

Mr Chairman, Councillors and officers of the Council

I am speaking on behalf of the residents of Meadow Court sheltered housing flats, Selbourne Close elderly estate and residents of Brassmill Lane, Locksbrook Road and residents from across Lower Weston, Newbridge in Bath.

We are greatly concerned about the change in the new route for the 716 bus service and the reduction of journeys in the timetable. These changes have taken place with no consideration for those who have difficulty walking. Many elderly residents live in the Lower Weston area and have to use wheeled supports or walking sticks. But we need to get into town as there are no shops nearby and the walk to Chelsea Road is too far, we also need to access the banks in town as the Newbridge Road bank is closing for good in October.

The original 716 bus route went down and stopped in Milsom Street and was a godsend for us to access that end of town for the banks, post office and the market etc. Those taking the 10.20am into town from Meadow Court at the end of Brassmill Lane generally returned on the 12 noon bus from town and those taking the 12.20 into town returned on the 2pm bus, but there are no mid day or early afternoon bus services which means that we have to wait several hours and can only get the last bus back at 3.40pm. This means a long, long wait in town which in itself can be exhausting for the elderly and disabled commuters.

There are the Bristol buses that go along Newbridge road but this means a long walk to the Lower Weston end of Newbridge and carrying shopping and using walking aids makes it impossible for many of us. The only answer is a taxi which can cost about £9 or £10 to town and the same price for a return taxi this is quite an extra expense on ones shopping bill.

It does also seem unfair that while some other bus services have increased eg Larkhall across the City our bus service has been cut.

Please we ask that the Leader and Cabinet member responsible for transport please give it more thought and please work with the C T bus company and reinstate the 716 service back to the more frequent timetable and also that the bus stop is reinstated in Milsom Street.

I hereby present a petition signed by many people, there are still more petition forms to come from the Lower Weston area which we will forward on as soon as we receive them back.

Thank you for your attention.

Mrs Lawrence (10<sup>th</sup> Sept 2015)

**Residents petition raising concerns about the reduction with the timetable for the number 716 bus to and from Newbridge, Bath (Sept 2015)**

**We the undersigned ask CT Coaches & Bath & North East Somerset Council to address the issues we are raising with regards to the number 716 Newbridge, Bath bus service:**

- The original bus timetable needs to be reinstated as this is a vital bus service for many of the residents of Lower Weston. Many elderly and disabled residents live in the area and the bus enables them to get to Chelsea Road shopping centre or into town. It is already a limited service!
- THE WITHDRWAL OF THE 2PM BUS SERVICE FROM BATH MEANS THERE IS A 3.5 HOUR GAP BEFORE RESIDENTS CAN GET A BUS BACK TO NEWBRIDGE
- With the closure of the local bank due in October 2015 this will mean many residents will need to go to town on the bus to access bank services
- We ask that the Milsom Street Bus stop is reinstated for the 716 bus as this will enable residents to access the top part of town including Milsom Street Banks
- Many residents cannot walk the long distance from Lower Weston to Newbridge Road bus stops as it is too far and with a reduced bus service this will cut down our access to and from the City Centre
- WE NOTE THAT THE SERVICES TO LARKHALL AREA HAVE BEEN INCREASED & OURS HAS BEEN DECREASED

**MORE SIGNED PETITION FORMS TO FOLLOW**

**EXAMPLE OF FORM**

<b><u>SENIOR CITIZEN</u></b>	<b><u>DISABLED</u></b>	<b><u>SIGNATURE</u></b>	<b><u>ADDRESS</u></b>	<b><u>NAME</u></b>