



Proudly supporting bus users in  
Brighton, Hove and the  
surrounding areas

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## April 2025

### New buses announced

Brighton & Hove have announced more new buses for the city centre and Regency routes. Alongside the already announced electric buses, 44 new MMC ADL buses (similar to those used on coaster routes) are currently being received into Brighton & Hove bus garages. Route 1X will also receive new buses, two of which will replace the older dual door buses, introduced with the route.



*Photo courtesy of Nash Traveman*

### April bus changes

Changes took place on **Brighton & Hove bus services**, on Sunday 27<sup>th</sup> April:

24 - New timetables introduced to improve punctuality; with all journeys starting or finishing at the Old Steine- now extended to/from Churchill Square. Also there are earlier journeys starting daily from Hollingbury ASDA, and improved early morning frequencies on Saturdays and Sundays.

25: Increased to every 4-5 minutes.

26 - New daily timetables improving punctuality, with all Old Steine finishing journeys extended to Churchill Square with earlier journeys daily from Hollingbury ASDA, and early morning frequencies improved on Saturdays and Sundays.

46 - Revised daily timetables to improve punctuality. Also earlier journeys on Mondays to Saturdays from Portslade and Southwick. Additional early journeys from Hollingbury Mondays to Fridays. However the most significant change is that evening journeys terminating at Portslade Station, are now extended to Southwick, (creating a 30-minute frequency throughout).

50 - Revised daily timetables, to improve reliability.

On 'Breeze up to the Downs' services, a summer timetable has been reintroduced on services 77, 78 & 79 timetable. All services will gain an additional journey, and run on Saturdays, Sundays, and public holidays.

### Newhaven traffic struggles

Following roadworks, accidents and increasing traffic volumes-, Newhaven, Peacehaven and Seaford residents have met with businesses; in a collaboration meeting between Newhaven Business Voice, our partner group Transport in Newhaven and Lewes District (TiNLD), on Tuesday 15th March. It was found that the impact of traffic to these demographics was grossly underestimated, including the impact of the closure of Peacehaven Co-op and speed at which Morrison's are taking over the site. Ideas for solutions included- removal of traffic lights, re-timing of trains, inclusion of a new roundabout at Sainsbury's and building a new road out to sea. A follow up meeting will take place in around three months.

## Bus lane progress

Work continues on the Marine Parade bus lane. Another set of overnight closures will aid the installation of a westbound bus lane and crossing. The Eastbound traffic lane will become narrower. Buswatch will keep monitoring the situation here. New Steine and Sea Life Centre bus stops are being closed or moved periodically, to accommodate the works. Please keep up to date on Brighton & Hove Buses website or app. Routes 12 – 14 and 37/37B, 47 & 52 are all affected.

Work is expected to begin on the A23 southbound bus lane between Brangwyn Crescent and Drive.

## Crawley route changes announced

From **May 10<sup>th</sup>**, routes 270/271 & 272 will get a new timetable, to improve reliability. Additional journeys will also be added to the service 273- in the early morning, afternoon peak, and later in the evening. The latter is supported with funds from both Brighton & Hove and West Sussex's Bus Service Improvement Plans.

## Extra 12X & 13X's

Route 13X has been increased for the spring season with a half hourly service on Sundays and Bank holidays introduced from the Easter weekend. It is planned to increase the 12X route to every 15 minutes, in time for the summer. Three new buses have been brought to cover the increase.

At the same time, it is noted that the National Trust has decided to stop coaches from parking at Birling Gap, due to tourists behaviour near the cliffs.

## Devolution decision being awaited

A decision is being awaited on devolution and if approved would see Sussex residents elect their first mayor in May 2026. It remains unclear how this devolution will affect public transport, but Buswatch encourages an enhanced partnership approach- with greater ticketing integration and identity.

## More buses announcing

Following modification and upgrades to buses- more of Brighton & Hove's older buses are now announcing the number and destination of the bus, when passengers board. All buses are to be fitted with this systems by 1st October 2026. New buses including 'Live & Breathe' and 'Above and Beyond' buses, used mainly on route 1 and 5/5A/5B routes- have already been fitted with this system.

## Marathon operation

March saw the full marathon. Services across the city were affected as far as Portslade and Rottingdean. Among the changes for the event, the '27' used the '2' route, east of Brighton; and route 50 started from the Lewes Road garage. Good loadings noted all round. This was also the first day of route 700 changes.

## Buswatch meeting

The **next** Brighton Buswatch meeting takes place on 16th July at 16.00 in rooms 2 & 3, Brighton Town Hall. Space is limited so please e-mail Buswatch or message via Brighton Buswatch Facebook group if you would like to attend as a guest or raise an issue.

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Buswatch Newsletter is produced and edited by Nash from Brighton Area Buswatch. Contributions and suggestions are always welcome.