

# WATAG NEWS

## YOUR LOCAL BUS ROUTES

### X51/X52/X53

Operated by First Wessex and marketed as the Jurassic Coaster. Operates daily.

X51 operates from Weymouth to Axminster via Dorchester, Bridport and Lyme Regis.

X52 operates from Bridport to Monkey World

X53 operates from Weymouth to Axminster via Abbotsbury, West Bay, Bridport and Lyme Regis.

### 6/6B

Operated by First Wessex and Buses of Somerset, Mondays to Fridays.

These buses operate from Bridport to Beaminster, Crewkerne and Yeovil.

### CB3

Operated by Beaminster Town Council, every Saturday, connecting Beaminster with Bridport and Crewkerne.

### 7

Operated by Dorset Community Transport on behalf of Bridport Town Council on Wednesdays and Saturdays, as the 'Bridport Town Circular'. See Page 4.

### 9A

Operated by Stagecoach South West, this links Lyme Regis with Exeter via Axmouth, Seaton and Sidmouth, daily.

### 14

Operated by Dorset Community Transport, every Thursday, from Birdsmoorgate and Thorncombe to Chard.

### 71

Operated by Damory, on behalf of Lyme Regis Town Council, Mondays to Fridays, as the 'Lyme Regis Town Service'

### 688

Operated by Dorset Community Transport, every Thursday, from Thorncombe to Axminster.

### PlusBus

Operated by Dorset Community Transport, the PlusBus service provides transport for people who are unable to easily access public transport: young or old and including those with mobility difficulties and offers a weekday trip from neighbouring villages to local destination towns. To book, call 01258 287980.

### National Express

From 21 June, daily service from Bridport to Plymouth and Portsmouth. Booking essential.

## YOUR LOCAL RAIL ROUTES

### South Western Railway

Axminster & Crewkerne to/from Exeter and London Waterloo.

Weymouth, Upwey and Dorchester South to Poole, Bournemouth and London Waterloo.

### Great Western Railway

Weymouth, Upwey and Dorchester West to Bath, Bristol and Gloucester.

## LONG DISTANCE BUS ROUTES

National Express and Megabus operate from Weymouth and Dorchester to London

# NATIONAL BUS STRATEGY

# NEW SUMMER TIMETABLES

# NATIONAL EXPRESS

*Bridport service resumes*

## CONTACT WATAG

WATAG normally holds public meetings regularly, however due to the ongoing COVID pandemic this has not been possible.

Plans are in hand to conduct meetings over Zoom and details will be provided in due course.

You can contact WATAG via email or see our website.

Website: <https://watag.org.uk/>

Email: [watag@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:watag@hotmail.co.uk)

## YOUR LOCAL JOURNEY PLANNER TRAVELINE SOUTH WEST

<https://www.travelinesw.com/>

# SERVICE NEWS

## The latest news on bus and rail service updates



First Wessex has announced a brand new service from Bridport for the summer - the X52 will operate as an open top bus from Bridport to Monkey World via West Bay, Weymouth, Durdle Door and Lulworth Cove from 30th May.

Service 6 to Beaminster, Crewkerne and Yeovil has changes to the first and last buses between Beaminster and Bridport in order to maintain connections for Weymouth College students.

Additionally, most services from Axminster, Lyme Regis and Bridport to Dorchester (X51) will be extended to Weymouth. The full timetable (valid from 30 May) is here: <https://bit.ly/2QyINmH>



Beaminster Town Council's CB3 service has resumed. This service operates every Saturday between Crewkerne, Beaminster and Bridport. The timetable can be viewed here: <https://bit.ly/3oyPctz>



Service 7 operates as Bridport's "Town Service" every Wednesday and Saturday. See page 4 for full details. Services 14 and 688 continue to operate. Timetables are here: Service 14: <https://bit.ly/3wp2IYW> Service 688: <https://bit.ly/3yz43ss>



Service 71 operates as Lyme Regis' "Town Service", Mondays to Fridays. The timetable can be downloaded here: <https://bit.ly/3vaBDTS>



Stagecoach South West service 9A is currently operating to the same timetable announced from 25 January 2021 - providing a service throughout the day from Lyme Regis to Sidmouth, Seaton and Exeter.

