



## **Leicestershire Parish Councils (Phase 2)**

### **Passenger Transport Network Review Update on Phase 2 – Wider Charnwood & Wider Harborough (non-town)**

**3rd March 2025**

- ❑ 9<sup>th</sup> September 2024 - Passenger Transport Network Review Briefing circulated detailing the project purpose and timeline.
- ❑ 19<sup>th</sup> November 2024 – Further Bus Service Improvement Plan (BSIP) funding announced by the Department for Transport (DfT) for 2025/26.
- ❑ 6<sup>th</sup> January 2025 - Phase 1 (Melton district) new services launched.
- ❑ Phase 2 – Roadshows:

Location	Date	Type
Loughborough Market	18 January, 10:00-16:00	Sign-post and walk around session
Syston Community Centre	20 January, 11:00-15:00	Roadshow
John Storer House Loughborough	23 January, 11:00-15:00	Roadshow
Great Glen Village Hall	3 February, 13:30-16:30	Roadshow
Market Harborough Farmers Market	6 February, 11:00-13:00	Sign-post and walk around session
Lutterworth Town Hall	10 February, 11:00-13:00	Roadshow
Kibworth Village Hall	12 February, 11:00-13:00	Roadshow

- ❑ These roadshows were arranged to share information about the plans to improve the network and to talk residents about their travel needs. It was also an opportunity to find out more about local walking, wheeling and cycling initiatives.
- ❑ Service planning and procurement were undertaken October 2024 – February 2025 for revised network to be implemented on 17<sup>th</sup> March 2025.

## Summary of changes:

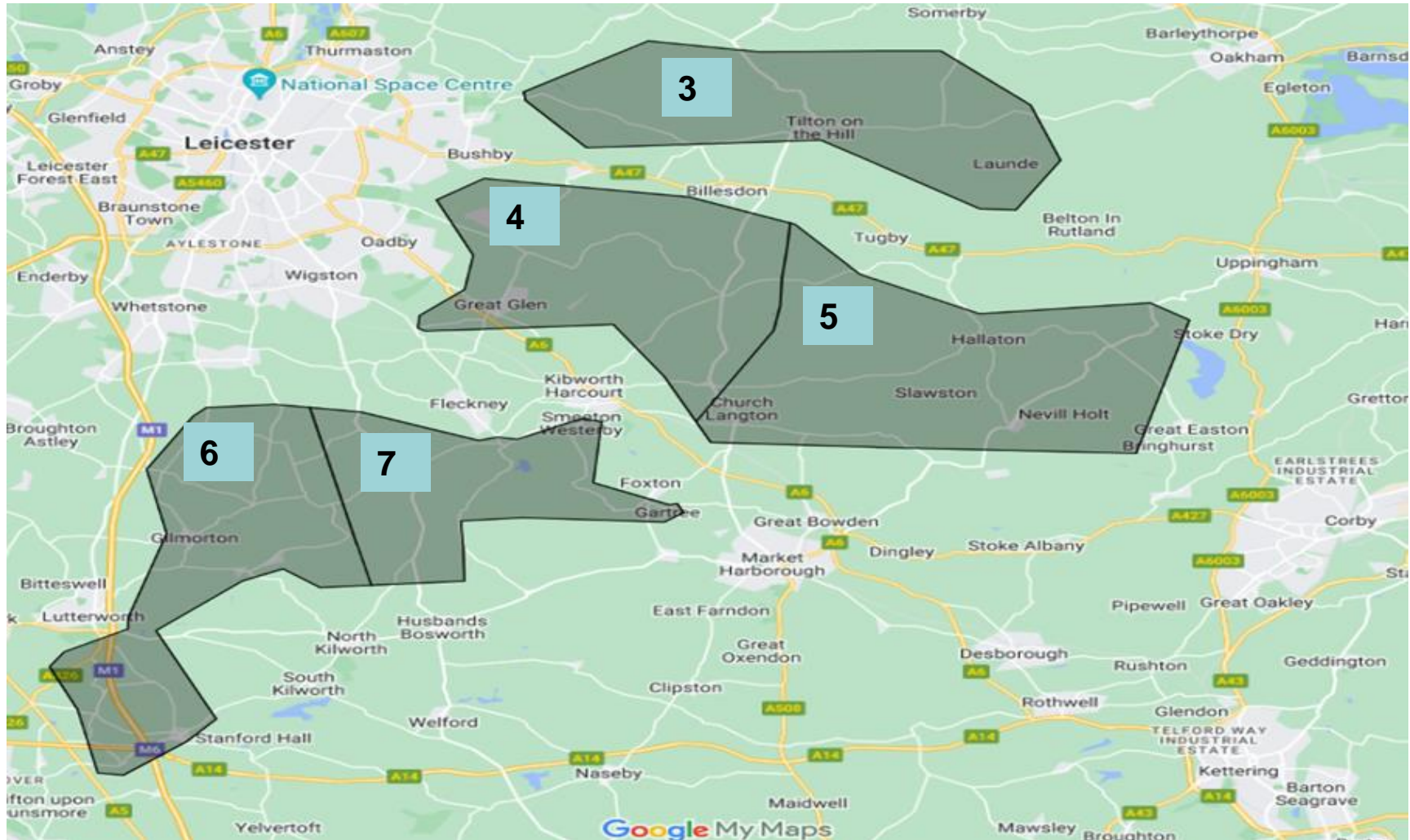
Current service	New service	Current Service Route	From 17 <sup>th</sup> March 2025
<b>27</b>	<b>LC5</b>	Loughborough - Barrow upon Soar - Walton-on-the-Wolds - Seagrave - Sileby	No change to passengers – service will continue with same timetable.
<b>154</b>	<b>154</b>	Leicester - Anstey - Thurcaston - Cropston - Swithland - Woodhouse Eaves - Quorn - Loughborough	Service will continue with same timetable. Additional Sunday services to be introduced as a trial for one year to assess demand.
<b>22B</b>	<b>22A</b>	Leicester – Birstall (Saturday only)	Centrebus operate the Mon-Fri service and will also take on this Saturday operation for consistency. Revised route to include Wanlip Lane on Saturdays.
<b>129</b>	<b>129</b>	Ashby De La Zouch - Griffydam - Belton - Shepshed - Nanpantan - Loughborough	No change to passengers - re – negotiated existing de-minimis subsidy agreement with measures to improve reliability and punctuality put in place.

