



Proudly supporting bus users in
Brighton, Hove and the
surrounding areas

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January 2025

All Changed

On January 15th Brighton Buswatch held its Annual General Meeting and main meeting attended by Brighton and Hove City Council, local Councillors and bus operator Brighton & Hove Buses. Buswatch is pleased to have appointed Chair – Nash Travelman, Vice Chair – Nigel Perkins, Secretary – Peter Elvidge and Treasurer- Alec Horner. We are happy to welcome back Mo, John, Martin and appointee Anthony, a long standing member of Buswatch to the committee.



Photo courtesy of Nash Travelman

This next three months theme is about change. Which you will see going forward, alongside a new logo and a new constitution. A renewed membership is being offered, so please look out for further details. This meeting focused on Real Time Information Screens, Western Road, positive impact of Christmas services, and bus connections. Some great ideas were brought to the table.

St James's Street closure

As part of Stage 2 of Valley Gardens 3, St James's Street will be closed for 2 weeks from Monday 10th February to Sunday 23rd February. As this also falls during half term, so it will not impact school pupils. Pedestrians can still access the area and it will be business as usual for businesses, whom Buswatch hope, will not be too impacted by the road closure.

During the closure, all buses will use Old Steine (Stop Z), normally used by 271 & 272, located outside Law Stop (///sober.descended.camp).

Stage 2 includes the removal of the island at the Royal Albion Hotel. Buswatch is pleased to say that disruption to bus services so far, appears by-and-large to be minimal. However the loss of a traffic lane on the east-side of the Old Steine has been noted (see photo).

Lewes Road resurfacing

After much concern of uncomfortable journeys, part of the Lewes Road between B&Q and Brighton University is being refurbished as part of the University of Brighton development. Started on Monday 27 January, work is expected to take about 4 weeks.

Although passengers have been warned to expect delays – In the first week, some significant disruption was observed with some 45 minute delays occurring to all routes in the area, including a special split service operating on route 25. Due to the location of the works, both Coombe Road and Mithras House stops (northbound) are closed but the latter was being served when I went through on the first Friday evening.

Customers were kept informed where possible using Real Time Information screens throughout Brighton.

Extra 28's

An additional morning peak service has been introduced on Brighton & Hove's route 28. In order to better service King's Academy. Running to the east of the route, the first bus leaves Hailsham at 07.29 to Kings Academy (omitting Broyle Estate) and returns to Eastbourne at 15.30 again missing Broyle Estate.

Routes out for tender

Buswatch awaits news on results for new tenders for Brighton and Hove City Council funded routes 16, 47/47A and 52, currently operated by The Big Lemon and 37/37B/37C routes currently operated by Compass Travel under the brand 'CityBuzz'. The results should be announced imminently and routes will remain enhanced as part of the BSIP funding of 24/25.

City Plan stage 2

Monday 20 January 2025 saw the closure of the consultation on The Brighton City Plan 2041. As part of stage 2 is the key issues consultation, respondents were asked to submit their thoughts on the way the city should look, taking into account different aspects of the city and issues yet unidentified. Addressing the needs of housing, economy, community facilitates and infrastructure whilst conserving and enhancing the natural and historic environment, working with climate change, and achieving well designed places. A further consultations will take place in winter 2025 with draft policies.

Fare continuation

It has now been announced that the £1 short hop fare has been extended to 31st March 2025. This brings it in line with East Sussex's short hop fare structure. All bus operators are taking part. A list of the top 20 journeys afforded by this lower fare, can be found the Brighton & Hove Buses website. This offers a substantial saving of between 70p and 90p. All £1 fares are programmed into the app.

Worthing bus proposals

Stagecoach South are consulting on proposed changes to route 700. As part of a drive to improve reliability and reduce the impact of delays at levels crossing. Routes in the Worthing and Littlehampton areas including routes 5 & 10 are being altered. The ever beating 'Pulse' is being stopped and replaced in part by new route 11 (Littlehampton – Worthing), 701 (Wick - Lancing) and the 700. Among the changes to the 700 are the withdrawal of the route east of Worthing and being diverted to Durrington Tesco. It will be the first time route 700 has not connected since its inception in 1975, though in 2014 the route was operationally divide into a three journeys. Through tickets will be available on routes 700 and 701 for through passengers.

A feedback form is provided on the Stagecoach website under 'Offers and Promotions' and closes on Friday 7th February 2025.

Buswatch meeting

The next Brighton Buswatch's meeting takes place on 16th April at 16.00 in rooms 2 & 3, Brighton Town Hall. Space is limited so please e-mail Buswatch or message via Brighton Buswatch Facebook group if you would like to attend as a guest or raise an issue.

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Buswatch Newsletter is produced and edited by Brighton Area Buswatch. Contributions and suggestions are always welcome.