

## **Consultation on changes to bus services 16, 17, 18**

Passenger Transport received a large number of responses to this consultation and would like to thank those who took the time to respond.

While many of those responding agreed with the need to make changes to reflect the numbers of passengers actually travelling on certain sections of route and also that we are required to work within reduced budgets, a number of common requests emerged:

- Early “commuter” timed buses to be retained from the Waddesdon area to Aylesbury and allow connections to trains at Parkway Station and onward buses from Aylesbury.
- At least one peak hour journey into and out of Bicester for commuters from the Steeple Claydon / Twyford / Marsh Gibbon area.
- An improved service 18 timetable, including an afternoon journey from Bicester and Buckingham later than those originally proposed.
- There was a strong view expressed that those in Twyford, Charndon and Marsh Gibbon would prefer more journeys to Bicester or Buckingham than Aylesbury and the new timetables reflect this.

Passenger Transport listened to the feedback received and through combining some journeys together and reducing some journeys on a Saturday; have been able to revise the original proposals to accommodate many of the changes requested. Many of the requests received were to retain journeys that while clearly important to those using them actually carry very few passengers. There is clearly strong local feeling in support of service 18 in particular but in order for the new timetables to remain in the long term more people need to use the buses regularly.

Final timetables for Service 16 to be operated by Arriva and an expanded Service 18 timetable to be operated by Langston & Tasker are attached and will take effect from Monday 30<sup>th</sup> January.

A more detailed list of questions raised through the consultation with answers is also attached and individuals who replied to the consultation will be contacted shortly with a reply to their query or comments.

To increase flexibility for passengers, Arriva return tickets and daily / weekly / monthly passes will be accepted on all Service 18 journeys as will Stagecoach return and day tickets between Launton and Bicester.

The new timetables will also be available on the Transport for Buckinghamshire website as well as on buses and at bus stops nearer to the change date.