

DEPUTATION TO LEEDS CITY COUNCIL CONCERNING THE  
WITHDRAWAL OF THE 780 BUS SERVICE FROM WETHERBY TO  
TADCASTER VIA BOSTON SPA.

As chairman of Boston Spa Parish Council I am here to speak about the effects that the withdrawal of the 780 bus service will have on those residents of Boston Spa and those of Clifford and Bramham who have to make journeys to Tadcaster.

For anyone who has an absolute necessity to travel to Tadcaster the alternative route would be to take a bus to Leeds before connecting to the Leeds-York service. Total time taken, in the region of 70 to 80 minutes. Distance from Boston Spa to Tadcaster 4 miles! Then, there is the return journey.

One member of this deputation – Mr Barry Ward is reliant on this service and yesterday I spoke to a neighbour who is also reliant on the service as he has eyesight problems which prevent him from driving and also cycling, which he was considering. He has to visit a health clinic in Tadcaster once a fortnight at various times of the day and week.

There are also at least two people that I know of who work in Tadcaster and who rely on this bus service.

People with relations and friends in York or Selby can catch a connecting service from Tadcaster and vice versa.

This is also the only regular service that serves the eastern end of Boston Spa.

We on Boston Spa Parish Council believe that people in this area who do not have personal transport should have reasonable access to travel services in order that they can enjoy facilities that others enjoy. Furthermore it is in all our future interests that unless we reduce the pollution in our environment our quality of life will undoubtedly suffer and this can only be achieved by reducing the number of cars and lorries on our roads.

I notice that this council has resolved that “It recognises urgent need for public investment in bus services and supporting infrastructure”. With this in mind Council has instructed its Chief Executive to write to the Secretary of State for Transport

to ask that legislation be enacted to allow local bus services to be regulated so as to safeguard that investment.

I find this resolution very encouraging as it shows that all the major political parties in this city have the same thinking on the question of subsidising and regulating the bus services.

Thankyou for giving us your time to hear our concerns.