



PART OF M.A.G

Loughborough Bus Trial (room 700)
 Have Your Say
 Freepost NAT18685
 Leicester
 LE3 8XT

ANNEX E925th November 2013

To whom it may concern

I am responding to the consultation around access to Loughborough town centre by public transport. I am writing to you on behalf of East Midlands Airport in my capacity as Surface Access Manager.

East Midlands Airport, in partnership with Leicestershire County Council, has been investing in public transport for over a decade, with in excess of £2.2 million of Airport money (and several million pounds of public funds won through tender processes) going into building up the Skylink network of services, ensuring that residents of Loughborough and other important towns and cities around us have access to the airport for both employment and leisure/travel.

Our concern about the proposed changes to access for buses to the town centre is that these and other important links could be marginalised should buses have to divert out of town. If buses have to battle through the congestion and travel further to drop customers off in a less convenient location further out of town and away from the shops, it is likely to delay services. Without being able to recover the additional time needed, it is likely buses would run less reliably, need to reduce frequencies or reduce services to make up lost time. These implications will severely disenfranchise bus users, resulting in people travelling less, finding alternative means or shopping destinations, or simply not travelling at all. Ultimately this will further damage Loughborough's High street and local economy as it becomes less and less accessible.

If you would like to contact me to discuss this further I can be reached by email on colleen.hempson@eastmidlandsairport.com or by telephone on 01332 852945.

Kind regards

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 East Midlands Airport

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