Item 9 – Development Committee 5th August 2026

**Correspondence received regarding transport concerns in Todmorden.**

*For information. The below emails were also sent to Ward Councillors, WYCA and Calder Valley MP.*

**A letter from the Todmorden PPG**

We are writing to you to express the Patient Participation Group's concern about the poor transport for people living in Todmorden.
As the major hospitals are not in the Todmorden area but involve getting to Halifax, Huddersfield or even Blackburn, Burnley, Rochdale or Oldham, good transport links are essential to people's health. Some of the areas have one bus an hour for example between Todmorden and Burnley, which covers some of the areas with the lowest levels of car ownership and high health problems eg. Cornholme and Portsmouth. which is 3 or 4 miles away from Todmorden. If people miss the bus or it does not turn up there is no train alternative. In addition people who have Sunday morning appointments at either the new health centre in Halifax, or hospitals in Halifax or Huddersfield, will struggle as there are neither buses or trains until 9am on Sunday morning .
From Todmorden to Halifax by bus can take over an hour and the buses do not go directly to the Hospital as some of them used to.
To get to Huddersfield can involve a journey of 4 hours, particularly since the Huddersfield station has been closed and the line to it.
Cross border services such as the buses to Burnley and Rochdale have been particularly badly reduced and are subject to frequent cancellations or just being late.

Kind Regards
Secretary to Todmorden PPG

To Whom it may concern

We at Todmorden Group Practice are emailing our support for the message you have received from Todmorden's Patient Participation Group with concerns about poor transport for people living in Todmorden.
Access to healthcare is significantly affected by poor public transport in and around Todmorden. As major hospitals are located in Halifax, Huddersfield, Blackburn, Burnley, Rochdale, and Oldham, reliable transport is essential. However, some communities, particularly Cornholme and Portsmouth, have only one bus per hour despite low car ownership and high health needs. Missed or cancelled buses often leave no alternative travel option.
Travel to healthcare is further hindered by limited Sunday morning services, making early appointments difficult to attend. Bus journeys to Halifax can take over an hour and no longer serve the hospital directly, while travel to Huddersfield can take up to four hours due to rail disruptions.
Cross-border bus services to Burnley and Rochdale have also been significantly reduced and are frequently delayed or cancelled, creating additional barriers to accessing healthcare.
Consideration for people's healthcare and the inaccessibility to it if bus services are significantly changed or removed should be high on your agenda.

Kind Regards
Practice Manager
Todmorden Group Practice