

Frome And Villages Bus User Group September Update

We have received a lot of queries over the last week so thought we produce a document detailing all the latest bus changes for Frome... It's been pulled together quickly so apologies for any typos.

Frome Town Centre Closure & The Effect On Bus Services

Just a reminder the Market Place in Frome town centre is closed due to redevelopment work. We believe it should open mid September...

All buses will pick up from the temporary bus stop at Cork Street by the entrance to the Westway precinct near the cinema with immediate effect. See photograph below. Apart from the First Bus D2 and Faresaver's X34 see in text below:



First Bus D2 – Frome to Bath

There has been several changes to the Frome to Bath bus services this year. The main changes are:

- Faresaver X67 bus has been permanently withdrawn. So the only option to get by bus to Bath is the First Bus D2.
- The D2 no longer goes via The Butts.

Timetable

New First Bus D2 timetable in operation from Sunday 6 September

https://www.firstgroup.com/uploads/node_images/D2D2s%20%28Bath%29%206%20Sep%2020.pdf?fbclid=IwAR3LLSt--oMUpvIGs_jUyEHC1CzMgoN2NOuNa8h5Zb_VHr76GTmcO3u5Vu4

Update On Timetable

As of Monday 7 September extra capacity has been added to the D2 in the afternoons to accommodate the school children and general increase in passenger numbers. .

School Bus Service

There is a dedicated D2s bus service, which is just for school children who go to any schools in Bath. This will say "private charter" or "D2s" on the destination board. So please look out for it. The photo below shows the D2s and D2 buses - the first one being the D2s school bus and the second being the normal D2 bus (for college students / general public). Please make sure you board the right bus!

In the afternoon, school children can board any D2, there isn't a dedicated school bus for the return journey from Bath.



To view all the First Bus West of England timetables: https://www.firstgroup.com/bristol-bath-and-west/news-and-service-updates/coronavirus-covid19-service-information?fbclid=IwAR0CwwEkBBQdDwZKQDQO6wpLvnO1Q3caWDwfv9FNTi-_iCFfJXTHBceE5JA

First Bus D2 - Where You Can Catch The Bus?

The D2 is taking a different route via the Frome train station due to the Frome Town Centre redevelopment. Dues to the diversion taking longer the bus route has slightly changed in Frome.

Travelling from Frome to Bath

The D2 will not stop in Cork Street in Frome Town Centre when the bus is going in the Frome to Bath direction.

You will need to catch the bus instead either at the Memorial Theatre or The Cornerhouse Pub / Gorehedge (near the top of Gentle Street) to drop off / pick up passengers as it continues towards Bath.

If you need to get to Frome Town Centre, bus uses will then have to walk down to town or can cross over the road to get to the other bus stop and board the Frome Bus 30 or 53 to Cork Street.

See photograph where the bus stop is near The Cornerhouse – the bus stop is ringed in red.



Travelling From Bath To Frome Sainsbury's Direction

The D2 will only go via Cork Street in Frome Town Centre when heading in the Bath to Frome Sainsbury's direction.

First Bus D1 / D1x

Timetable

The new D1 timetable from Sunday September 6 is:

https://www.firstgroup.com/uploads/node_images/D1D1sD1x%20%28Bath%29%206%20Sep%2020.pdf

How a D2 / D1 is laid out due to Social Distancing Rules

Just a reminder the all First Buses have reduced capacity due to the relaxing of government social distancing rules to 1m+ with precautions (i.e. face coverings).

See pictures below of how the Discover buses are laid out to enable social distancing with the increased capacity. Please do sit in the dedicated seats.

The buses will carry 18 - 20 people (double deckers e.g D1x will carry 35 people).





Buses “Full”

Due to social distancing rules buses are carrying reduced capacity. The First Bus may display the sign “Buss Full” if it reaches capacity. See picture below.

