

Review of bus services in North West Wiltshire

Service 91 (Malmesbury – Chippenham via the Dauntsey Vale) Service 91B (Malmesbury – Rodbourne – Sutton Benger) – info sheet

Summary of proposed change

Service 91 will be completely revised to run between Chippenham and the Dauntsey Vale only, operating approx every 90 minutes on a loop from Christian Malford via Startley, Great Somerford, Little Somerford and Dauntsey.

Service 91B will be withdrawn. Upper Seagry and Startley will be included on the new service 91 route to Chippenham. Alternative methods will be sought of providing a cost effective service for the few passengers who travel from Rodbourne.

Commentary on current service

Service 91 provides the main public transport service for the villages of Kington Langley, Sutton Benger, Christian Malford, Dauntsey and Great Somerford. It also provides Little Somerford with a service into Chippenham and additional journeys into Malmesbury supplementing service 31; and an alternative to the more direct service 92 for passengers travelling between Malmesbury and Chippenham. It currently runs hourly between approx 0730 and 1830 on Mondays to Saturdays, and is timed to provide connections at Little Somerford to and from Swindon.

Service 91B provides around 7 journeys a day (Mondays to Fridays only) from Malmesbury via Rodbourne, Startley and Seagry to Sutton Benger where it connects with service 91 to provide a link to / from Chippenham.

The services carry a total of around 47,000 single passenger journeys a year between them, including around 17,000 journeys to/from school or college. The current timetable is very expensive to provide because it requires the use of at least two buses.

The majority of passengers either travel between Chippenham and the Dauntsey Vale villages, or could use other services (92 between Chippenham and Malmesbury or 31 between Little Somerford, Cowbridge and Malmesbury). Use of the service to Malmesbury, to where the service was extended on an experimental basis five years ago, is particularly disappointing. Only around 6 return passenger trips a day are made between Dauntsey / Great Somerford and Malmesbury, and 1 or 2 trips a day between Rodbourne and Malmesbury. The connections to Swindon at Little Somerford are also poorly used, again generally with only 2 or 3 passenger trips a day.

Explanation of proposed changes

The number of passengers using the two routes (particularly the 91B) does not justify the level of service that is currently provided. It is therefore proposed to completely revise the service so that it will continue to provide a regular (approximately every 90 minutes) link to Chippenham, which it is believed will continue to meet the needs of the majority of the existing passengers.

In view of the small number of passengers travelling into Malmesbury who could not use other services, it is proposed that the link to Malmesbury will be withdrawn. Other ways will be sought of providing a cost effective service into Malmesbury from Rodbourne (which has no other public transport), and from Great Somerford and Dauntsey.

Proposed timetable

The proposed timetable for service 91 is shown overleaf.

The aim of the review of services is to make the bus network more sustainable in the long term, and to provide cost-effective services that meet the needs of existing users at an affordable cost to the council. We believe that the proposed changes meet these objectives, but if you have other suggestions about how this might be achieved we would be pleased to receive them. In particular we would welcome suggestions for affordable, possibly community-based, ways of providing a service into Malmesbury from Rodbourne, Great Somerford and Dauntsey.

Similar information sheets are available for each of the bus services affected by the North West Wiltshire review. A consultation on the proposals is under way and will close on 7 October 2013. Details of other services and of the consultation can be found on the council's website (<http://www.wiltshire.gov.uk/council/consultations.htm>) or are available from the Passenger Transport Unit, Wiltshire Council, County Hall, Trowbridge BA14 8JN.

