

Gisborne Bus Network Review Project

Schools Media Kit – February 2024



Department of Transport and Planning

About this media kit

Starting from 9 February until 12 March, the Department of Transport and Planning wants to hear your thoughts about the Gisborne bus network proposed plans. This media kit provides an overview of the project.

Key messaging

- We're improving the Gisborne bus network and want to hear your feedback on the proposed plans.
- We're proposing to change the pre-booked on-demand service to a regular bus service to increase service coverage and improve reliability.
- We're proposing a two-way bus loop service, allowing passengers to catch a bus in either direction to access all points along the route.
- We plan to improve bus coverage, connecting new estates to the bus network to better support Gisborne's growth.
- We're proposing to increase the number of return services for the pre-booked on-demand Bullengarook service and want to understand how we can adjust the timetable to better suit your needs.
- We plan to integrate the school service into the improved public bus network.
- With the new two-way looped service, school students will experience some coverage changes, resulting in a faster journey to school for certain students.
- For more information and to have your say visit [engage.vic.gov.au/Gisborne-Bus](https://www.engage.vic.gov.au/Gisborne-Bus) by 12 March 2024.
- Check out our video to learn more about the [proposed Gisborne two-way loop service](#).

Call to action

- Visit the Engage Victoria link below to participate in our community survey and get information about our pop-up events.
 - www.engage.vic.gov.au/Gisborne-Bus

Project posters and images

- We have created a current bus network map and a proposed bus network changes map, as well as posters, and postcards. We encourage you to share these with your school community, including students, parents, caregivers and staff. You can access the files to download here:
<https://www.dropbox.com/scl/fo/wazefcsxnpusoai4txid6/h?rlkey=4c8o26feu7ift0c6i50ir3sug&dl=0>

Engagement activities

Timing and location*	Activity
Thursday 15 February 3:00pm – 6:00pm Gisborne Station Station Rd, Gisborne	Pop-up information event, an opportunity to ask questions in person. For more information visit https://www.engage.vic.gov.au/Gisborne-Bus




Wednesday 21 February	Pop-up information events, an opportunity to ask questions in person.
11:00am – 1:00pm Gisborne Library, 8 Hamilton St, Gisborne	For more information visit https://www.engage.vic.gov.au/Gisborne-Bus
2:00pm – 4:00pm Coles Gisborne, Robertson St, Gisborne	

*Subject to change.

Questions and Answers

Question	Answer
Overarching	
Why are these changes taking place on the Gisborne Bus Network?	The Department of Transport is reviewing the Gisborne town bus network with a commitment to uplift the network in line with Victoria's Bus Plan. The Victorian Government allocated funding for network changes through the 2022/23 State Budget. The proposed changes are expected to improve public transport access in the Gisborne area, including introducing services to newly developed growth areas, more direct route paths and better connections between train and town bus services.
What is Victoria's Bus Plan	<u>Victoria's Bus Plan</u> is the Victorian Government's long-term strategy to deliver holistic reform to the bus network across the state. It sets out how we will start to deliver a modern, productive, environmentally sustainable bus network that increases the number of people choosing to take the bus by delivering simple, safe, reliable and comfortable journeys.
What issues have been identified in the current network?	Gisborne's population is estimated to increase 35% to 20,170 by 2036, with population growth concentrated in areas with no current public transport. The network has reached a point where an effective service requires a fixed timetable and route structure for the current on-demand services. Public transport options for students also requires review, with only 40 seats currently available on the Gisborne Town School Special.
What is DTP consulting on?	We have developed the survey to gather feedback on: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• How bus passengers in Gisborne and Bullengarook use the bus network.• How satisfied bus passengers and non-bus passengers are with the proposed changes• How students use public transport to get to and from school
How can people provide feedback in person?	You can provide your feedback by taking our online survey at engage.vic.gov.au/Gisborne-Bus between 9 February 2024 and 12 March 2024 or attend an information session: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Gisborne Train Station, 3:00pm – 6:00pm, Thursday 15 February

- 
- Gisborne Library, 8 Hamilton St, Gisborne, 11am – 1pm, Wednesday 21 February
 - Gisborne Coles, 2pm – 4pm, Wednesday 21 February.

