

Public Transport

Most bus services in Leicester are commercial bus services provided by companies, which have to be commercially viable as they receive no subsidies from the Council or other organisation.



Bus companies, such as Arriva, Centrebus and First decide on the routes, timetables and fares. Although these services are not City Council controlled, it wants to see as many people as possible using them because this will reduce traffic congestion and pollution and improve everyone's quality of life.

What does Leicester City Council do?

The Council owns and manages St Margaret's Bus Station and provides:

- Bus shelters
- Raised kerbs at bus stops to improve access to buses
- Bus lanes to help timely bus journeys
- Parking restrictions and enforcement to stop cars parking at bus stops
- Pays for some bus services which do not carry enough passengers to be fully commercially viable, but which are important to the community they serve
- Issues Concessionary Travel passes
- Pays for extra concessions on early morning bus services and local rail services

Working with the bus companies the Council:

- Maintains bus service information at bus stops
- Works hard to minimise the effect of road works on bus services
- Provides "live" bus information on the Startrak system

Who to contact about Public Transport concerns

- To report damaged bus shelter 0116 223 2113
- Customer Service Centre on 0116 252 7000
- Your Councillors

Bus services in Belgrave and Latimer

• Belgrave Road/ Melton Road is served by services 5, 5A and 6 (Arriva); service 22 (First); service 52 (Thurmaston Bus) and services 100 and 128 (Veolia).

• Belgrave Road/ Loughborough Road is served by services 2 (Kinchbus) and 126/7 (Arriva).

• Catherine Street is served by services 21 (First) and 51 (Thurmaston Bus).

• Marfitt Street/ Gipsy Lane is served by services 22 (First); 40 (Centrebus) and 51 (Thurmaston Bus).

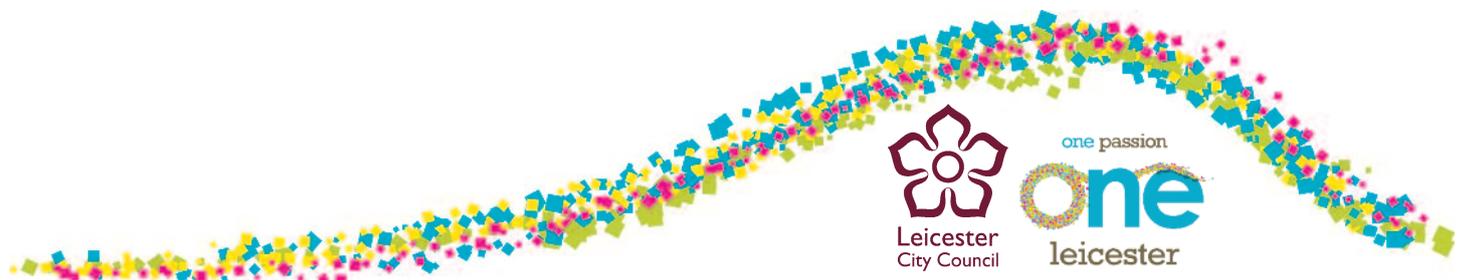
Other services and areas served are as follows:

• Services 10/11 (Inner Link), operated by Centrebus, serve the General Hospital and operate along Checketts Road and Melton Road. They follow an orbital route through most suburbs of the city, but do not serve the city centre.

• Service 40 (Circleline), operated by Centrebus, serves outer suburbs including Beaumont Leys Shopping Centre, Glenfield Hospital and the General Hospital. It operates along Checketts Road and Gipsy Lane.

More Information?

- Traveline on 0871 200 22 33 or www.traveline.info for all bus times
- Arriva on 0844 800 44 11 or www.arrivabus.co.uk
- Centrebus on www.centrebus.co.uk
- First on 0800 587 7381 or www.firstgroup.com
- Thurmaston Bus on 0116 269 3707
www.coachmasterleics.co.uk
- See the Leicester Bus Map on www.leicester.gov.uk/publictransport (updated Oct 2009)



20 Years of Leicester Shopmobility

Leicester Shopmobility recently celebrated 20 years of providing a free loan service of mobility equipment to people who struggle to walk any distance. The service offers freedom and independence to shop, use the amenities or sightsee within the city centre. In 2008, Shopmobility made approximately 10,000 loans of equipment.



The service began on 26 October 1989 with two scooters, one powerchair and two wheelchairs, from a small wooden hut in the Newarke Street car park. Over the past twenty years Shopmobility has expanded massively and currently has a fleet of 80 scooters, 10 powerchairs and 20 manual wheelchairs, operating from two locations in the city centre.

Shopmobility offers a service to customers coming into the city by car or by bus, with premises on parking level 2 of Highcross Shopping Centre and within the Haymarket Bus Station on Charles Street. Leicester City Council fund a full-time member of staff to oversee the service, supported by dedicated volunteer staff.

Further information is available at www.leicester.gov.uk or by telephoning 0116 2532596 (Highcross) or 0116 2537125 (Haymarket).



How would you feel if

.... you are in a wheelchair and a cyclist approaches at speed. The cyclist does not look down to make eye contact with you and you cannot get out of their way quickly?

....your white mobility cane keeps bumping into obstacles scattered across the pavement in no orderly fashion?

Answer: **Vulnerable, disorientated and confused.**

Leicester City Council councillors and staff took part in a 'Street Awareness' event, wore specs covered in bubble wrap and found their way around the centre of Leicester with mobility canes, then they tried getting about in a manual wheelchair.