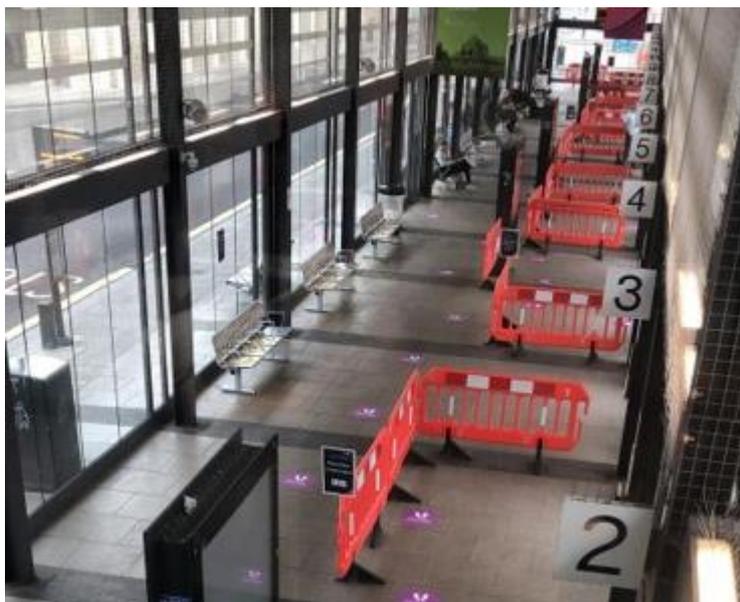


Bath Bus Station

If you haven't been to Bath bus station recently, it's laid out slightly differently.

- Bus bays are segregated by barriers.
- Social distancing stickers are on the floor

The First Bus D2 can still be caught from Bay 10.



Faresaver Buses x34

Timetable

A new Faresaver x34 timetable started on Tuesday 1 September:
<http://www.faresaver.co.uk/timetables/5f4cbb7d287e0.pdf>

Anyone can catch the X34 whether general public, school children or students.

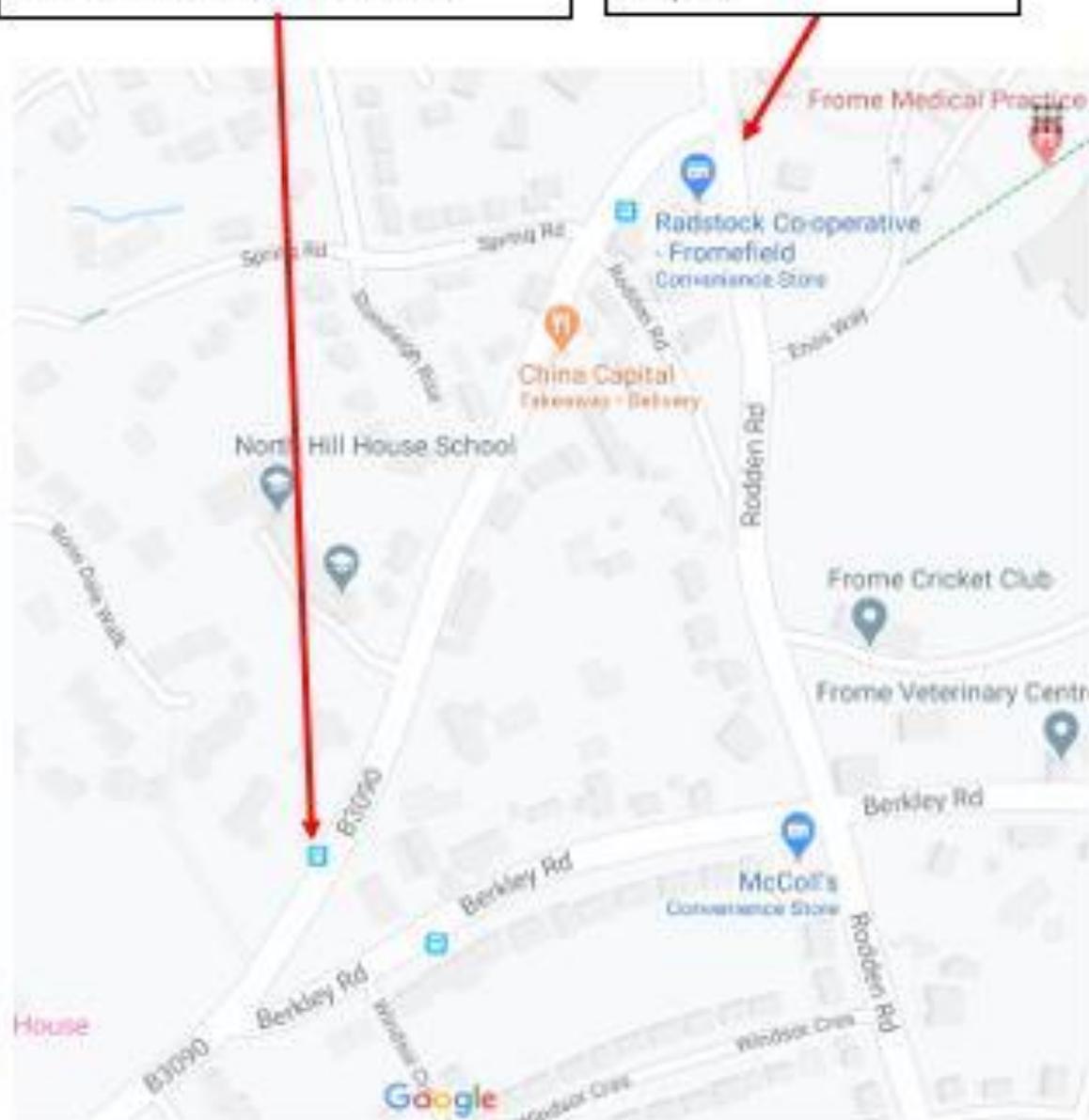
Where can I catch the Faresaver X34?

