Stagecoach service changes from 31st July 2022

Stagecoach is making a number of changes to services from 31st July as the first step towards a commercially sustainable network when Government funding ceases. It also reflects reduced passenger numbers, increasing driver and fuel costs and a continuing shortage of drivers.

The changes are as follows:

A Alphington - Thornpark Rise via City Centre
Stagecoach has given notice to cease the late-night journeys on Friday/Saturday and Saturday/Sunday mornings supported by Devon County Council (DCC). As passenger numbers have been disappointing, these will not be replaced for the Summer period, but will be evaluated for possible reintroduction later this year.

B/2B Exeter – Exminster – Dawlish (2B)
Services B and 2B will be replaced by new services B1 and B2.

The Dawlish to Exminster section of service 2B will reduced to operate during peak times only. At other times there will not be through service, but it will be possible to change from service 2 to B1/B2 in Exminster.

From Exminster B1/B2 will operate every 30 minutes to the City Centre, continuing hourly as service B1 to Pinhoe via Stoke Hill and B2 to Science Park via Tithebarn Way. There will be an hourly evening service on the section of route from the City Centre to Pinhoe. The evening service between the City Centre and Exminster is withdrawn.

On Sunday there will be an hourly daytime service between Exminster and Pinhoe and an hourly evening service between the City Centre and Pinhoe.

In the City Centre the service will no longer use the Bus Station.

E1/E2 City Centre – Exwick
Stagecoach has given notice to cease the late-night journeys on Friday/Saturday and Saturday/Sunday mornings supported by DCC. As passenger numbers have been disappointing, these will not be replaced for the Summer period, but will be evaluated for a possible autumn reintroduction.

I/J City Centre – Digby
Stagecoach has given notice to cease the late-night journeys on Friday/Saturday and Saturday/Sunday mornings supported by DCC. As passenger numbers have been disappointing, these will not be replaced for the Summer period, but will be evaluated for possible reintroduction later this year.

K City Centre – Whipton – Science Park
Service K will be replaced by new Service B2, which will operate every 60 minutes Monday to Saturday daytime between Exminster and the Science Park via Exeter City Centre and Tithebarn Way.

L City Centre – Pinhoe
Service L will be replaced by new Service B1, which will operate every 60 minutes Monday to Saturday and Sunday and Public Holidays between Exminster and Pinhoe via City Centre. An hourly evening service will continue to operate.

Exeter City Centre Night Bus Services
Stagecoach has given notice to cease operating the late-night journeys on Friday/Saturday and Saturday/Sunday mornings, as supported by DCC. As passenger numbers have been disappointing, these services will not be replaced for the Summer period, but will be evaluated for a possible reintroduction in the Autumn. DCC are also conducting some research through InExeter as to what routes/times people would be more likely to use.

UNI University – City Centre – St Lukes
The University of Exeter has made an arrangement with Stagecoach to continue to operate the service during university holidays. During term time the route will extend to St Luke's Campus. There will also be a night bus on four nights per week.

Green Matford Park & Ride – City Centre - Sowton Park & Ride
The Monday to Friday peak time extensions from Sowton Park and Ride to Sowton Industrial Estate are withdrawn due to low passenger numbers. Monday – Saturday daytime the service will operate every 20 minutes.

Red City Centre – Honiton Road Park & Ride
Monday to Saturday daytime the service will operate every 20 minutes. The service no longer operates with limited stops, so will stop on request at all stops along the route.
The Sunday and Public Holidays timetable is withdrawn, although service 4 will operate every 30 minutes from Honiton Road Park & Ride to the City Centre.
Between Honiton Road and the City Centre services 4 and Red combine to provide a 10 minute frequency.

1/1A/1C Exeter – Bradninch - Cullompton – Willand - Tiverton
The service will operate every twenty minutes Monday to Saturday daytime between Exeter and Cullompton, with all journeys operating via Bradninch. One journey per hour will continue to Tiverton via Willand and Halberton. Within Cullompton all journeys operate via Exeter Road, no longer serving Swallow Way or Langlands Road, or extending to Millennium Way.
Services 1 and 1A will no longer serve Uffculme, Tiverton Parkway or Sampford Peverell.

DCC has awarded Stagecoach a tendered contract to provide a replacement service for the withdrawn section of route, Tiverton to Cullompton via Tiverton Parkway and Uffculme. This will be registered as the 373 service which was its original designation. The frequency of the service will vary between 60 – 120 minutes throughout the day. The first journey will be 06.00 from Tiverton and the last journey departs Cullompton at 19.54. It had been hoped to replicate the frequency of the current service, but none of the bus operators had the resource to fulfil this tender option. We are now exploring alternative solutions to improve the frequency of the replacement service to maintain good connectivity with Tiverton Parkway.

Service 4/4A/4B Exeter – Cranbrook – Ottery St Mary – Honiton - Axminster
Stagecoach have given notice to DCC to end the present service 4 contract.

Stagecoach will operate a commercial service 4 between Exeter and Cranbrook only, with a twenty-minute Monday – Saturday daytime frequency, thirty minutes during Sunday daytimes and hourly evenings.

DCC has now awarded Stagecoach a tendered contract to operate a revised service covering Exeter – Cranbrook – Ottery St Mary – Honiton – Axminster. This will be registered as the 44 service. There will be a two hourly service from Axminster and a combination of one to two services in the hour from Honiton. It had been hoped to replicate the frequency of the current service, but none of the bus operators had the resource to fulfil this tender option.

Service 9/9A/X9 Exeter – Sidmouth - Honiton/Seaton - Lyme Regis

The Monday to Saturday evening service will operate between Exeter and Sidmouth and is reduced from hourly to a ninety-minute frequency. The evening service between Sidmouth and Sidbury is withdrawn.

The morning service X9 journey from Lyme Regis to Exeter is withdrawn.

DCC has made an arrangement with Stagecoach to continue to support an approximately hourly service from Sidmouth to Honiton via Sidbury.

The section of route from Seaton to Lyme Regis is withdrawn.

DCC has awarded Axe Valley Minibus Travel a tendered contract to operate a revised service between Seaton and Lyme Regis. This will ensure Axmouth and Rousdon retain a service. Dorset Council were consulted on this arrangement and that the majority of patronage originates from Lyme Regis, but they declined to contribute to a replacement service. The service will operate Monday to Saturday, every two hours between 09.25 and 18.03. In the winter this will reduce to Monday to Friday with two services a day.

Service 56/56A/56B/56E Exeter – Exeter Airport – Woodbury - Exmouth
Service 56 will be revised to operate every 60 minutes between Exeter and Exmouth via Exeter Airport.
There will be a number of other minor changes to the timetable.

Service 58 (Exeter – Budleigh Salterton via Lympstone)
Service 58C journeys will be withdrawn due to low passenger demand.

Service 98/98A (Exmouth – Littleham)
There will be a minor change to the route, with buses using Gipsy Lane instead of Withycombe Road due to issues with parked vehicles. No bus stops are impacted by this change.