



## School bus services' review – Upper Hutt schools

Greater Wellington Regional Council plans and funds bus and train services in the Wellington region, including school bus services. The Upper Hutt school bus services are operated by Runciman Motors and as their contract is to expire in December 2005 we wanted to review these services before the next contract period.

In May 2005, Greater Wellington Regional Council asked for your feedback about school bus services in Upper Hutt. A feedback form was distributed to parents by Upper Hutt schools on our behalf and there were articles in the local press asking for your comments. As a result, we were delighted to receive 150 responses.

### What you told us

These are the main issues that you were concerned about:

- Buses arrive too late in the morning for the start of class at Fergusson Intermediate from Pinehaven.
- Buses depart too late in the afternoon for students travelling from Upper Hutt College and Fergusson Intermediate to Te Marua.

### What we plan to do

As a result of your feedback and our own service monitoring and review of the public bus network, we plan to make the following changes:

#### Fergusson Intermediate and Upper Hutt College

Following the review, we plan to adjust some of the bus departure times to ensure that students arrive at school in time for class and also that afternoon departure times coincide better with school finishing times.

#### General feedback

Some of the general feedback we received related to services not subsidised by Greater Wellington and were not part of the Upper Hutt school bus review. However, the issues that we received will be passed onto the bus operators and authorities concerned.



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801 7000 [www.gw.govt.nz](http://www.gw.govt.nz)



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## Possible reduction of some services

School bus services are only provided where the public timetable is considered unsuitable or public buses are full. Since a new network of bus services were introduced in the Hutt Valley in October 2003, these public bus services have provided an improved link between suburbs and schools.

As a result of this possible duplication of services, a small number of school bus services may be cancelled. Parents and schools will be advised as soon as possible in Term Four if this is the case and given details of the public bus services.

## What happens now?

The table below illustrates the various steps within the process. Once the contract has been awarded to an operator, the schools and parents will be advised of the confirmed changes to the various routes. The new services will then start in the new school year, in February 2006.

<b>New bus contract is put out to tender – August 2005</b>	A contract with the changes proposed in this newsletter is put out to tender.
<b>Upper Hutt school bus services are confirmed – November 2005</b>	Changes are agreed and a new contract is awarded to a bus operator.
<b>Parents and schools are advised of changes – November 2005</b>	Changes to school bus services will be confirmed to parents and schools early in Term Four.
<b>School bus service changes start – February 2006</b>	Changes to Upper Hutt school bus services will start from Term One.

## Want to know more?

If you have any further comments or want more information, please contact Ridewell on 801 7000 or email [public.transport@gw.govt.nz](mailto:public.transport@gw.govt.nz)

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