Due to the Frome town centre redevelopment work to start and end point of the x34 route is slightly altered.

Faresaver Buses X34 Route Diversion Information

Bus stop on Fromefield where you pick up the X34 (the first stop on Fromefield as you turn right out of Berkeley Road)

Drop off for the X34 on Rodden Road by Frome Hospital



The photo shows where the Faresaver bus will pick up at Fromefield near Berkley Road.



Frome Bus

Timetables

For all the latest timetables check the Frome Bus website out:

<http://www.fromebus.co.uk/timetables/>

Key Recent Changes To Frome Bus Timetables

x53 service is now running again

414/424 services are reinstated at 0700 and 0720

30 is running from 0800 - 1200 Monday – Friday

Where can I catch Frome Buses from?

The buses stop in Cork Street by Westway cinema..

Libra Travel 184

Timetable

The latest Libra Travel timetable can be viewed here: <https://www.facebook.com/184-Norton-Frome-Frome-Norton-Bus-service-156029685019599/photos/pcb.481488515807046/481488289140402/>

Where Can I Catch The Libra Travel 184?

The Libra Travel 184 will arrive and depart from Cork Street and will travel up and down Bath street, Christchurch street west and back to normal route on Vallis Way....

Bus stops outside Costa Soffee shop and the old Shoe Zone shop, Welshmill Road/Lane, Selwood road and Badcox corner will NOT BE SERVED in both directions.

Key Things To Remember About Travelling On Buses

let's get on the move again

you must wear a face covering on our buses
and if you can, please . . .

- avoid cash, pay contactless or buy in advance on the **First Bus** app
- sit away from others in available seats
- keep the windows open for ventilation
- wash your hands often, before & after you travel
- keep your distance from others
- avoid eating or drinking
- press bell and remain seated until we have stopped
- cough or sneeze into a tissue or the inside of your arm & take litter with you

