

**Questions to Transport Advisory Group  
19th November, 2025**

**Question 1 – From Councillor Baggaley (on behalf of a resident)**

The bus service from Waverley to Brinsworth Academy (95 First) only allows for one bus that gets children to school on time. The other timings are either 30 minutes too early or 30 minutes too late.

With the increased number of children looking to attend Brinsworth Academy from Waverley can anything be done to improve this bus route and timings?

**SYMCA**

**Answer:- SYMCA have not been made aware of overloading issues. Brinsworth was not the catchment area school for Waverley residents, but SYMCA will monitor the situation relating to demand.**

**First Bus**

**Answer:- Waverley to Brinsworth, as above response, Waverley was in the catchment area for Aston in which SYMCA had already had to provide new school transport for the pupils in the area. As with every major housing development throughout the United Kingdom, very little is done in terms of providing additional education/healthcare facilities (admittedly a new primary school has been built as part of Waverley but not a secondary school), which was well publicised through national media. As Brinsworth was not in the catchment area for Waverley, it was suspected that no additional funding would be provided for additional journeys to cater for this.**

**Question 2 – From Councillor Hussain (on behalf of a resident)**

I am writing to raise a concern brought to my attention by residents living in and around Badsley Moor Lane, Clifton Avenue, Clifton Grove, and Middle Lane South. It has been reported that the bus service operating from Rotherham Town Centre via Wellgate to Wickersley—passing through Badsley Moor Lane and Middle Lane South—has been suspended due to overhanging tree branches on Middle Lane South.

This suspension has caused considerable inconvenience to local residents, many of whom rely on this route for their daily travel. I kindly urge the Transport Department to liaise with the relevant services to address the issue of the overgrown branches as a matter of priority, so that the bus service can be reinstated without further delay.

**First Bus****Answer:-**

First Bus raised this with the Council in the summer. Due to the type of trees (London Plane) emitting spores which are an irritant during the summer, the Council advised that they could not be cut until leaf fall because of the health and safety risk to the public associated with pruning works resulting from the spores. Originally this was anticipated in October but had been delayed as a result of natural processes and leaf fall having been later than anticipated this year. Road space had been applied to allow works to be commenced on 17<sup>th</sup> November subject to the leaves having fallen by that time.

During the Summer First Bus was able to use single deck vehicles on service X1 but, since the return of the schools in September, due to capacity issues, double decker buses had had to return to the route so buses had had to revert to the diversion. As soon as the trees were cut First Bus would revert to the normal route which could not happen soon enough because of the impact it was having on passengers.

The Council had set up a working group involving operators (including First), SYMCA as well as its Highway Inspectors and Tree Service, to improve the process so that reports of emerging issues could be reported in good time thus allowing the Tree Service to plan in maintenance in good time recognising the various constraints on tree works.