

Vehicle Information for Demand Responsive Transport Q&A

Who are the The Chew Valley Area Forum, Climate & Nature Emergency, Sustainable Transport Group (CVAF C&NEWG)

CVAF C&NEWG have been working with B&NES & WECA for the last 2 years to try to get improvements to bus services in the Chew Valley and we are now having weekly joint meetings with transport planners in B&NES/WECA to help ensure that local people get the maximum support in transitioning to new services. Below is our best effort to give clear information about the emerging situation with bus changes. We hope this helps people understand why we are where we are now. We will update it as things evolve.

What is Demand Responsive Transport (DRT)

More will emerge about how DRT will operate in the Chew Valley but for now, if you know about Uber, think something like Uber Share or a shared taxi but with fixed pick up points and with the aim to connect you to existing bus services for the bulk of your journey rather than taking you the whole way.

You would order a lift by phone, app or website, at least an hour ahead of when you need it, and it takes you from your local bus stop or possibly a new 'virtual' stop (by a local church, or other landmark if there is no bus stop in your area) to the nearest viable bus service for your onward journey.

This is likely to be the 376 on the A37/39 in most cases, linking people to Bristol and Wells or to services that run to Bath, Keynsham or other towns.

If there is no viable linking route, DRT will take you to the nearest bus stop to your destination. For instance if you live in Bishop Sutton and want to go to Chew Magna, it would take you from one to the other.

You are likely to share the lift with others going a similar way, and you will pay a public transport fee for the service.

Who is running the DRT service?

The service provision will vary by region. Although the provider for the Chew Valley (Orange) Zone 7 has been decided this information is not in the public domain yet as precise contracts need to be put in place. We will update this once we are able

What vehicles are being used for the DRT service?

The company providing the service has agreed to a minimum of x3, 16 seater minibuses to operate across Zone 7 (the Orange area within which Chew Valley falls). However, they can choose to employ different vehicles (larger or smaller) if they choose, provided they meet the requirements of their contract to provide a lift from stop to stop which has been booked at least an hour ahead.

**CVAF C&NE Sustainable Transport Working Group. This information was accurate on 26/1/23
More up to date information can be found here:<https://www.facebook.com/groups/858992922045608>**