



PUBLIC TRANSPORT CONTRACT CHANGES IN THE BLACK ISLE FROM 24 APRIL 2017

Highland Council's public transport contracts have been renewed from 24 April 2017 (except in Sutherland where new contracts were awarded in 2015). While we are pleased to have been able to retain the same level of service on the majority of routes, due to financial constraints it has been necessary to make service reductions on some routes, and some contracts have been withdrawn. Many routes will be operated by different contractors.

Many bus routes in the Highlands are operated commercially; this means that bus companies run these routes without financial support from the Council. The Council awards contracts for services which are not provided commercially.

Stagecoach's Service 26 (Inverness – Cromarty) is a commercially operated route, except for the evening service. Stagecoach have announced their intention to operate the earlier part of the evening service commercially, so only the later evening journeys will be on a Council contract.

The table on the next page lists all the Council's new public transport contracts in the Black Isle area.

For further information, please contact the operators of the routes you are interested in, or contact the Council's Transport Co-ordination Unit at public.transport@highland.gov.uk or on 01463 252951.

Contract number	Route description	Current contractor (until 23 April 2017)	Contractor from 24 April 2017	Summary of changes	Change of contractor
400	Inverness - Kiltarlity - Dingwall (evenings)	Stagecoach North Scotland	Being retendered	Partially replaced by Stagecoach commercial journeys. Contract to be awarded for remainder.	YES
404	Cromarty - Culbokie – Dingwall Academy	Stagecoach North Scotland	D & E Coaches Ltd	Unchanged	YES
405	Fortrose/Cromarty - Culbokie - Dingwall	Stagecoach North Scotland	D & E Coaches Ltd	Similar to present service, but replaces demand-responsive element with scheduled service for both sides of Black Isle on different days.	YES
408	Inverness - Culbokie - Resolis	Stagecoach North Scotland	D & E Coaches Ltd	Route extended to include Easter Kinkell	YES
410	Cromarty - Inverness - Croy (evenings)	Stagecoach North Scotland	D & E Coaches Ltd	Stagecoach will retain some journeys commercially. Contract will provide the remainder. Timing change for Croy.	YES