

Pre-meeting:

- Bus services are mainly aimed at 9 to 5 work commuters;
- Morning service at 0750 and evening at 1750, is a long day for anyone not working;
- Weekly shopper service on Thursdays, has to travel through Nesting which limits the amount of time available in Lerwick;
- No formal services available on Whalsay or Skerries;
- School bus previously picked people up but no longer has the space;
- Shopper service for within Whalsay would be useful;
- Getting to the surgery can be an issue for the elderly and people living in remote areas of the island without access to a car;
- There is a local taxi service but this is increasingly operating outside the isle;
- People have gotten used to such limited transport that any new services would likely be under-used and hard to make cost effective;
- There are limited bus connections for Skerries ferry services at Vidlin; and
- Buses arrive in Vidlin from Lerwick at 0805 meaning passengers have to wait two hours for the next ferry.

LSDG Meeting:

- Need to gauge demand for new services;
 - Try an advertised three month trial to test frequency;
 - Maybe services could initially be introduced as dial-a-rides;
- A service to pick people up from NorthLink in the morning would be useful;
- Consider dial-a-ride services for the ferries as there is for flights at Tingwall;
- Although there are no formal services on Whalsay or Skerries it was suggested that most people manage by getting lifts or walking;
- Better integration of ferry times would be good;
 - Hard to get from Skerries to Whalsay without significant waiting time;
 - If the 0800 from Skerries were five minutes earlier or the 0935 to Whalsay were five minutes later this would be much easier;
 - There are similar issues with getting from Whalsay to Yell;
- Maybe introduce a bigger school bus to accommodate public;
- Consider encouraging more use of community minibus;
 - May have issues with licences and insurance;
- Bus services meeting ferries in the evenings would be helpful for children attending activities out with Whalsay; and
- Ferries and buses could be better integrated with external air services as it is impossible to catch an early flight without spending the night on the Mainland.