

Proposed changes to the evening buses on service X3 between Salisbury, Downton, Ringwood and Bournemouth



We want your views !

Most journeys on the X3 bus service are operated by the Wilts & Dorset bus company as a commercial venture, without any involvement from the Councils through whose areas it passes.

Whilst the daytime buses on service X3 are well used and do not need any subsidy from the local councils, the evening journeys (except on Fridays and Saturdays) are less well used and do require council funding to keep them going. Due to the pressures on public spending, some of the other councils along the route have already withdrawn their funding for these evening journeys, and so the cost to Wiltshire Council of keeping them running is very high in relation to the number of Wiltshire residents who use them.

The Council is therefore reluctantly proposing to withdraw its funding for these evening journeys after the end of the summer timetable in mid-September. This means that on Sundays, Mondays, Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays, there would be no buses operating on the X3 service after approximately 8pm and the last journeys would be as follows:

Last buses on service X3 on Mondays, Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays:

- 1740 from Salisbury to Downton, Fordingbridge, Ringwood and Bournemouth
- 1810, 1840 and 1940 from Salisbury to Downton, Fordingbridge, and Ringwood only
- 1805 from Bournemouth to Ringwood, Fordingbridge, Downton and Salisbury
- 1835 and 1905 from Bournemouth to Ringwood only

Last buses on service X3 on Sundays and Public Holidays

- 1640 from Salisbury to Downton, Fordingbridge, Ringwood and Bournemouth
- 1740, 1840 and 1940 from Salisbury to Downton, Fordingbridge, and Ringwood only
- 1805 from Bournemouth to Ringwood, Fordingbridge, Downton and Salisbury

No change is proposed to the Friday and Saturday evening services, which the bus company have said they will continue to run as at present without council funding.

To provide us with your feedback, please fill in the questionnaire on the back of this leaflet and return it to us at the address shown on the bottom of the page, by Monday 1st July 2013.

Please let us know how you use the evening journeys on the X3 bus service and your views on the proposed changes

either by completing the internet consultation survey at www.wiltshire.gov.uk/consultations, or by answering the questions below then returning this form to us at the address shown at the bottom of the page:

1. Which town or village do you live in ? _____

2. On what days do you use the evening journeys on the X3 bus service (please tick all that apply)

- Mondays Wednesdays Fridays / Saturdays
 Tuesdays Thursdays Sundays

3. How often do you use these evening journeys at the moment ? (please tick one box)

- 5 or more days a week twice per week Less than once per week
 3 or 4 times per week once per week Less than once per month

4. If you currently use the evening buses on Sundays, Mondays, Tuesdays, Wednesdays or Thursdays, What journeys do you regularly make and at what time do you travel ?

5. When you use these evening journeys, what is the purpose of your journey? (please tick all that apply)

- Travel to/from work For an evening out
 To attend school or college For hospital visiting
 To visit friends and relations other (please state) _____

6. If you currently use the evening buses on Sundays, Mondays, Tuesdays, Wednesdays or Thursdays, would you be able to travel on a Friday or Saturday instead ?

- Yes No possibly / sometimes

7. Do you wish to make any other comments on these proposals ?

8. Finally please give us a bit more information about yourself:

What is your age group? (please tick) under 17 17-25 26-45 46-64 over 65

Are you male or female? (please tick) Male Female

Do you consider yourself disabled ? No

Yes - if so does this affect your ability to walk? Yes No

Thank you for completing this form. Now please return it to us using the reply paid envelope provided, or post it to us at the following address:

Passenger Transport Unit, Wiltshire Council, County Hall, Trowbridge, Wiltshire. BA14 8JN