The timetable is here: <https://bit.ly/3vgXY1K>



Between Weymouth, Dorchester and London: Mondays to Fridays this is now an hourly service, which notably does not call at Woking. On Saturdays two trains an hour are offered, with one per hour on Sundays. The timetable is here: <https://bit.ly/3v53kNL>

Between Crewkerne and Axminster and Exeter/London: this route has reverted to an hourly service. The timetable is here: <https://bit.ly/3wypush>



Great Western Railway has announced its summer timetable for the Weymouth - Bristol (Heart of Wessex) route. The timetable is here: <https://bit.ly/345CEQV>. Work on step-free access on the northbound platform at Dorchester West is finally due to be completed this July.



National Express has announced a new service - Service 190 - from Portsmouth to Plymouth via Bridport, daily, from 21 June. Timetable: <https://bit.ly/3wnv9AZ> and the daily Weymouth/Dorchester to London service has already resumed. Timetable: <https://bit.ly/34cqztg>



Megabus has started a new service from Weymouth and Dorchester to Heathrow Airport and London, operating Thursdays to Mondays. Details here: <https://uk.megabus.com/>

## INTRODUCING "GREAT BRITISH RAILWAYS"

On 20th May, the government announced their plans to overhaul rail services in the UK, and this will of course affect local services. Simpler fares, flexible season tickets and a single brand are promised.

The Williams-Shapps Plan for Rail states: "Local communities will work closely with GBR on designing services, with local leaders given greater control over local ticketing, timetables and stations. The new model will encourage innovative bidders, such as community rail partnerships who want to bid for the GBR contract to operate their local branch lines."

You can read the full report here: <https://bit.ly/3faXTHy>

# NATIONAL BUS STRATEGY



The government announced a National Bus Strategy entitled "Bus Back Better" and WATAG has been discussing the implications of what is potentially a long needed revival of bus services throughout the area.

Gordon Sneddon, Service Manager for Dorset Travel stated "Dorset Council has commenced work on its Bus Service Improvement Plan (BSIP) and, as part of this, will be seeking the views from a wide range of stakeholders, including the TAGs."

You can read Bus Back Better here:

<https://bit.ly/3u4gd9l>

## INTRODUCING THE X52 OPEN TOP BUS!

From 30th May, First Wessex will operate an open top bus from Bridport to Monkey World via West Bay, Abbotsbury, Weymouth, Durdle Door, Lulworth Cove and Wool.

Along with many X51 services extending from Dorchester to Weymouth and the existing X53 route, this means the Bridport to Weymouth corridor will have more seating capacity this summer than in previous years.

An attractive new guide is available or can be downloaded here:

