC LIMITED	Burton - Rough Hay	Mon-Sat excl Bank Hols	5 return journeys 08:10, 09:30, 11:45, 13:45, 16:40	✓	x	x	x
10	TRAVEL WEST MIDLANDS	Burntwood - Brownhills	Mon-Sat Eves excl Bank Hols; Sun & Bank Hols	Mon-Sat Hourly from 19:00 to 23:00hrs from Ogle Hay to Burntwood; Sundays hourly from 11:00 to 23:00hrs from Ogle Hay to Burntwood	x	x	x	x
10A	ARRIVA MIDLANDS NORTH	Perton - Pattingham	Mon-Sat excl Bank Hols	Extension beyond Perton to Pattingham 2 hrly 07:00-18:00hrs	✓	✓	x	x
10B	ARRIVA MIDLANDS NORTH	Perton - Codsall	Mon-Sat excl Bank Hols	Extension beyond Perton to Codsall 2 hrly 09:00-14:00hrs	✓	✓	x	x
10S	ARRIVA MIDLANDS NORTH	Perton - Codsall	School days only	Perton to Codsall High School journeys	✓	✓	x	x

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Service No.	Operator	Route Description	Days of Operation	Contracted Journeys	Potential Result under Option...			
					1	2	3	4
11	SELECT BUSES	Stafford - Coton Fields	Mon-Fri excl Bank Hols	All journeys	✓	x	x	x
12	D & G BUS LTD	Meir Heath- Fulford- Blythe Bridge-Longton- Barlaston-Stone- Eccleshall-Newport	Mon-Sat excl Bank Hols	All journeys	x	x	x	x
13	D & G BUS LTD	Stone - Norton Bridge - Seighford - Stafford	Mon-Sat excl Bank Hols	All journeys	x	x	x	x
13A	D & G BUS LTD	Stone - Yarnfield - Swynnerton - Eccleshall - Norton Bridge - Stafford	Sat & Schooldays only excl Bank Hols	All journeys	x	x	x	x
14	D & G BUS LTD	Barlaston - Stone - Eccleshall - Stafford	Mon-Sat excl Bank Hols	All journeys	✓	✓	✓	x
14A	D & G BUS LTD	Barlaston - Stone - Eccleshall	Mon-Fri excl Bank Hols	All journeys	✓	✓	✓	x
14B	D & G BUS LTD	Barlaston - Stone - Eccleshall - Norton Bridge - Stafford -	Bank Holidays Only	All journeys	x	x	x	x
15	D & G BUS LTD	Stafford -Hopton - Hilderstone - Stone	Mon-Sat excl Bank Hols	All journeys	x	x	x	x
15	D & G BUS LTD	Newport - Cranberry - Cotes Heath - Stafford	Mon, W, Fri excl Bank Hols	All journeys	x	x	x	x
15	D & G BUS LTD	Newport - Market Drayton - Croxton - Stafford	Tu, Sat excl Bank Hols	All journeys	x	x	x	x
15	D & G BUS LTD	Newport - Norbury Junction - Bishops Offley - Stafford	Thu excl Bank Hols	All journeys	x	x	x	x
16	COASTAL LINER LTD	Essington - Bloxwich	Tu & Fri excl Bank Hols	1 return journey 09:25 Essington, 11:15 Bloxwich	x	x	x	x
16	D & G BUS LTD	Leek - Cheddleton - Hanley - Stoke Stn - Stoke	Mon-Fri excl Bank Hols	3 early morning journeys 06:15 & 07:30 from Leek, 07:00 from Hanley	x	x	x	x
16	D & G BUS LTD	Leek - Cheddleton - Hanley - Stoke Stn - Stoke	Mon-Sat Eves excl Bank Hols	20:15, 21:45, 23:15 from Leek; 21:00, 22:30 from Hanley	x	x	x	x
16	D & G BUS LTD	Hanley - Leek - Buxton	Sun & Bank Hols	All journeys	x	x	x	x
18	MIDLAND CLASSIC LIMITED	Burton - Dalebrook	Mon-Sat excl Bank Hols	All journeys	✓	x	x	x
18	TAXICO	Hanley - Endon - Leek	Mon-Sat Eves excl Bank Hols	21:15, 22:15, 23:15 from Hanley, 20:39 from Haregate, 21:45, 22:45 from Leek, 23:49 Haregate to Leek	x	x	x	x
21	ARRIVA MIDLANDS NORTH	Cannock - Longford/Shoal Hill	Mon-Sat excl Bank Hols	All journeys	x	x	x	x
21E	DERBYSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL	Burton - Swadlincote	Mon-Sat Eves, Sun & Bank Hols	Recharge for the Staffs section of a Derbyshire contract	x	x	x	x

