

<b>Project</b>	<b>A40 Llanddewi Velfrey to Penblewin Improvements</b>
<b>Subject</b>	Bus Services (Wales) Bill
<b>File Reference</b>	A40LVP-ARP-GEN-SWI-FN-TR-0001
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<b>Revision   Date</b>	P01   19/03/20

## 1.1 Purpose of this document

1.1.1 On Tuesday 17 March 2020, while giving evidence at the Public Local Inquiry, Mr John Davies (planning & sustainable development expert witness) referred to the Bus Services (Wales) Bill in explaining the balanced approach that Welsh Government is taking across a range of transport modes.

1.1.2 The purpose of this public inquiry document is to summarise the content of the Bus Services (Wales) Bill<sup>1</sup>.

## 1.2 Bus Services (Wales) Bill

1.2.1 The policy objective of the Bill is to provide local authorities with an improved range of tools to use when planning and delivering local bus services within their area, and to improve the availability of information on bus services.

1.2.2 The Bill seeks to amend the legislative framework relating to the planning and delivery of local bus services. Specifically, it makes provision for the creation of Welsh Partnership Schemes (WPS), Welsh Franchising Schemes (WFS), and for local authorities to run their own bus services.

1.2.3 Welsh Partnership Schemes bring together operators and local authorities to plan and implement a series of agreed measures and improvements in certain areas. This could include co-ordination of timetables, better information and ticketing, higher quality vehicles, and the local authority providing facilities and taking measures such

<sup>1</sup> <https://www.assembly.wales/laid%20documents/pri-ld13090/pri-ld13090%20-e.pdf>

as better waiting areas and enforced bus lanes.

- 1.2.4 Welsh Franchising Schemes would allow local authorities to award the exclusive right to operators through contracts to run bus services in the franchise area. Local authorities would be able to decide how many franchise contracts they wanted to let in their area.
- 1.2.5 There are provisions in the Bill to allow local authorities to run their own bus services by removing restrictions on this. This will allow local authorities, working on their own or jointly, to directly run bus services in their areas. These services could be managed in-house or via an arms-length company.
- 1.2.6 The Bill also seeks to introduce a requirement on bus operators to share two types of data with two audiences. The Bill allows (by regulations) the Welsh Ministers to require operators to provide data about local bus services ('open data') which could be used to give the public access to more consistent, reliable and up-to-date information on bus services. The Bill also seeks to give local authorities the power to request information, including fare, revenue and passenger data, from bus operators on routes they have proposed to alter or withdraw.
- 1.2.7 Further details about the Bill are provided in an Explanatory Memorandum published by Welsh Government<sup>2</sup>.

## Approvals

Revision	Status	Role	Name	Date
P01		Author	Ellie Mitchell (X)	19/03/20
		Checker	Philip Thiele	19/03/20
		Approver	Tom Edwards	19/03/20
		Authoriser	Gary Davies	19/03/20

<sup>2</sup> <https://www.assembly.wales/laid%20documents/pri-ld13090-em/pri-ld13090-em%20-e.pdf>