HM Government NHS

Help keep our buses safe

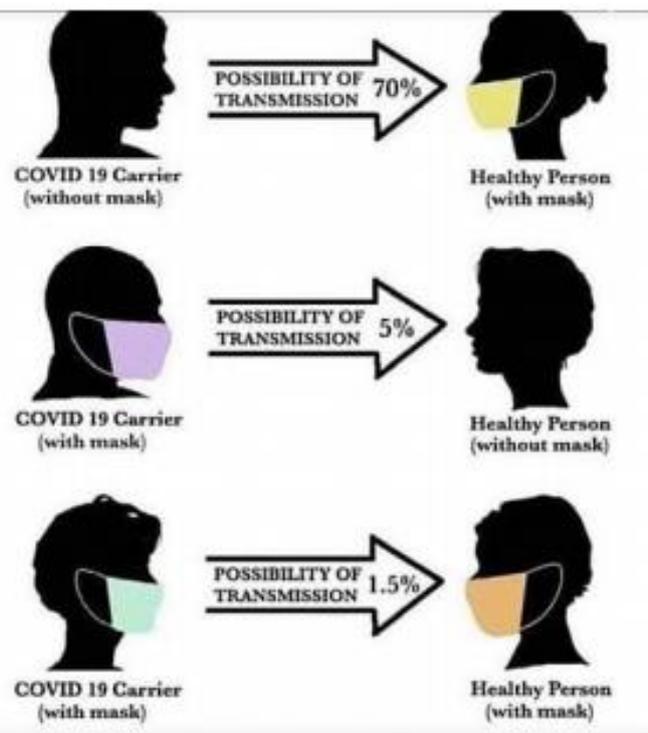
You must wear a face covering on public transport

Take a window seat, avoid standing and leave space in front and behind you.

Please be patient and wait for passengers to get off before you board a bus

Do not stand or queue in the aisle or next to the bus driver

KEEP ALERT - CHECK THE ROAD - USE LANE



A really good information has been produced by First Bus on what they are doing to keep everyone safe, clean their buses etc in these times: https://www.firstgroup.com/bristol-bath-and-west/news-and-service-updates/coronavirus-covid19-service-information?fbclid=IwAR0CwwEkBBQdDwZKQDQO6wpLvnO1Q3caWDwfv9FNTi-_iCFfJXTHBceE5JA

Face Coverings

The Department of Transport has made face coverings compulsory on buses (and on all public transport), unless you have any of the following:

- 1 - Breathing difficulties and other respiratory conditions.
- 2 - Conditions effecting their dexterity, meaning they are not able to put on a face covering.
- 3 - Mental health conditions such as anxiety or panic disorders.
- 4 - Other non-visible disabilities such as autism.
- 5 - Cognitive impairments, including dementia, who may not understand or remember the need to wear a face covering.
- 6 - Visual impairments, with a restricted field of vision, particularly if any residual vision is at the lower edge of the normal field of view.
- 7 - Impairments which would make it difficult to put on or take off a face covering safely, accurately, consistently or without pain.
- 8 - Under the age of 11 or on dedicated home to school transport.

The above list of exemptions is not exhaustive and would extend to someone who has a justifiable reason for not wearing one on the grounds of health or disability not outlined above. (for information on exemptions and to download the First Bus exemption form: <https://www.firstgroup.com/help-and-support/coronavirus-information/face-coverings?fbclid=IwAR1bCximXFvCaMOQsgsCpTaUX3SYXoFtAKcWwgJyt7yPCjPo1DROoTwzAw4>)

Paying By Contactless Means

Please pay by contactless means on a bus if at all possible. Faresaver Buses and First Bus both take contactless payments.

So just a reminder on how to pay by card on a bus card reader machine. Firstly just tell the driver which ticket you want, DO NOT put your card down until the driver has selected the ticket. Put the card on the card reader. Then don't touch your card until the machine is finished.

See video link below: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=L5YesYNIN5E>

If you can't pay by contactless means please try and bring the exact change with you. And thanks to a First Bus driver for these photos for this post.

Notice Period For Changes

The bus industry requires up to 72 days notice of timetable changes (though they are often made public only at 28 or 42 days). Once again, changes are happening on a far shorter timescale than "required" at present, but we have been moving to knowing a little further ahead than just a few days

Footnote: Some of the copy and images has been taken from the Melksham Rail User Group's September newsletter. For more information on the group: <http://www.mrug.org.uk/>