

Rutland Transport Newsletter March 2021



Public Transport

As we head into spring, we hope you are all keeping safe and well, and we would just like to remind passengers of the advice and guidance still in place regarding public transport:

- The wearing of face masks is mandatory unless you come under one of the exemption categories. Please go to www.gov.uk/guidance/coronavirus-covid-19-safer-travel-guidance-forpassengers more information. Exemption cards are available from transport operators or you can contact the Transport Department at Rutland County Council.
- Social distancing should be maintained as far as possible when travelling and waiting at bus stops, shelters and interchanges. Buses will be operating with a reduced seating capacity to help with this.
- Passengers are still advised to contact operators before travelling for the latest journey information as timetables are still subject to change at short notice. Only essential journeys should be undertaken and please be mindful when travelling between different tiers. Your local operators are:

- ▶ **CallConnect** ☎ 0345 263 8153 🌐 lincsbus.info
- ▶ **Centrebus** ☎ 0844 351 1120 🌐 centrebus.info
- ▶ **Mark Bland Travel** ☎ 01780 751671 🌐 blands.info
- ▶ **Delaine Buses** ☎ 01778 422866 🌐 delainebuses.com

Please also be aware that severe bad weather can also affect the operation of bus services, and although main roads may be clear it is not always possible to access villages.

Carriageway patching and road works are still taking place and we will continue to communicate any disruptions to bus services by placing notices at the appropriate locations. We also advise parish councils as many have ways of helping to get information out to residents which is much appreciated.

We are continuing to process bus pass renewals, replacements and new applications as usual, and despite the additional pressure being placed on Royal Mail we are not experiencing many delays with getting new bus passes out to passengers.

We have a Bus Users Panel comprised of Rutland residents, giving you the opportunity to raise questions and issues concerning transport within the area. If you are interested in becoming part of this group then please contact us. We will be arranging a virtual meeting in due course to bring participants together.

Cycling and Electric Bike News



Rutland County Council's cycle training service is an effective way to encourage more people to cycle. It supports individuals to develop their cycling skills and to gain confidence with cycling on today's roads and cycling infrastructure. Rutland County Council cycle instructors deliver the National Standard of Cycling, delivery guidelines as published by The Bikeability Trust. For those who have taken part in our Adult Cycle training it has opened up travel choices which before had not been an option.



Last summer we initiated an Electric Bike Hire Scheme, complemented by Electric Cycle training which resulted in individuals having the opportunity to become familiar and confident with riding an electric bike and to realise how it could be used as an everyday form of transport to get to work, do the shopping or just for general health and wellbeing. We have several different bikes of various sizes and styles so there should be something to suit everyone. Participants of the scheme have gone on to purchase electric bikes for themselves or have signed up to hire again this year. We had to put the cycle training on hold for a few months due to Covid restrictions but are just in the process of re-starting, so if anyone would like to enquire about the scheme then please get in touch.

For any enquiries regarding items in this newsletter please email: transport@rutland.gov.uk or call: 01572 758 318.



Rutland
County Council