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Service No.	Operator	Route Description	Days of Operation	Contracted Journeys	Potential Result under Option...			
					1	2	3	4
30	D & G BUS LTD	Leek - Ipstones - Cheadle - Tean	Mon-Sat excl Bank Hols	All journeys	x	x	x	x
33/35	D & G BUS LTD	Newcastle - Chesterton	Mon-Sat excl Bank Hols	3 return journeys 09:28, 10:58 & 12:58	✓	x	x	x
35B	CENTRAL BUSES (CEN)	Lichfield - Walsall	Mon-Sat excl Bank Hols	All journeys	✓	x	x	x
44	STOKE CITY COUNCIL (SCRAGGS)	Stanley - Bagnall - Abbey Hulton - Hanley	Mon-Sat excl Bank Hols	Part funded by Stoke City Council - all journeys serving Stanley and Bagnall	x	x	x	x
50	STOKE CITY COUNCIL (SCRAGGS)	Caverswall - Hanley	Mon-Fri excl Bank Hols	Part funded by Stoke City Council all journeys	x	x	x	x
61	ARRIVA MIDLANDS NORTH	Cannock - Heath Hayes	Mon-Sat excl Bank Hols	All journeys: Hawks Green Tesco to Wimblebury, Lamb & Flag section only	✓	x	x	x
62	ARRIVA MIDLANDS NORTH	Cannock - Hazelslade - Burntwood - Lichfield	Sun & Bank Hols	All journeys	x	x	x	x
67	SELECT BUSES	Cannock - Featherstone - Brinsford - Wolverhampton	Mon-Sat excl Bank Hols	All journeys	✓	✓	✓	x
70	ARRIVA MIDLANDS NORTH	Cannock - Wolverhampton	Sun & Bank Hols	All journeys	x	x	x	x
71/A	ARRIVA MIDLANDS NORTH	Cannock - Wolverhampton	Mon-Sat excl Bank Hols	All journeys	✓	x	x	x
72A	FIRST POTTERIES LTD	Newcastle - Clayton Village	Mon-Sat excl Bank Hols	5 return journeys 10:15, 11:15, 12:15, 13:15 & 14:15	x	x	x	x
73	SELECT BUSES	Stafford - Walton-on-the-Hill	Mon-Fri excl Bank Hols	2 return journeys: 10:05 & 14:05 from Stafford	✓	x	x	x
73	D & G BUS LTD	Audley - Newcastle	Sat excl Bank Hols	All journeys Audley - Park Site section only	x	x	x	x
74	D & G BUS LTD	Newcastle - Cross Heath - Audley	Sat excl Bank Hols	All journeys Park Site - Audley section only	x	x	x	x
74	D & G BUS LTD	Newcastle - Audley	Mon-Fri Eves excl Bank Hols	Mon-Fri: 18:30 from Audley; 18:45 from Newcastle	x	x	x	x
74	D & G BUS LTD	Newcastle - Audley	Sun & Bank Hols	All journeys	x	x	x	x
76A	ARRIVA MIDLANDS NORTH	Stafford - Penkridge - Wolverhampton	Sun & Bank Hols	All journeys	x	x	x	x
80	D & G BUS LTD	Kidsgrove Town Service	Mon-Fri excl Bank Hols	All journeys	x	x	x	x
82	SOLUS	Tamworth - Clifton Campville	Mon-Sat excl Bank Hols	All journeys	x	x	x	x
85	D & G BUS LTD	Newcastle - Keele - Madeley - Crewe	Mon-Sat Eves	Mon-Sat 18:10 to 23:05hrs Newcastle to Crewe, 18:15 to 22:15hrs from Crewe	x	x	x	x
85	D & G BUS LTD	Newcastle - Keele - Madeley - Crewe	Sun & Bank Hols	All journeys.	x	x	x	x

