Manor Park and Hempstead Fields Residents' Association



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Uckfield bus services may be cut – Resident's Association's concerns

East Sussex County Council has recently launched a survey regarding the proposed changes to the subsidised bus services as a means of saving £1.79m.

Paul Sparks, Chairman of Manor Park and Hempstead Fields Residents' Association is very concerned that some of these changes will have a severe impact on the quality of life for many of its residents.

Paul explained "Bus services are often used by young and by people who for whatever reason do not have a car. Most of these people do not have an alternative means of transport and could become trapped and isolated if the services they rely on are removed or reduced.

Although at this stage few services are being withdrawn, many might operate for only 2 days per week, such as the Uckfield Local Service 248 & 249 which currently runs Mon - Fri for two return journeys. It is being proposed to reduce this service to two days per week with one just return journey.

The danger is that if the frequency of a bus service is reduced, less people will find it convenient so that fewer people use it with the result that it is eventually withdrawn".

Paul is urging everyone to take part in this survey so that the County Council fully understands the strength of feeling that our bus services must be protected.

Uckfield services that may be reduced include route numbers: 28, 29, 246, 248, 249, 261, 318, 824 and the Uckfield Rider.

The survey is open until 28th September and can be completed on line at: <u>eastsussex.gov.uk/haveyoursay</u> or the Residents' Association have offered to obtain paper copies for its members which, once completed, can be handed in at the Uckfield Library.

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