

Letter to Cllr Courtney

Dear Councillor Courtney

I am writing to you on behalf of Todmorden Town Council's Development Committee, who are concerned about the difficulty of engaging with the Mayor of West Yorkshire, Tracey Brabin, with regards to bus franchising, and the impact of the franchise on the Upper Calder Valley.

Can it be understood that permitted and licensed services equate to standalone commercial services, which would be at the mercy of First Bus. If these services become a reality in the Upper Calder Valley, it would leave an already disadvantaged area with a second-class service.

Todmorden Town Council implores Calderdale Councillors to tap into local bus industry knowledge and utilise that in working alongside West Yorkshire Combined Authority and Greater Manchester Combined Authority, in securing a fair and sustainable transport provision across West Yorkshire, particularly the Upper Calder Valley.

Yours sincerely

Naomi Crewe

Town Clerk

Todmorden Town Council

Response from Cllr Sarah Courtney

Many thanks for this letter - please pass on my thanks to the Town Council.

Todmorden Town Councillors' support in trying to get First Bus to reinstate the Upper Calder Valley bus services, and failing that to get WYCA to support these services using BSIP (or other) funding, is much appreciated.

I have been liaising with residents, town councillors and other experts, and while efforts have as yet not yielded a reinstatement of the previous frequency of the 590 and 591, I will continue to press both the bus company and the combined authority to ensure there is a usable bus service between Halifax and Burnley/Rochdale.

Many thanks,

Sarah