Alternatively, you can call 1800 800 007 and ask to give your feedback about changes to the Gisborne Bus Network.

Who is DTP consulting with?

We want to hear from people that live locally, visit or travel through the area. We will also be engaging with the council, transport operators, schools and community groups.

What are the impacts to schools?

Only one school service is proposed to be affected by these changes – Gisborne Town School Special. This service is proposed to become part of the new two-way loop service, which will be open to the general public. Seats on the bus will no longer be guaranteed and term passes won't be available.

The proposed two-way loop service will accommodate students travelling to all schools south of the Railway Station, including New Gisborne Primary School, Willowbank Primary School, Gisborne Primary School and Gisborne Secondary College. Due to the proximity to the proposed route alignment, St Brigid's Primary School will also be serviced by the proposed two-way loop service.

The new service will not accommodate the two schools north of the train station. At this time, no other bus services have been proposed to accommodate students attending schools north of the train line, including Holy Cross Catholic Primary School and Gisborne Montessori School.

The new integrated public transport service will provide more capacity during peak school times (80 seats and 80 standing available to all public bus users), compared to 40 student only seats available on the Gisborne Town School Special.

For some students the new two-way looped service will mean a faster journey to school. Access to schools from both directions of the loop will reduce existing travel times of 40+ minutes to just 10 minutes for some students.

We're enabling more capacity at school time, potentially four times the number of students could travel to and from school.

We're providing more coverage across growing Gisborne, reducing the walking distance to a bus stop for some students.

What ticketing options will be available for school students?

Under the proposed changes, the student term pass for the existing Gisborne Town School Special will no longer be available. Students retain the option to purchase a Victorian Student Pass (VSP), which entitles eligible students to unlimited travel on public transport within their chosen zone until the expiry of the pass.

As Gisborne buses are not myki-equipped, a valid VSP will be accepted in place of a purchased ticket.

VSPs can be purchased yearly or half yearly. Students may also need to purchase a PTV School Student ID.

More information can be found at:

www.ptv.vic.gov.au/tickets/myki/concessions-and-free-travel/children-and-students/school-students/



What is a two-way loop service?

A two-way loop service refers to bus routes that follows a loop or circular path, allowing buses to travel in both directions along the same route. The loop typically starts and ends at a central point, such as a bus terminal or transportation hub. Buses on a two-way loop service travel in one direction along the loop, serving various stops, and then return in the opposite direction, completing the loop.

This service provides convenient and efficient transport within a specific neighbourhood. Passengers can board the bus at any point along the loop and travel to their destination without the need for a transfer. Two-way loop services can help improve accessibility and connectivity within a community, making it easier for residents to access key locations and public transportation.

Check out our video to learn more about the [proposed Gisborne two-way loop service](#).

What will happen after the consultation period ends?

The Department of Transport and Planning (DTP) will collect and review all responses received during the consultation period. Community members can keep up to date via Engage Vic.

Will these buses be myki-equipped?

While V/Line trains to and from Gisborne require a valid myki, Gisborne buses do not support the use of a myki.

Passengers transferring to or from a V/Line service at the Gisborne Station will not be required to pay a separate bus fare.

Will new bus stops be installed to support the proposed changes?

New bus stops may need to be installed; however this has not been finalised and is subject to final analysis, timetable, and budgetary constraints.

Will we be notified when the changes are finalised?

You can sign up for project updates direct to your inbox by completing the survey on Engage Victoria or follow the project page on Engage Victoria.

When will the new services be introduced?

The new services will be introduced in late 2024/early 2025.

When will new timetables be available?

The new timetables will be available one month before the services will go live in late 2024/early 2025

Contact

For more information about this project email community@transport.vic.gov.au.

To speak to one of our PTV customer service team members, call 1800 800 007.

If you're deaf, or have a hearing or speech impairment, contact us through the National Relay Service – for more information, email community@transport.vic.gov.au.

Appendix

1. Current Gisborne bus network map with the Gisborne School Special route



2. Proposed Gisborne bus network map