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Service No.	Operator	Route Description	Days of Operation	Contracted Journeys	Potential Result under Option...			
					1	2	3	4
93	D & G BUS LTD	Biddulph - Brown Edge - Leek	Mon-Sat excl Bank Hols	All journeys	x	x	x	x
108	TAXICO	Leek - Ashbourne	Mon-Sat excl Bank Hols	All journeys	✓	✓	✓	x
109	TAXICO	Leek - Macclesfield	Mon-Sat excl Bank Hols	All journeys	✓	✓	✓	x
116	D & G BUS LTD	Cheddleton - Leek	Mon-Sat excl Bank Hols	All journeys	x	x	x	x
123	BENNETTS TRAVEL (CRANBERRY) LTD	Cheadle Town Service	Mon-Sat excl Bank Hols	All journeys	✓	x	x	x
182	G E SCRAGG & SONS	Blythe Bridge - Cheadle Schools	Mon-Fri Sch days	1 return journey to Cheadle schools	x	x	x	x
401	MIDLAND CLASSIC LIMITED	Uttoxeter - Doveridge - Tutbury - Beam Hill - Burton	Mon-Sat Eves excl Bank Hols	All journeys from 18:35 from Burton and 18:45 from Uttoxeter	x	x	x	x
401	MIDLAND CLASSIC LIMITED	Uttoxeter - Doveridge - Tutbury - Beam Hill - Burton	Sun & Bank Hols	All journeys	x	x	x	x
402	MIDLAND CLASSIC LIMITED	Uttoxeter - Draycott - Tutbury - Beam Hill - Burton	Mon-Sat excl Bank Hols	All journeys	✓	✓	✓	x
402A	MIDLAND CLASSIC LIMITED	Uttoxeter - Draycott - Abbots Bromley - Beam Hill - Burton	Mon-Sat excl Bank Hols	All journeys	✓	✓	✓	x
403	MIDLAND CLASSIC LIMITED	Uttoxeter - Abbots Bromley - Beam Hill - Burton	Mon-Sat excl Bank Hols	All journeys	✓	✓	✓	x
411	MOBILITY LINK	Uttoxeter - Leigh Circular	Wed excl Bank Hols	One return journey 08:45 Uttoxeter-Uttoxeter Tesco via villages; 12:30 Uttoxeter Tesco-Uttoxeter via villages	✓	x	x	x
429	STANTON'S OF STOKE	Milehouse - Silverdale - Newcastle Academy	Schoolday only	1 return journey	x	x	x	x
442	DERBYSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL	Buxton - Ashbourne	Mon-Sat	Recharge for the Staffs section of a Derbyshire contract all journeys	x	x	x	x
455	BENNETTS TRAVEL (CRANBERRY) LTD	Blythe Bridge High School	Mon-Fri Sch days	One return journey to Blythe Bridge High School	✓	✓	✓	x
811	MIDLAND CLASSIC LIMITED	Burton - Barton - Alrewas - Fradley - Lichfield	Mon-Sat Eves excl Bank Hols	19:00 from Burton and 20:00 from Lichfield	x	x	x	x
811	MIDLAND CLASSIC LIMITED	Burton - Barton - Yoxall - Alrewas - Fradley - Lichfield	Sun & Bank Hols	All journeys	x	x	x	x
812	MIDLAND CLASSIC LIMITED	Burton - Barton - Yoxall - Alrewas - Fradley - Lichfield	Mon-Sat Eves excl Bank Hols	21:05 from Burton and 22:15 from Lichfield	x	x	x	x
841	D & G BUS LTD	Uttoxeter - Hixon - Great Haywood - Stafford	Mon-Sat excl Bank Hols	All journeys	✓	✓	✓	x