<https://bit.ly/2QFhCW0>



## NEWS FROM DORSET TRAVEL

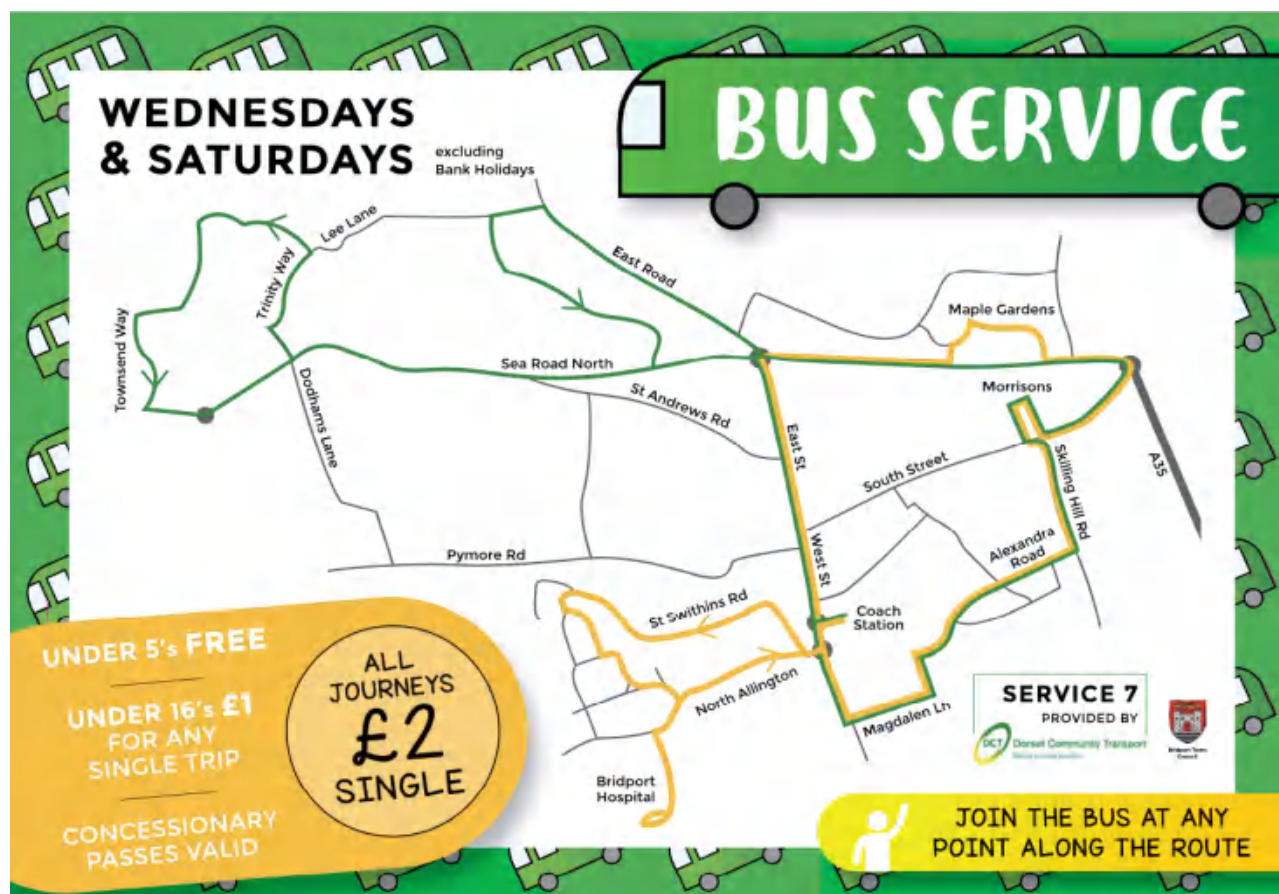


"The installation of new electric vehicle charge-points across Dorset is progressing well. Dorset Council is also planning on replacing the existing rapid charge-points with newer, more reliable units next month."

*"Dorset Council has written to the Rail Minister to express their disappointment that as of 30 May 2021 SWR will only be running one train per hour to/from Weymouth. This is below the provision that was made during the lockdowns and should not be considered acceptable or appropriate in the longer term. Dorset Council has concerns about how this will affect the region economically and from a climate change perspective, especially as this summer is likely to be one of our busiest for visitors."*



# BRIDPORT TOWN SERVICE



**timetable** **WEDNESDAYS & SATURDAYS**  
 effective from 7 October 2020 Excluding Bank Holidays

**ALL JOURNEYS £2 SINGLE**

<b>Bridport Coach Station dep</b>	0857	1023	1057	1223	1257	1423	1457	1623
<b>Court Orchard (Armstrong Road)</b>		1025		1225		1425		1625
<b>Bridport Hospital</b>		1029		1229		1429		1629
<b>Cherry Tree</b>		1030		1230		1430		1630
<b>North Allington (Parsonage Rd)</b>		1031		1231		1431		1631
<b>West Street (East bound)</b>	0900	1035	1100	1235	1300	1435	1500	1635
<b>Toll House (East Road)</b>	0901		1101		1301		1501	
<b>Jessopp Avenue</b>	0904		1104		1304		1504	
<b>Travis Perkins (for CO-OP &amp; LIDL)</b>	0907		1107		1307		1507	
<b>Bradpole Kings Head</b>	0910		1110		1310		1510	
<b>Post Office</b>	0912		1112		1312		1512	
<b>Colfax School</b>	0915		1115		1315		1515	
<b>Kings Head</b>	0917		1117		1317		1517	
<b>CO-OP (for LIDL)</b>	0919		1119		1319		1519	
<b>West Street (West bound)</b>	0924		1124		1324		1524	
<b>Park Road / Magdalen Lane (for Medical Centre)</b>	0925	1051	1125	1251	1325	1451	1525	1651
<b>Skilling Stores</b>	0928	1050	1128	1250	1328	1450	1528	1650
<b>Watton Park (for Leisure Centre)</b>	0930	1048	1130	1248	1330	1448	1530	1648
<b>Morrisons</b>	0933	1045	1133	1245	1333	1445	1533	1645
<b>Bothenhampton (Maple Gardens)</b>		1041		1241		1441		1641
<b>(Pasture Way)</b>	0937		1137		1337		1537	
<b>West Street (West bound)</b>	0942		1142		1342		1542	
<b>Bridport Coach Station arr</b>	0945	1053	1145	1253	1345	1453	1545	1653

**key**

Service does **not** run at these times Wednesday during School Terms

Service operates in the opposite direction

The information in this issue is provided in good faith but please do double check information before you travel as schedules are subject to change.