

## **Dorset Community Transport – Helping us get to where we need to go**

Dorset Community Transport – or DCT for short – has been providing safe and accessible transport across the county since 2011. We provide a wide range of services: door-to-door [PlusBus services](#); local [bus routes](#) that connect rural communities; [Group Transport](#) minibuses for local community groups; and high-quality [home-to-school transport](#).

### **PlusBus Service**

The PlusBus service provides transport for people who are unable to easily access public transport: young or old and including those with mobility difficulties. To use PlusBus, simply register your details with us initially and then pre-book your seat whenever you wish to join the bus. Where possible, we can offer a “door-to-door” service and can also accommodate passengers travelling in wheelchairs.

Our PlusBus service offers a weekday trip from neighbouring villages to local destination towns, arriving approximately 10am and departing approximately 1pm. Within our parish are routes available from Sixpenny Handley and Minchington as follows:

#### **Sixpenny Handley to Wimborne**

“Wimborne A” Service.

- This service runs to and from Wimborne **every Friday**.
- Starting from Sixpenny Handley area **approx. 9.30am** via villages including Alderholt, Cranborne, Wimborne St Giles, Gussage All Saints, Gussage St Michael, Long Criche, Moor Criche, Witchampton, Hinton Martell, Gaunts Common, Holt and Furzehill.
- Return journey **departs 1.15pm**.

#### **Minchington to Blandford**

“Blandford B” Service:

- This service runs to and from Blandford **every Thursday**.
- Starting from Gussage St Andrew area **approx. 9.30am** via villages including Minchington, Farnham, Chettle, Tarrant Hinton, Tarrant Gunville and Pimperne.
- **Return journey departs 1.00pm**.

### **Registering**

Before you can book journeys, you’ll first need to register. It’s quick and easy to do – and you have a choice of ways to do so, depending on what you prefer.

- You can call us on 01258 287 987 to request a simple form and we’ll post it out to you. Complete the form and return it to us at PlusBus, Dorset Community Transport, 25e Sunrise Business Park, Higher Shaftesbury Road, Blandford Forum, Dorset DT11 8ST.
- You can download the form yourself from [https://ectcharity.co.uk/files\\_uploads/PlusBus\\_Membership\\_Form\\_2023\\_-\\_e-version.pdf](https://ectcharity.co.uk/files_uploads/PlusBus_Membership_Form_2023_-_e-version.pdf)
  - print it out, complete it and return it to us at the same address as above.
  - Or You can download the form, complete it on your computer and then send it to us via email as an attachment to [dorset@ectcharity.co.uk](mailto:dorset@ectcharity.co.uk)

If you have any questions – or need a bit of extra help with the form, please contact us on 01258 287 987.

## How do I book?

Call us on 01258 287 987 (between 9.30am and 2.30pm Monday to Friday, excluding Bank Holidays) or email us at [dorset@ectcharity.co.uk](mailto:dorset@ectcharity.co.uk). Once registered, trips can be booked up to one month in advance but no later than 2.30pm the previous working day. Please see below for information about bookings around the Bank Holidays.

## Do you run on Bank Holidays? What happens over Christmas?

PlusBus does **not** run on Bank Holidays or any time during the 8-day period from and including Christmas Day to and including New Year's Day. As our bookings line is closed during these times, you will need to take note of the deadlines below for booking travel.

Upcoming Bank Holidays 2024	If you want to travel on:	You need to book by 2.30pm on:
Wednesday 25 Dec Thursday 26 Dec	Thursday 2 Jan 2025	Tuesday 24 Dec 2024
<i>Office will be closed from Wednesday 25 December 2024 and will reopen on Thursday 2 January 2025. No PlusBus services run during this office closure.</i>		
<b>How much does it cost?</b>		
As from 2024, our fixed return fare is £8. PlusBus services are cash only and we are unable to accept any card/contactless payments. <b>We continue to accept the National Bus Pass.</b> Simply present your valid bus pass to the driver each time you travel! <b>Please note that pass holders will still need to register with us (for free!)</b> and pre-book each journey in the usual way.		
We are always looking to improve and trial new PlusBus services. Services could run fortnightly or monthly, and we could consider alternating the destination or day of travel according to suggested preferences.		