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Service No.	Operator	Route Description	Days of Operation	Contracted Journeys	Potential Result under Option...			
					1	2	3	4
841A	D & G BUS LTD	Uttoxeter - Hixon - Great Haywood - Stafford	Schooldays only	All journeys	✓	✓	✓	x
842	D & G BUS LTD	Stafford - Weston - Hixon - Great Haywood - Rugeley	Mon-Sat excl Bank Hols	All journeys	✓	✓	✓	x
842A	D & G BUS LTD	Stafford - Weston - Hixon - Great Haywood - Rugeley	Schooldays only	All journeys	✓	✓	✓	x
877	SELECT BUSES	Stafford - Church Eaton - Wheaton Aston - Brewood	Mon-Sat excl Bank Hols	All journeys	✓	✓	✓	x
878	SELECT BUSES	Stafford - Penkridge - Wheaton Aston - Brewood	Mon-Sat excl Bank Hols	All journeys	✓	✓	✓	x
S1	D & G BUS LTD	Stone – Stonefield (circular)	Mon-Sat excl Bank Hols	All journeys	x	x	x	x
S2	D & G BUS LTD	Stone – Oulton (circular)	Mon-Sat excl Bank Hols	All journeys	x	x	x	x
S3	D & G BUS LTD	Stone – Aston Lodge (circular)	Mon-Sat excl Bank Hols	All journeys	x	x	x	x
S4	D & G BUS LTD	Stone – Cherryfields (circular)	Mon-Sat excl Bank Hols	All journeys	x	x	x	x
S5	D & G BUS LTD	Stone - Walton (circular)	Mon-Sat excl Bank Hols	All journeys	x	x	x	x
S6	D & G BUS LTD	Cherryfields - Aston Lodge - Stone Schools	Schooldays only	All journeys	x	x	x	x
T3	SHIRE TRAVEL	T3 Thornhill Road - Cannock	Tu, F excl Bank Hols	09:30 1 return journey	✓	x	x	x
T5	SHIRE TRAVEL	T5 Bradbury Lane - Cannock	Tu, F excl Bank Hols	10:30 1 return journey, 12:40 single journey	✓	x	x	x
V1	DERBYSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL	Derby - Mickleover - Tutbury - Burton	Sun & Bank Hols	Recharge for the Staffs section of a Derbyshire contract	x	x	x	x
V3	DERBYSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL	Derby - Littleover - Burton	Sun & Bank Hols	Recharge for the Staffs section of a Derbyshire contract	x	x	x	x

## Answers to questions you may have

### What is a subsidised network?

Historically, we have subsidised some services where there are not enough passengers using them or income made to cover the running costs – this is the subsidised network. This county council subsidy can cover an entire service, additional journeys or additional stops.

Many councils have reduced, and some have even stopped, subsidising public transport. Around £1.3m will still be spent subsidising journeys in Staffordshire.

### Does the council have a statutory duty to subsidise transport?

The county council has a statutory duty to consider the social need to provide a level of subsidised journeys and how much can be budgeted to do this. In 2018/19 £1.3m will be spent subsidising travel.

### Why are you making these changes?

We are looking at delivering the best option we can for your money and have put together four potential options of how the £1.3m could be spent. At this stage Option 1 is our preferred option as most current journeys will be subsidised at the lowest average cost per journey to taxpayers.

### How have you come up with these four options?

The options were developed after looking at those routes that support people making employment, education and health journeys, how much the subsidy is, how many people use a given service and the areas they serve.

The range of options consider whether we aim to protect as many current bus journeys but at a lower average cost, through to only subsidising Dial-A-Ride services at a higher cost per passenger journey.

### What subsidised routes are you consulting on?

All bus journeys in Staffordshire are made on buses run commercially by private companies or voluntary and community transport schemes. The four options only look at local bus journeys made on buses which are currently subsidised by the county council and also the Dial-A-Ride services.

### Is my bus journey going to be affected?

Full details of the options and the services likely to be affected under each option are available at [www.staffordshire.gov.uk/busreview](http://www.staffordshire.gov.uk/busreview)

Although the county council may no longer subsidise a journey a private bus operator may still consider running it if they could make it commercially viable

### What happens if you stop subsidising my bus, will it stop?

We are consulting on four options, all of which will see a number of journeys likely to be limited or, in some cases, stopped.

The vast majority of bus services (more than 90%) are provided by private bus companies without council subsidy and we will continue working with them to explore if there is any possibility of continuing the services in some areas.

