

The future of rural public transport

Roger French July 2023

1. Nothing new in discussing “rural public transport”
2. Lottery of location and geography
 - eg on line of route of an inter-urban service or rail line and maybe even scope for a new rail station
3. Lottery of location of main destinations
 - eg schools, employment, retail, medical facilities
4. Examples of good practice where bus companies provide excellent rural services
5. Use of school buses during the off peak
6. Increasingly, use of contract buses when not used for employees to/from ‘fulfilment centres’
7. Success of fixed timetables with flexible routing depending on demand
8. Examples of ‘shuttle type’ connections into ‘spine type’ routes - “hubs”
9. Role of community bus sector using volunteers - why not “Community Bus Partnerships”?
10. Consistency of funding