Barry Pritchard, Team Leader responsible for redesigning and managing Leicester city centre streets, feels that this was a "very useful experience which will help the Council improve future street designs. Valuable lessons have been learnt, for example

.... even a very slight slope is very difficult to master in a manual wheelchair.

... siting street furniture in a straight line makes the pavement much easier to negotiate in a manual wheelchair or with a white mobility cane."

Raised awareness of both problems and solutions will make Leicester's streets more accessible for people with disabilities, through improvements to the quality of designs when future works are at the planning stage.



Photo: Fiona Hina (Vista), Barry Pritchard & Lesley deCarle, Shopmobility (Leicester City Council)

What does it cost to boil a kettle?

Find out with an easy to use wireless energy monitor.



The monitor attaches easily to your electricity meter (no wiring required) and tells you in real time how much energy you are using.



You will be able to see the impact of turning off lights, switching to energy saving bulbs and even how much energy it takes to boil a kettle.

You can **borrow one of these monitors for free from Leicester libraries** (including mobile libraries). Your nearest libraries are:

- Belgrave Library, Cossington Street, tel 299 5500
- St Matthew's Library, 50 Malabar Road, tel 223 2085

Investing to Save

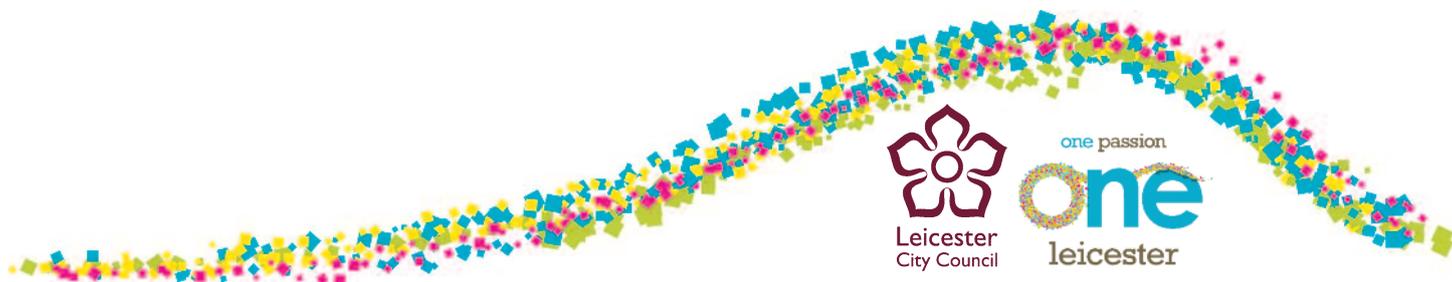
Energy saving dimmers are being installed in 2,200 street lights along main roads in Leicester. The small transformers will dim the street lights by 25 per cent between 11 o'clock at night and dawn. The reduction in brightness is very small, compared to a very significant saving in terms of our carbon footprint and energy use.



Installing energy saving devices in lamp posts

In trials, these energy saving devices resulted in a 52 per cent reduction in energy costs. They are expected to cut energy costs by over £70,000 a year and cut CO₂ production by almost 300 tonnes annually.

The scheme will cost £180,000 to set up, but the savings mean it will pay for itself within three years. Funding for the scheme has come from two government sources, including £160,000 from the Invest to Save Scheme, and nearly £20,000 from the Regional Enterprise Improvement Programme for sustainable energy projects.



Teenagers React Positively to Dangerous Driving Roadshow

The 'No More Lives Wasted' roadshow is making a significant impact on teenagers' attitudes to driving dangerously. Students from Leicester, Leicestershire and Rutland schools and colleges have been greatly moved by the show.

17 to 21 year old students are shown a short, graphic film integrated with live action on stage, where local youths and emergency services realistically re-enact a distressing true story with deadly consequences. The film tells the story of a local fatal accident, where a car was dangerously driven at an inappropriate speed by an unlicensed driver showing off to friends.



The roadshow includes a replica of the accident damaged car on stage, with simultaneous action on film and by actors on stage

The film includes footage of mobile phone images taken at the time and students can witness the crash as it happens and experience the panic. Survivors and their families speak about their distressing experience and the long-term effects they are suffering, so students learn from others mistakes.

David Poxon, Road Safety Education Team Leader explains that every road fatality costs the country an average of £1.5

million, in addition to the terrible grief suffered by families and friends. Students relate well to this real story and, if the roadshow saves just one life, this project will be worth doing.

The roadshow is organised by the Leicester, Leicestershire and Rutland Road Safety Partnership. It is partly funded through surplus income from Speed Awareness workshops for first-time low-level speeding offences, where drivers can elect to pay £60 and take the course instead of paying £60 and receiving the points.

If you are the parent of a teenager, have a connection with a local secondary school or college or have paid to attend a Speed Awareness workshop, just take a minute to click on <http://www.wastedroadshow.com> for a taster of this interactive, innovative roadshow.



Further information

To view this newsletter online please visit:
http://www.leicester.gov.uk/wards/index_wards.asp
and click on your ward.

Contact details

Telephone: General Enquiries 252 7000
Address: Leicester City Council, New Walk Centre,
Welford Place, Leicester LE1 6ZG
email: customer.services@leicester.gov.uk
Website: www.leicester.gov.uk
Belgrave ward councillors are:
Cllr Rashmikant Joshi 07976 348326
& Cllr John Thomas 292 9549
Latimer ward councillors are:
Cllr Manjula Sood 221 7961 or 07976 398192
& Cllr Veejay Patel 07890 564708

