

**PLYMOUTH CITY COUNCIL**

**MOTION ON NOTICE No 10 2010/11**

**CUTS TO BUS ROUTES IN PLYMOUTH**

This Council notes

1. with dismay the withdrawal of more bus services across the City.
2. that a number of the bus routes, which have been cut, serve employment centres such as Derriford Hospital and Industrial Estates such as Estover.
3. that nearly 1/3 of Plymouth's population do not own a car and therefore the consequences of this and previous rounds of cuts to bus routes are becoming very serious for some of Plymouth's lower-paid citizens.
4. residents of the Honicknowle, Devonport, Efford and other areas are going to be unable to either get to or return from their places of work at Derriford Hospital or the Estover industrial areas and unless action is taken to retain some services. They have no private means of transport so if certain services are not retained, they will have to give up their employment.
5. where a bus company is unable or unwilling to run a service on a commercial basis, the Council has the power to secure the provision of services by allocating financial support, which in effect makes up the shortfall between the service revenue and the cost of operation. These "socially necessary" services are operated by bus companies under contract to the Council and the Council, not the bus company, determines the type of vehicle to be operated, the route, stopping places, timetable and fares.

The Council resolves to:-

1. investigate further use of its powers to offer support for bus services, prioritising those services which are necessary to enable people to retain their employment.

Proposed by Councillor Williams

Seconded by Councillor Evans