



Big choices

DAN NORRIS
West of England
METRO MAYOR

BIG CHOICES on buses

Everyone agrees we want a reliable, affordable and safe bus service in the West of England.

But there are big challenges. There is a shortage of bus drivers and the cost of running buses is going through the roof.

So together we need to make big choices on buses.

Where should buses run? What's a reasonable amount to pay for your fare? Should there be a focus on urban or rural services? How would you deploy the limited number of bus drivers? What if the choice is more frequent or more reliable services? Could we use community transport more effectively? What would encourage more people to choose the bus?

We want to hear your views and ideas on these questions and more.

Please come to our meetings which will take place 6.30pm-8.30pm on:

- **1 August at Yate Parish Hall, Yate, BS37 5NF**
- **2 August at Southdown Methodist Church, The Hollow, Bath, BA2 1NJ**
- **3 August at St Augustine's Church, 2 East Dundry Road, Whitchurch, BS14 0LL**
- **4 August at Brook Way Activity Centre, Brook Way, Bradley Stoke, BS32 9DA**

Or fill in this survey, or download a pack to run your own local big choices event from

www.westofengland-ca.gov.uk/big-choices-on-buses

Thank you for your help.



Dan Norris
West of England Metro Mayor



WEST OF ENGLAND
Combined Authority



Please return to: **Dan Norris, Metro Mayor,**
West of England Combined Authority, 3 Rivergate, Temple Quay, Bristol, BS1 6EW

1. Thinking about buses you use already:

I use the bus/es.
(please insert bus numbers you use)

It takes me minutes to get to my destination. (insert time)

I'd keep using the bus unless it cost more than (insert price)

I wouldn't mind if the services ran every minutes, if it was reliable. (insert time)

In an ideal world a fare for a return journey would cost (insert price)

I'd keep using the bus unless it took more than minutes to reach my destination. (insert time)

In an ideal world it would take minutes to reach my destination. (insert time)

If I did have access to a car I'd use that instead.

Agree / Disagree

2. Now let's think about journeys you don't make by bus:

Please rank 1-5
(1 is least important and 5 is most important):

I would use the buses more if they were:

- Cheaper
- More reliable
- More comfortable
- More frequent
- Went to more destinations

I'd consider using the bus to get to work, education, shopping if only:

I would use the bus more if there were new routes to:

3. Moving on, let's think about changing between buses.

Which of these statements do you agree with?

- Making one bus change is okay
- Making just one bus change would stop me using the bus
- Making more than one bus change would stop me using the bus

4. While we don't have enough bus drivers, we need to make some big choices. What do you think?

Please circle "Agree" or "Disagree" with the following statements:

I'd rather that there were fewer services but they were more reliable

Agree / Disagree

I'd rather have more buses running later into the evening and night even if it meant fewer services during the day

Agree / Disagree

5. How should we spend tax payers' money on fare packages?

Please circle your preferred option:

Imagine you can choose between saving one bus a day from a village to a city which regularly serves 15 people; or instead you can pay for an additional bus on a busy city service which sometimes leaves passengers waiting at the bus stop as the current bus is full.

Save the village service / add an extra city service

If it was up to me, and I could only prioritise spending the limited money we have to make it cheaper for a certain group of people to travel, I'd choose:

Please tick your preferred option:

- Families
- Young people
- Older people
- Disabled people
- Job seekers
- Commuters
- Encouraging new bus users
- People who use the bus regularly
- Apprentices
- Refugees
- I wouldn't choose a special group, I'd just make it a bit cheaper for everyone.

Actually given we desperately need more fare income to invest back in buses I think it's fair to ask the following groups to pay a bit more:

- Families
- Young people
- Older people
- Disabled people
- Job seekers
- Commuters
- Encouraging new bus users
- People who use the bus regularly
- I wouldn't choose a special group, I'd just make it a bit more expensive for everyone.

It's reasonable for the West of England Combined Authority to subsidise bus travel that costs £ per-passenger, per-journey in one direction. (*Insert cost*)

6. We have ambitious net zero targets for 2030:

Please circle "Agree" or "Disagree":

To help tackle the climate emergency and cut congestion I'd prioritise spending money to encourage new people to use the bus, over people who already use the bus

Agree / Disagree

I would pay a bit more for my ticket to travel on a more environmentally friendly bus

Agree / Disagree

7. Here is a list of how much councils in areas with Combined Authorities put towards subsidising bus services per head.

Greater Manchester £67.58

Liverpool £63.58

North of the Tyne £43.51

West Midlands £39.80

West of England £20.49

Cambridge & Peterborough £15.38

I think it would be reasonable for the local councils in the West of England to invest **More / Less / The same amount** towards subsidising bus services per head.

If more, I think it would be reasonable for councils to invest £ (*Insert cost*)

8. Finally what's your view on these statements please?

Please circle "Agree" or "Disagree".

I don't mind what the information at the bus stop says as long as I can get the information on when the bus arrives on my phone

Agree / Disagree

The bus stops near me are run down

Agree / Disagree

All my friends use the bus

Agree / Disagree

I use buses because I have to, not because I want to

Agree / Disagree

I would consider using an app or phoning up to book a seat on a minibus

Agree / Disagree

Buses are for people like me

Agree / Disagree



"I'm proud to have secured £105m for bus services but there are still many challenges, and we will have to make trade offs and compromises. Thank you for helping us to make big choices for our region."

Dan Norris, Metro Mayor

9. About you

Age

What is your age group?

- Under 18
- 19 - 24
- 25 - 30
- 31 - 39
- 40 - 49
- 50 - 59
- 60 - 64
- 65 - 74
- Over 75
- Prefer not to say

Ethnicity

What is your ethnic group?

- Arab
- Asian/Asian British - Bangladeshi
- Asian/Asian British - Indian
- Asian/Asian British - Pakistani
- Asian/Asian British - Chinese
- Asian/Asian British - Other
(please state)
- Black/ Black British/African/Caribbean-
African
- Black/ Black British/African/Caribbean -
Caribbean
- Black/ Black British/African/Caribbean -
Other (please state)
- Mixed/Multiple Ethnic Groups - White & Asian
- Mixed/Multiple Ethnic Groups - White & Black
African
- Mixed/Multiple Ethnic Groups - White & Black
Caribbean
- Mixed/Multiple Ethnic Groups - Other
(please state)
- White - English/Welsh/Scottish/Northern
Irish/British
- White - Gypsy or Irish Traveller
- White - Irish
- White - Roma
- White - Other (please state)
- Other ethnic group (please state)
- Prefer not to say

Gender

What is your gender?

- Female
- Male
- Other
- Prefer not to say

Disability

Do you consider yourself to be disabled?

- No
- Yes - Physical impairment, such as difficulty
using arms or mobility issues which may
mean using a wheelchair or crutches
- Yes - Sensory impairment, such as being blind
/ having a serious visual impairment or being
deaf / have a serious hearing impairment
- Yes - Mental health condition, such as
depression, anxiety or schizophrenia
- Yes - Learning disability/difficulty (such
as Down's Syndrome, dyslexia, dyspraxia)
or cognitive impairment (such as autistic
spectrum disorder)
- Yes - Long standing illness or health
condition, such as cancer, HIV, diabetes,
chronic heart disease or epilepsy
- Yes - Other (please state)
- Prefer not to say

If yes, please tell us how this affects the way
that you access or use services.
