

Dear Edenderry Resident,

In October, I approached Chris Conway the Chief Executive of Translink about improving the bus service in and out of Edenderry Village. A constituent had brought the issue to my attention, explaining that it was particularly difficult for those without cars to get into Belfast unless they take the very early bus at 7.45 a.m. The alternative for morning appointments in the city has had to be expensive taxis.

I also pointed out to Translink that the village's population was increasing and thus demand for public transport should rise. Chris promised to review the service and I was delighted to hear back from him on Tuesday 19 December that he was going to provide additional opportunities for travel between Edenderry Village and Belfast. The two new bus journeys are timetabled to run from Monday to Friday and will start in the New Year from Tuesday 2 January 2018.

There will now be a 24a bus leaving Belfast at 12.40 p.m. stopping in Edenderry en route to Lisburn. This is to provide a return journey from the city for those using the 7.45 a.m Edenderry to Belfast service.

A 24a bus will also leave Lisburn at 12.00 noon but now stopping in Edenderry Village at 12.25 p.m. en route to Belfast. This will offer an outward journey for those who use the current 22 bus at 18.05 p.m. from Belfast to Lisburn via Edenderry.

I have to thank the staff at Translink for reviewing these arrangements so swiftly. They have responded in a spirit of public service for the benefit of the rural community.

May I take this opportunity to wish you a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

Jetbrey Dudgeon



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