

Staffordshire County Council launched a public consultation from 24 July until **17 September**, on a reduced bus support budget from April 2018, which will result in the withdrawal of a number of subsidised bus service. 90% of bus services are operated on a commercial basis by operators, but the remaining 10%, mainly early morning, evening, Sunday, community link, and off peak services are affected. The reduced bus subsidy budget will be **£1.3m** from **April 2018**. The County Council are consulting on four options. **The County Council favour Option 1** as it allows the greatest number of journeys to be made and has the lowest average subsidy per passenger journey..

Option 1 is based on the lowest subsidy be passenger and maintaining priority routes. SCC would continue to subsidise bus journeys on 18 routes some of which also support eligible children with home to school travel. 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 No Dial-A-Ride services would be funded by the County Council, i.e. Lichfield & Rugeley Village Connect withdrawn. Some areas would have no access to public transport. 560,000 current journeys would no longer be subsidised by the County Council.

Option 2 is based on a slightly higher subsidy than Option 1 per passenger journey and maintaining some priority routes. Staffordshire County Council would continue to subsidise bus journeys on 10 routes, some of which also support eligible children with home to school travel. Around 680,000 bus journeys would continue to be subsidised by the County Council. The average subsidy per passenger journey would be £1.80. Some employment, health and education bus journeys would be supported. Some areas would have no access to public transport. 695,000 current journeys would no longer be subsidised by the County Council.

Option 3 is based on a slightly higher subsidy than Option 1 per passenger journey and maintaining fewer priority routes. SCC would continue to subsidise bus journeys on seven routes, some of which also support eligible children with home to school travel. The Lichfield & Rugeley Village Connect (serving Slitting Mill) would be maintained. 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. The Village Connect service would be subsidised by an average of £8.80 per passenger journey. 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 Under this option, Staffordshire County Council would subsidise five Dial-A-Ride services only including the Lichfield and Rugeley Village Connect. There would be no other subsidised local bus services. Home to school travel for eligible children would still be provided. 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. Around 1.25 million current bus journeys would no longer be subsidised by the County Council. This would have the biggest impact on existing bus journeys for Staffordshire residents. This would have the biggest impact on current travel options for Staffordshire residents.

A full list of how each subsidised bus route and Dial-A-Ride service would be affected in **Cannock Chase District** under the different options is detailed below.

x = No longer subsidised √ = Continue to be subsidised.

Service No.	Operator	Route Description	Days of operation	Contracted Journeys	Potential result Options			
					1	2	3	4
	Mobility Link	Lichfield & Rugeley Connect via Slitting Mill or Cannock Wood if requested	Mon-Fri excl Bank Holidays	All journeys 09.30-15.00	x	x	√	√
2E	Arriva	Cannock-Walsall	Mon-Sat eves excl Bank Hols	20.25 ex Cannock & 21.05 ex-Wal	x	x	x	x
2E	Arriva	Cannock -Walsall	Sun & Bank Hol Eves	18.10 ex-Hed onwards & 19.10 ex Wal onwards	x	x	x	x
21	Arriva	Cannock-Longford/Shoal Hill	Mon-Sat excl Bank Hols	All journeys	x	x	x	x
61	Arriva	Cannock-Heath Hayes	Mon-Sat excl Bank Hols	All journeys: Hawks Green Tesco to Wimblebury Lamb & Flag only	√	x	x	x
62	Arriva	Cannock-Hazelslade-B'wood-Lichfield	Suns & Bank Holidays	All journeys	x	x	x	x
67	Select Buses	Cannock-Longford-Featherstone-Brinsford- W'ton	Mon-Sats excl B. Hols	All journeys	√	√	√	x
70	Arriva	Cannock-W'ton	Suns & B Hols	All journeys	x	x	x	x
71/A	Arriva	Cannock-W'ton	Mon-Sat excl Bank Hols	All journeys	√	x	x	x
842	D & G Bus	Stafford-Weston-Hixon-Rugeley	Mon-Sats excl B.Hols	All journeys	√	√	√	x
842A	D & G Bus	Stafford-Weston-Hixon-Rugeley	School days only	All journeys	√	√	√	x
T3 - taxi	Shire Travel	Thornhill Rd, Hed-Cannock	Tu, Fri excl Bank Hols	09.30 1 return journey	√	x	x	x
T5 - Taxi	Shire Travel	Bradbury Lane - Cannock	Tu, Fri excl Bank Hols	10.30 1 return journey, 12.40 single journey	√	x	x	x