Bus Service 91 - linking The Dauntsey Vale and Chippenham

Proposed timetable from April 2014 for consultation

Mondays to Saturdays

| | | | | | | | | |
|--------------------------------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|
| Chippenham, Bus Station | -- | -- | 1025 | 1155 | 1325 | -- | 1640 | 1755 |
| Chippenham, Railway Station | -- | -- | 1027 | 1157 | 1327 | -- | 1642 | 1757 |
| Sheldon/Hardenhuish Schools | -- | -- | -- | -- | -- | 1515 | -- | -- |
| Malmesbury Road, Morrison's | -- | -- | 1032 | 1202 | 1332 | 1520 | 1647 | 1802 |
| Kington Langley, Hit or Miss | -- | 0908 | 1038 | 1208 | 1338 | 1526 | 1653 | 1808 |
| Sutton Bengier | -- | 0912 | 1042 | 1212 | 1342 | 1530 | 1657 | 1812 |
| Christian Malford, Memorial | -- | 0915 | 1045 | 1215 | 1345 | 1533 | 1700 | 1815 |
| Upper Seagry | -- | 0921 | -- | 1221 | -- | -- | -- | -- |
| Startley | -- | 0922 | -- | 1222 | -- | -- | -- | -- |
| Great Somerford, bus shelter | 0735 | 0925 | -- | 1225 | -- | -- | -- | -- |
| Dauntsey St James | -- | -- | 1048 | -- | 1348 | 1536 | 1703 | 1818 |
| Dauntsey Green | -- | -- | 1049 | -- | 1349 | 1537 | 1704 | 1819 |
| Little Somerford, bus shelter | 0740 | 0930 | 1056 | 1230 | 1356 | 1544 | 1711 | 1826 |
| Dauntsey Green | 0747 | 0937 | -- | 1237 | -- | -- | -- | -- |
| Dauntsey St James | 0748 | 0938 | -- | 1238 | -- | -- | -- | -- |
| Great Somerford, bus shelter | -- | -- | 1101 | -- | 1401 | 1549 | 1716 | 1831 |
| Startley | -- | -- | 1104 | -- | 1404 | -- | 1719 | 1834 |
| Upper Seagry | -- | -- | 1105 | -- | 1405 | -- | 1720 | 1835 |
| Christian Malford, Memorial | 0751 | 0941 | 1111 | 1241 | 1411 | -- | 1726 | -- |
| Sutton Bengier | 0754 | 0944 | 1114 | 1244 | 1414 | 1558 | 1729 | -- |
| Kington Langley, Hit or Miss | 0800 | 0950 | 1120 | 1250 | 1420 | -- | 1735 | -- |
| Malmesbury Road, Morrison's | 0805 | 0955 | 1125 | 1255 | 1425 | -- | 1740 | -- |
| Sheldon/Hardenhuish Schools | 0807 | -- | -- | -- | -- | -- | -- | -- |
| Chippenham, Railway Station | R | R | R | R | R | -- | R | -- |
| Chippenham, Bus Station | 0817 | 1007 | 1137 | 1307 | 1437 | 1609 | 1752 | -- |

WHAT THE CODES MEAN

NS - Does not run on Saturdays
R - Calls at this point if required by passengers on the bus

Summary of proposed times for buses from Little Somerford to Swindon and Malmesbury on service 31

Mondays to Saturdays

| | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|--------------------------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|
| | NS | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Malmesbury, Cross Hayes | 0650 | 0735 | 0900 | 1000 | 1100 | 1200 | 1300 | 1400 | 1500 | 1600 | 1700 | 1800 |
| Little Somerford, bus shelter | 0658 | 0743 | 0908 | 1008 | 1108 | 1208 | 1308 | 1408 | 1508 | 1608 | 1708 | 1808 |
| Swindon Bus Station | 0735 | 0825 | 0946 | 1046 | 1146 | 1246 | 1346 | 1446 | 1546 | 1646 | 1746 | 1846 |
| | NS | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Swindon Bus Station | 0740 | 0855 | 0955 | 1055 | 1155 | 1255 | 1355 | 1455 | 1555 | 1655 | 1755 | 1850 |
| Little Somerford, bus shelter | 0817 | 0932 | 1032 | 1132 | 1232 | 1332 | 1432 | 1532 | 1632 | 1732 | R | R |
| Malmesbury, Cross Hayes | 0837 | 0952 | 1052 | 1152 | 1252 | 1352 | 1452 | 1552 | 1652 | 1752 | R | R |