Dorset Bus User Forum

Tuesday 29 September 2026

DCT Dorset Community Transport

Tim Christian

General Manager





Dorset Community Transport

- **Established 2011, part of ECT Charity**
  - one of the UK's leading community transport providers
  - over 45-years history of service to local communities

- DCT provides services throughout the ceremonial county of Dorset.
- Fleet of minibuses , including accessible.
- Dorset classified as Mainly Rural.



DCT Dorset Community Transport



CT Services

- Local Bus
- *PlusBus*
- Bespoke Shuttles
- Group Transport

Local Bus

- timetabled services from outlying villages
- partial replacement of a former service
- established in partnership with local town and parish councils



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PlusBus



- weekly services from remote communities into a destination town, typically on market days
- door-to-door return journeys, booked in advance for registered members

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Bespoke Shuttles

- Alderholt-Fordingbridge *PlusBus* Shuttle
- Gillingham Community Shuttle Bus (funded Pilot)
- Army Base Shuttle to local town (funded pilot)
- established in partnership with local stakeholders



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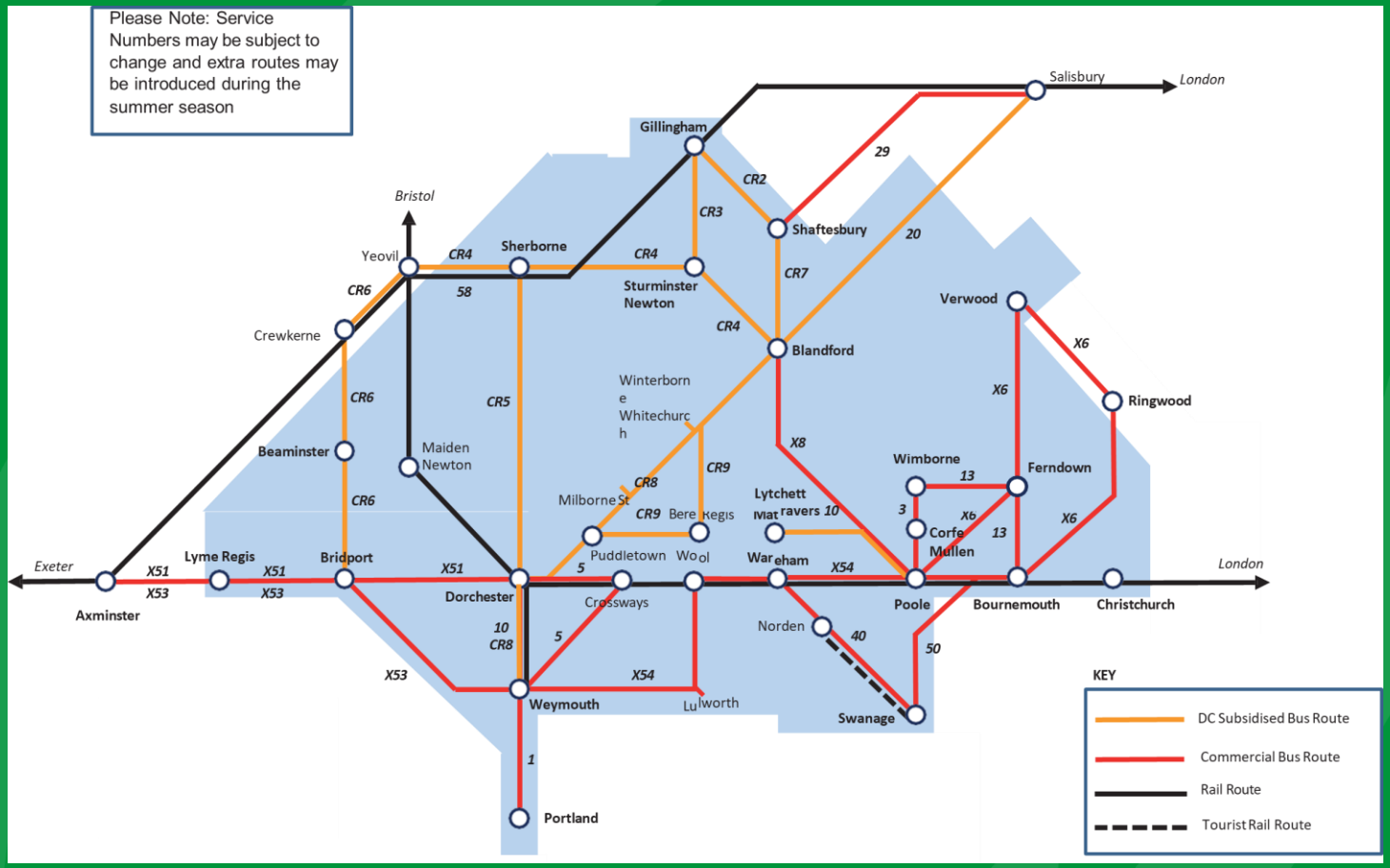
Group Transport

- avaialbe for voluntary and community organsiations
- minibus with driver
- available off-peak, including evenings, weekends and school holidays



