

Telford & Wrekin Bus User Group

Public Transport, is, for some, absolutely essential. The Bus User Group was formed to enable discussions between providers, Telford & Wrekin Council, and users in order to understand the needs of the local communities in Telford & Wrekin but to enable conversations with providers, such as Arriva, to ensure that the services provided meet the needs of the prospective users.

This Group is attended by representatives of Arriva and Telford & Wrekin Council and throughout the year, discussions take place regarding routes, timetables, new buses etc. There is also an opportunity to discuss local issues, such as the regularity of the service and the speed of the vehicle.

Unfortunately, like everything else, Covid impacted on the bus services across the whole of TW but in particular in the urban area around Telford Town Centre. Consequently, this reduced the number of services and the number of passengers each bus could carry. In the rural area, it meant the withdrawal of the one service that linked the rural villages to Shrewsbury & Newport.

As the lockdown eases, we hope to see some of the local services return, although there will remain a need for social distancing and passengers will be required to wear face masks.

Government Funding has enabled some of the subsidised routes to continue. However, TWC is undertaking a transport review, which will take into consideration, bicycles, buses and trains and the link between them to offer a full but flexible service to the people of the Borough.

The meetings have taken place via Zoom to enable the continuation of the work of this Group.

Thanks are extended to representatives of Arriva, TWC, Parish & Town Councils and to bus users, this group is looking forward to meetings again in the near future to discuss some of the current issues and to learn more about the introduction of electric (or other) buses.