

Mark Hooper AS/MS
Dirprwy Weinidog dros Drafnidiaeth
Deputy Minister for Transport



Llywodraeth Cymru
Welsh Government

Ein cyf/Our ref WQ98710

Darren Millar MS
MS for Clwyd

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18 June 2026

Dear Darren,

Thank you for your Written Question to the Cabinet Minister for Enterprise, Connectivity and Energy regarding the possibility of allowing Welsh and English free bus passes to be used interchangeably in Wales and England. I am responding due to my portfolio responsibilities and apologise for the late response.

I am open to the concept of reciprocal arrangements for accepting concessionary travel cards across the UK. However, our priority is maintaining funding for Welsh Concessionary Travel, which is more generous than the English scheme. Our scheme continues to provide free local bus travel for eligible older and disabled people on local bus services across Wales, and for cross border journeys on local bus services either starting or finishing in Wales.

Officials continue to discuss the principle of a cross-border scheme with their counterparts in other UK jurisdictions. However, there has been limited appetite to bring forward changes due to funding pressures and differences between the various schemes.

We will continue to keep the issue under review.

Yours sincerely,

Mark Hooper AS/MS
Dirprwy Weinidog dros Drafnidiaeth
Deputy Minister for Transport

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We welcome receiving correspondence in Welsh. Any correspondence received in Welsh will be answered in Welsh and corresponding in Welsh will not lead to a delay in responding.