

**Email from Lynne McKie (Team Leader, Information, Concessions and Travelcard) on Monday 20th December 2017.**

Further to below, I can confirm that Stagecoach will be operating the C56 service under contract to Wrexham Borough Council until 31 March 2018. During this period the service will be reviewed in terms of current service offered and funding. As discussed earlier Cheshire West will continue to support this valuable service as per the original agreement.

There are two journeys that will not be provided by Stagecoach, these are as follows; 09:05 and 16:45 from Chester and this will be the case for the period of the contract.

In the meantime, if you have any further questions, please do not hesitate to give me a call.

Kind regards

Lynne

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As you are aware, sadly another of the smaller bus operators has ceased trading over the weekend. Wrexham Borough Council announced that D Jones and Son of Acrefair ceased trading on Sunday 17 December. This will effect a large number of school and contracted services provided by Wrexham and Denbighshire Council and it does effect one service that operates within the borough of Cheshire West. Wrexham Council is responsible for the C56 service, **as this is currently** under contract to them. The C56 operates between Wrexham and Chester (via Holt, Farndon, Churton, Aldford), Monday to Saturday on a limited timetable throughout the day.

Yesterday and today, Stagecoach took the decision to operate the service at their cost with no support from either Council. We certainly recognise the importance of this service to the local community and are in discussions with Wrexham Council. We need to clearly understand their intentions in terms of financial support going forward, whether they are looking to continue with a contracted service or whether Cheshire West needs to explore alternative options / costs of delivering a service.

Unfortunately at this point, I'm not in a position to confirm what will be happening from tomorrow but I will provide a further update later today.

Kind regards

Lynne

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