### I live in a remote area and I am worried I will be left without any public transport.

The options we are looking at include ones where the current Dial-A-Ride services will be retained in part or in full.

We are also working with the community and voluntary sector to support them to explore the possibility of setting up community run services, explore external sources of funding and help to promote existing community based transport initiatives.

### Will this affect school transport or social care transport?

This consultation is only about the public bus journeys run by operators and the Dial-A-Ride services we subsidise. No other transport is affected.

### My child is entitled to free home to school transport, will it affect them?

The eligibility for free home to school transport is not affected. If an eligible pupil currently uses public buses which may be affected by this review, alternative transport such as school buses will be arranged.

### How does this compare with support provided by other councils?

A number of councils have already reduced the amount they spend on subsidising travel and some have decided to stop subsidising travel completely. In Staffordshire £1.3m will still be spent on funding journeys.

### Is this a done deal?

No. Whilst the amount of money we can spend on subsidising bus journeys is not part of the consultation, your feedback will be incorporated into the final recommendation which will be presented to the county council's Cabinet in autumn 2017.

### How will the consultation work?

The consultation will run for eight weeks. It will begin on Monday, 24th July and will end at midnight on Sunday, 17th September.

You can get copies of the questionnaire at:

- [www.staffordshire.gov.uk/busreview](http://www.staffordshire.gov.uk/busreview)
- All static libraries
- On request by emailing [busreview@staffordshire.gov.uk](mailto:busreview@staffordshire.gov.uk)
- By telephoning our contact centre on 0300 111 8000

### What happens in the autumn of 2017?

Your feedback will help us to decide on the best option that will be presented to the county council's Cabinet in autumn 2017. This is when the final decision on which option to implement will be made.

#### Stage 1

Consultation starts on the 24th July

#### Stage 2

Consultation ends on the 17th September

#### Stage 3

Feedback is reviewed and a proposal is put together for the best option

#### Stage 4

The county council's Cabinet reviews the proposal and makes the final decision

#### Stage 5

Changes to journeys are implemented in the spring of 2018

## Future provision of subsidised bus services in Staffordshire - Individual's Response Form

Please have your say on options to review bus journeys subsidised by Staffordshire County Council. Please read the supporting information provided before completing this survey. **Please return your views by 17th September 2017**

**If you are responding on behalf of members of the public that you represent, or are an organisation, school, community or voluntary group, you should not use this form. Please fill in the organisation response form which is available online at [www.staffordshire.gov.uk/busreview](http://www.staffordshire.gov.uk/busreview).**

Q1 What is your home postcode? (This will help with our analysis and will not be used to identify your house.)

Q2 In which capacity are you responding to this consultation? (Please select all that apply.)

- As a resident of Staffordshire
  As a non bus user in Staffordshire
  As someone who works for a bus company in Staffordshire
- As a bus user in Staffordshire
  As a member of staff at Staffordshire County Council
  In another capacity (please state)

Other (please state)

### Your Bus Usage in Staffordshire

Q3 How often do you use buses in Staffordshire for each of the following reasons?

	At least five days a week	2 to 3 times a week	At least once a week	At least once a month or more	A few times a year	Never
To get to work	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
To get to education/training	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
To go shopping	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
To access services	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
To get to a doctors or medical appointment	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
To visit friends/family	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
For leisure/social purposes	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

Q4 What times of the day do you use bus services for each of the following?

	Before 9am	Between 9am and 4pm	Between 4pm and 7pm	After 7pm	N/A
To get to work	<input type="checkbox"/>				
To get to education/training	<input type="checkbox"/>				
To go shopping	<input type="checkbox"/>				
To access services	<input type="checkbox"/>				
To get to a doctors or medical appointment	<input type="checkbox"/>				
To visit friends/family	<input type="checkbox"/>				
For leisure/social purposes	<input type="checkbox"/>				

Q5 Which buses do you regularly travel on?  
Please write in the bus service provider/company and bus service number of your **MAIN** bus service below

**Main bus service:** Bus service provider/company:

Bus service number:

Q6 If there are other buses that you regularly travel on, please write in the bus service provider/company and bus service number below

**Bus service 2:** Bus service provider/company:

Bus service number:

**Bus service 3:** Bus service provider/company:

Bus service number:

Q7 Do you... (please select the relevant box)

Hold a concessionary pass for free travel e.g. older persons or disabled persons bus pass

Use a Your Staffordshire Card

Use an operator pass or season ticket

Pay full fare

Q8 How often, if at all, do you travel on Dial-A-Ride?