## Summary of changes:

Current Service	New service	Current Service Route	From 17 <sup>th</sup> March 2025
56/56A	56/56A	Leicester - Scraptoft - Thurnby School	No change to passengers – re-negotiated existing de-minimis subsidy agreement.
747	LC7	Leicester - Houghton on the Hill - Billesdon - Uppingham	Streamlined service in line with actual usage and enables access for school journeys. Contract retendered in phase 1, <b>new contract to start on 28<sup>th</sup> April 2025</b> . Continuation of contribution from Rutland Council.
44	LC4	Fleckney - Market Harborough - Foxton	Streamlined service for a more direct route. Improved access to St Lukes Hospital. New FoxConnect zone for Tur Langton, Church Langton, East Langton, West Langton, Thorpe Langton, Saddington and Smeeton Westerby.
58	LC10	Market Harborough - Husbands Bosworth - South Kilworth - Lutterworth	Same timetable with an enhancement of two additional evening return journeys and train station included in the timetable.

# Phase 2 FoxConnect Zones

New FoxConnect zones 3 to 7 to replace existing Demand Responsive Taxis (DRT) in the Harborough area. FoxConnect is a digital demand responsive transport service operating in Leicestershire.



Zone 3	Zone 4	Zone 5	Zone 6	Zone 7
Travel to Thurmaston, Somerby and Houghton on the Hill	Travel to Market Harborough, Oadby & Houghton on the Hill	Travel to Market Harborough, Houghton on the Hill & Uppingham	Travel to Market Harborough, Lutterworth & Countesthorpe	Travel to Market Harborough, Lutterworth & Kibworth Beauchamp
<b>Settlements</b>	<b>Settlements</b>	<b>Settlements</b>	<b>Settlements</b>	<b>Settlements</b>
Cold Newton	Burton Overy	Blaston	Ashby Magna	Arnesby
Halstead	Carlton Curlieu	Church Langton	Bruntingthorpe	Gartree
Hungarton	Frisby	Cranoe	Catthorpe	Gumley
Ingarsby	Gaulby	Drayton	Cotesbach	Knaptoft
Keyham	Great Glen	East Langton	Gilmorton	Laughton
Launde	Great Stretton	Glooston	Kimcote & Walton	Mowsley
Loddington	Illston on the Hill	Goadby	Misterton	Saddington
Lowesby	Kings Norton	Hallaton	Peatling Magna	Shearsby
Marefield	Little Stretton	Horninghold	Peatling Parva	Smeeton Westerby
Owston	Newton Harcourt	Medbourne	Shawell	
Tilton on the Hill	Rolleston	Nevill Holt	Swinford	
Withcote	Shangton	Noseley	Upper Bruntingthorpe	
	Stoughton	Slawston	Willoughby Waterleys	
		Stockerston		
		Stonton Wyville		
		Thorpe Langton		
		Tur Langton		
		Welham		
		West Langton		

