

Bus Services Bill Update

This update is to give you the latest information on the Bus Services Bill.

The Bill was introduced into the House of Lords on Thursday 19th May 2016 and published on Friday 20th May 2016.

The Department has published a document summarising the main measures in the Bus Services Bill and explaining how the Government intends that they will work in practice. This document has been published on the .GOV.UK website at:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/bus-services-bill-overview>

The Bill has been published at:

<http://services.parliament.uk/bills/2016-17/busservices/documents.html>

The explanatory notes accompanying the Bill will be published at:

<http://services.parliament.uk/bills/2016-17/busservices/documents.html>

The Bus Services Bill will:

- Strengthen arrangements for partnership working in the sector, introducing 'Enhanced Partnerships'.
- Introduce new franchising powers with decisions at a local level.
- Provide for a step change in the information available to bus passengers.

Next steps

The Bill will now be subject to the parliamentary process, but we are still aiming to receive Royal Assent by early 2017.

Work has begun on the secondary legislation and guidance associated with the Bill and we will be holding meetings with key stakeholders in May, June, July and September to discuss these provisions. We are aiming to have drafts of regulations and guidance for most policy areas available for formal consultation in October and November 2016.

Please continue to send any comments or queries relating to the Bill to: Busworkshops2015@dft.gsi.gov.uk. This inbox is regularly monitored and the comments received are shared with the relevant policy leads.

**Buses Bill Policy Team
May 2016**