At least once a week

At least once a month

Never

At least once a fortnight

Less often

Q9 If you travel on Dial-A-Ride, would you be prepared to pay between £8-£10 per single journey for the travel to continue?

Strongly agree

Agree

Neither agree nor disagree

Disagree

Strongly disagree

N/A - I don't use the service

### Proposed Options

Staffordshire County Council has developed four proposed options on how the £1.3 million budget, which will be available to help people travel around the county from April 2018, can best be spent. Please read the 'have your say' document for more information about the options. Please tell us how the proposed options may affect you.

### Option 1: Revised Local Subsidised Bus Services (No Dial-A-Ride Services):

This option seeks to maintain priority routes and support some services for employment, education and health. There would be no Dial-A-Ride services. This is the county council's preferred option because it retains the greatest number of journeys

Q10 How far do you agree or disagree with this option?

Strongly agree

Agree

Neither agree nor disagree

Disagree

Strongly disagree

Q11 Please tell us how travel under this option would affect you and/or your family?

It wouldn't have an affect on me or my family as we rarely, if ever, use the service

I/my family might be affected but could probably make alternative arrangements

I/my family would be affected by this quite a lot

This would have a big effect on me/my family

Q12 Thinking about the main journey that you make, how will you/your family be affected by this option?

**Option 2: Revised Local Subsidised Bus Services with Two Dial-A-Ride Services**

This option seeks to maintain priority routes and support some services for employment, education and health. There would be two Dial-A-Ride services maintained - Staffordshire Moorlands Connect and South Staffordshire Connect.

Q13 How far do you agree or disagree with this option?

- Strongly agree                       Disagree  
 Agree                                       Strongly disagree  
 Neither agree nor disagree

Q14 Please tell us how travel under this option would affect you and/or your family?

- It wouldn't have an affect on me or my family as we rarely, if ever, use the service  
 I/my family might be affected but could probably make alternative arrangements  
 I/my family would be affected by this quite a lot  
 This would have a big effect on me/my family

Q15 Thinking about the main journey that you make, how will you/your family be affected by this option?

**Option 3: Revised Local Subsidised Bus Services with Four Dial-A-Ride Services Retained**

Option 3 maintains four Dial-A-Ride services - Staffordshire Moorlands Connect, South Staffordshire Connect, Needwood Forest Connect and Lichfield and Rugeley Village Connect. This option also maintains some subsidised local bus services. There will be no Border Car service under this option.

Q16 How far do you agree or disagree with this option?

- Strongly agree                       Disagree  
 Agree                                       Strongly disagree  
 Neither agree nor disagree

Q17 Please tell us how travel under this option would affect you and/or your family?

- It wouldn't have an affect on me or my family as we rarely, if ever, use the service  
 I/my family might be affected but could probably make alternative arrangements  
 I/my family would be affected by this quite a lot  
 This would have a big effect on me/my family

Q18 Thinking about the main journey that you make, how will you/your family be affected by this option?

**Option 4: County-wide Dial-A-Ride Services (No Local Subsidised Bus Services)**

Under this option, Staffordshire County Council would subsidise Dial-A-Ride services only. The existing Dial-A-Ride services; Staffordshire Moorlands Connect, South Staffordshire Connect, Needwood Forest Connect, Lichfield and Rugeley Village Connect and the Border Car would be maintained. An additional seven new Dial-A-Ride services would also be introduced. There would be no local council subsidised bus services.

Q19 How far do you agree or disagree with this option?

- Strongly agree                       Disagree  
 Agree                                       Strongly disagree  
 Neither agree nor disagree

Q20 Please tell us how travel under this option would affect you and/or your family?

- It wouldn't have an affect on me or my family as we rarely, if ever, use the service  
 I/my family might be affected but could probably make alternative arrangements  
 I/my family would be affected by this quite a lot  
 This would have a big effect on me/my family

Q21 Thinking about the main journey that you make, how will you/your family be affected by this option?