- ❑ Five new zones created on FoxConnect service, a total of 67 settlements included. Majority of those settlements have either no public transport or only limited lifeline taxi DRTs. FoxConnect is an on-demand, flexible service and journey bookings are made through the call centre or the Leicestershire FoxConnect App. The service operating hours are 6:00 and 19:30 and bookings can be made 45 minutes ahead of wanting to travel or up to 7 days in advance.
- ❑ New trials to be introduced, weekday, evening and Sunday services for Quorn, Barrow, and Sileby residents to Loughborough. A Sunday service for Anstey, Thurcaston, Cropston, Swithland, Woodhouse Eaves and Quorn residents to both Leicester and Loughborough.
- ❑ A single operator for service 22A Mon to Sat from 28<sup>th</sup> April, to remove passenger confusion. Wanlip Lane will also be served on Saturdays, currently only served Mon-Fri.
- ❑ To meet development planning obligations, Oaks Road, Great Glen will benefit from a new FoxConnect Digital Demand Responsive Taxis (DDRT) zone.

- ❑ Individual timetables will be produced and widely distributed. Once the Loughborough town and Market Harborough town services have been re-designed in phase 3 of the Network Review project (implementation of phase 3 is planned for 2<sup>nd</sup> June 2025), two booklets for the launch of new services will be distributed to communities in Charnwood and Harborough. Once available, they will be shared with Members.
- ❑ Chose How You Move website updates and press releases for the launch of the revised wider Charnwood and Harborough services are also planned.
- ❑ Timetable information will be available <https://www.choosehowyoumove.co.uk/public-transport/enhanced-bus-partnerships/leicestershire-buses/leicestershire-network-review/>
- ❑ **Free travel on FoxConnect (zones 3-7) for one month from 17<sup>th</sup> March to 21<sup>st</sup> April.** Planned free travel promotion for supported services in these areas following the launch – likely to be late summer, to further promote bus usage to young people and families
- ❑ Officers are preparing a DDRT support package. This will include drop-in sessions at libraries and other community spaces where detailed support will be given to individuals to learn about DDRT and how to book by telephone or use of the app. Parish councils have been contacted for assistance in accommodating as many local drop-in sessions as possible to support and remove barriers.



Following positive discussions with Kinchbus regarding their commercial bus services in Loughborough town, it has been necessary to revise the phasing of the review, although the overall timeline has not been affected.

Phase	Area	Review	Procure	Roadshows	Change
1	Melton	Spring 2024 to Summer 2024	Autumn 2024	October 2024	Winter 2024/25 - completed
2	Charnwood wider district services and Harborough wider district services	Autumn 2024 to Winter 2024	Winter 2024/25	Winter 2024/25	Spring 2025
3	Charnwood town services and Harborough town services and North West Leicestershire	Autumn 2024 to Winter 2024	Winter 2024/25	Spring 2025	Spring 2025
4	Hinckley	Winter 2024/25	Winter 2024/25	Spring 2025	Summer 2025
5	Blaby, Oadby and Wigston	Work with bus operators to promote commercial services and improve connectivity			

Sustainable Travel Team

Development and Growth – Environment & Transport

Email: [choosehowyoumove@leics.gov.uk](mailto:choosehowyoumove@leics.gov.uk)

Website links:

<https://www.choosehowyoumove.co.uk/public-transport/enhanced-bus-partnerships/leicestershire-buses/>

<https://www.choosehowyoumove.co.uk/public-transport/get-around-by-bus/leicestershire-buses/leicestershire-foxconnect/>