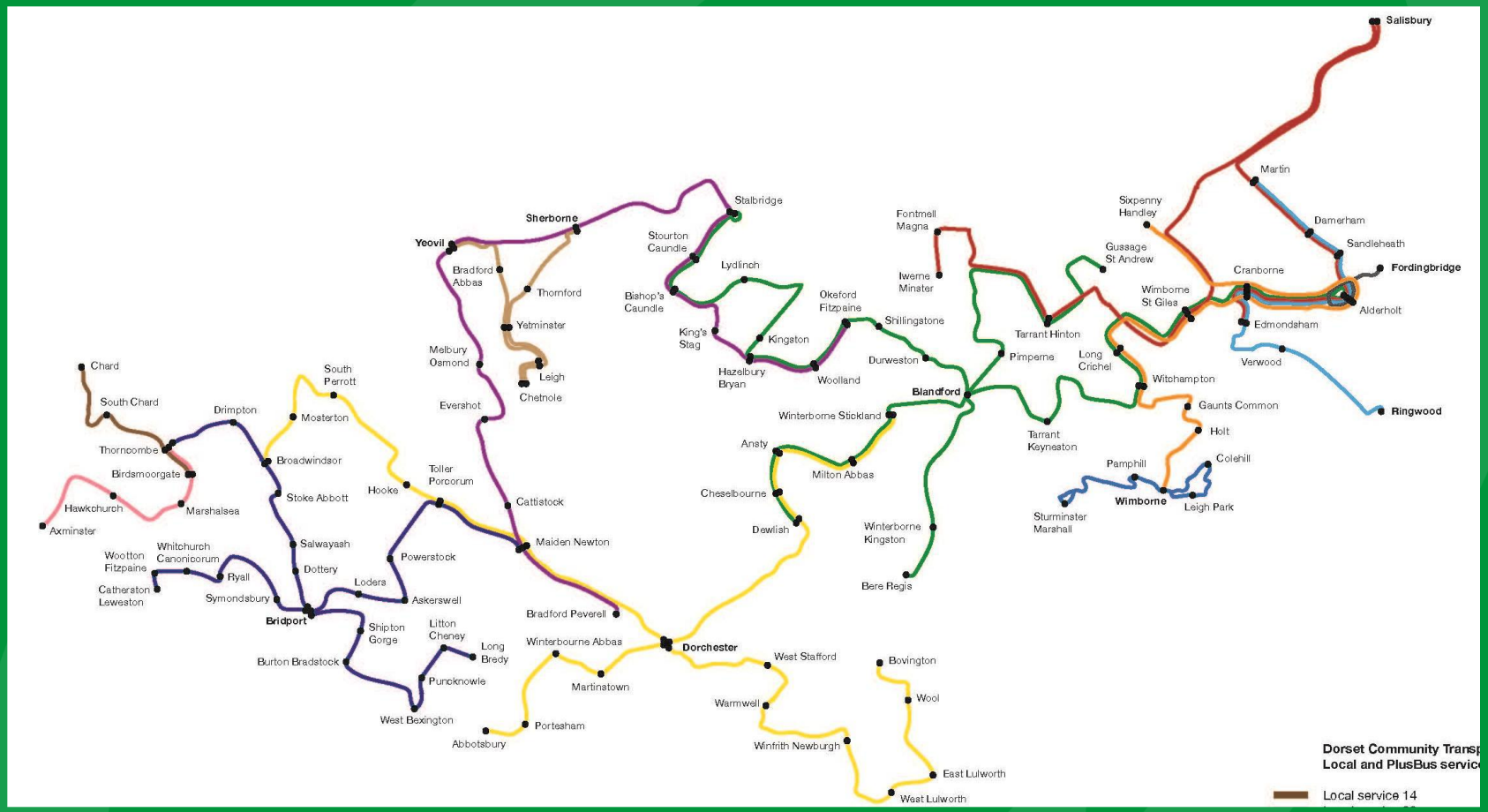
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- Dorset's Inter-urban Transport Network



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- DCT's "Shadow Network" of CT Services



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Local Authority Bus Grant

Department for Transport

Dorset Council

- Purbeck Shuttle 200
- WB1 West Bay Shuttle

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- **Purbeck Shuttle**
  - funded pilot 2022
  - an identified unmet need
  - demonstrated demand, identified trends
  - developed with multiple stakeholders
  - integrated transport
  - connecting with transport modes at hubs



200 Years of Train Travel Since 1825

Purbeck Community Rail Partnership

RSPB

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- **WB1 West Bay Shuttle**
  - funded pilot 2025
  - one man's initial idea
  - demonstrated demand, identified trends
  - developed with multiple stakeholders
  - integrated transport, enhanced offering
  - can-do, colaborative approach

Western Gateway
Sub-national Transport Body

BRIDPORT TOWN COUNCIL

WEST DORSET COMMONS

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Other LABG funded projects

- EV Minibus Pilot



- Bovi Bus Pilot



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What makes it a success:

- unmet need met
- shared resource
- network connectivity
- passenger confidence
- degree of sustainability





- **Collaborative**

“can-do” approach

- **Win-win-win outcomes**

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