**Making Alternative Arrangements**

Q22 If the bus(es) that you currently use, at the time(s) that you use them, were not available, how would you travel instead?

- I would use a community or voluntary transport scheme e.g. dial-a-ride                       I would travel at a different time/on a different day  
 I would use another type of transport e.g. cycle, taxi, car                       It would stop me using any public transport  
 I would use a car sharing scheme                       I would not be able to travel  
 Other

Other (please specify)

**Individual, Organisational or Community and Voluntary Support in Maintaining Services**

There are a number of local community and voluntary transport schemes running across the county. We want to understand if organisations, individuals and community or voluntary groups are aware of and/or are interested in being involved in supporting or running initiatives in the local area.

This could include paying for services in villages to help fund extra journeys. It could also include offering lifts to neighbours in need, participating in employee car sharing schemes, sharing taxis or running a local minibus scheme.

Q23 Have you heard of or used a local community or voluntary transport scheme?

- Have heard of them but never used them
- Have used them
- Have never heard of them

Q24 If you have used a local community or voluntary transport scheme, please write in which one(s) you have used

Q25 What is your overall experience of using local community or voluntary transport schemes?

- I would recommend them
- They are okay but no substitute for an ordinary bus service
- I would not recommend them

Q26 To what extent might you want to be involved in running or supporting a local community or voluntary transport scheme in your local area?

- A great deal
- To some extent
- Not at all

Q27 What type of involvement would you want to have?

- To manage a scheme
- To support with the day to day running of a scheme
- To be a volunteer driver
- To provide a vehicle
- To provide financial support
- Other

Other (please specify)

Q28 If you are interested in running or supporting a local community or voluntary transport scheme, what information or support would you/your organisation or group need from Staffordshire County Council?

- More information on the proposed options
- Information on the types of community or voluntary transport schemes available
- Information on what's involved in setting up and running a community or voluntary transport scheme e.g. identifying need, securing funding, writing a business plan, raising awareness of the scheme etc.)
- Support with implementing a community or voluntary transport scheme
- Other

Other (please specify)

Q29 If you are interested in running or supporting a local community or voluntary transport scheme, please include your contact details below

Your name:

Your email:

Your postal address:

**Suggestions/ideas**

Q30 If you have any other suggestions/ideas that could help contribute towards the savings that need to be made, please tell us about these below. Please continue on a separate sheet if you need to.

## About you

Giving the following information is optional, but it will help the County Council to use the information you have provided more effectively.

Any personal information which you choose to share will only be used for research purposes by Staffordshire County Council. They will not be used for any other purposes and will not be passed onto any other organisations. Your information will be treated in confidence in line with the Data Protection Act 1998.

- Q31 Are you...?  
 Male  Female
- Q32 How old are you?  
 Under 18  35-44  65-74  
 18-24  45-54  75+  
 25-34  55-64
- Q33 Do you have a long term disability or illness which affects your day to day activities?  
 Yes  No
- Q34 Is your mobility impaired in any way?  
 Yes due to a disability  Yes due to age  No
- Q35 Do you have a learning disability?  
 Yes  No
- Q36 Would you describe yourself as...?  
 White (British, Irish, Other )  Mixed/Multiple Ethnic Group  Black/African/Caribbean/ Black British  
 Asian/Asian British  Other ethnic group
- Q37 Do you have regular access to a car?  
 Yes  No

When you've filled in your questionnaire, please cut it out and send it back to the address on the back page of this document. Thank you for taking the time to share your views.



### **Your ways to have your say**

- Please consider helping us to save money by filling in this survey online at [www.staffordshire.gov.uk/busreview](http://www.staffordshire.gov.uk/busreview) by Sunday 17th September 2017.
- Please return the completed paper survey by Sunday 17th September 2017 to:  
Bus Review, Staffordshire County Council, Staffordshire Place 2, Tipping Street, Stafford,  
Staffordshire, ST16 2LH.
- You can also hand in your survey to a member of staff in your library.

If you would like this information in large print, Braille, audio tape/disc, British Sign Language or any other language, please ring 0300 111 8000