

A call against the decline in local bus services

2019 Annual Meeting Resolution

Over the last decade there has been a massive decline in the number of bus services, particularly of those in rural and semi-rural areas. In order to alleviate loneliness, improve health and wellbeing, as well as promoting sustainable development, the NFWI calls on the Government and local authorities to increase subsidies and work in partnership with bus companies and community transport operators to enable an adequate provision of services.

*Proposed by Burniston and Cloughton WI, North Yorkshire East Federation
Passed by 96% majority*

What is the issue?

This campaign seeks to raise awareness of the importance of local bus services and to empower members, WIs and federations to make the case for buses in their local communities. With bus services under threat across England, Wales and the Islands, the resolution calls on both local and national governments to take action.

Why does this matter?

Bus services play a vital role in ensuring communities remain sustainable, reduce social isolation and ensure access to employment, education, local facilities and health services. Cuts to bus services disproportionately impact on women; according to the Department for Transport, women make 21% more journeys than men outside London. Public transport is key to cutting our carbon emissions and tackling climate change. Yet according to the Department for Transport 134 million miles of bus coverage has been lost in the last ten years alone.

What would we like to achieve?

Full details about the campaign and actions for members to take will be set out in a new action pack which will be sent to all WIs in the August mailing. Here we provide a brief outline of our early plans and objectives.

- To empower members, WIs and federations to take action to support buses in their own local communities, to highlight their value and to push for viable and sustainable services.
- To explore members' experiences of using bus services, the reasons why they do not use buses and the impact of cuts to services.
- To highlight areas of good practice; where communities, transport authorities and bus companies have worked together to deliver services in innovative ways.
- To work with other campaigning organisations to make the case for bus services at a national level.

Share your views and experiences of local bus services

We want to hear about your experiences of local bus services. Perhaps you have lost a service - what was the impact? Or have you campaigned successfully to save your local service? Has your community worked together to find new ways to make bus services sustainable? Please give us details below.

Your name:

WI, Federation:

Contact email or postal address:

.....

If you have any questions about how your personal information will be used please contact dataprotection@nfwl.org.uk



Cut along the dotted line and send back to the address below.

Get in touch!

If you would like to receive monthly e-updates from our campaigns please sign up to the Public Affairs Digest at: <https://www.thewi.org.uk/campaigns>

- **Email:** pa@nfwl.org.uk
- **Post:** NFWI PA department, 104 New Kings Road, London, SW6 4LY
- **Telephone:** 020 7371 9300 ext 238