

## **Summary of transport options in Hurunui survey results and existing public transport options**

**Updated for HYP 9 April 2019**

The Transport Options in Hurunui survey attracted **154** respondents.

While 83.7 % of the respondents used a private car as transport, almost the same number (80%) of respondents has wanted or needed to use public transport at some stage.

Of that group, only 10% had their needs met by the public transport options available in Hurunui.

Only 22% of the respondents needed public transport several times a week, while the majority, 57%, require transport occasionally.

The majority of respondents have Christchurch (83) and Rangiora (41) as a destination, with the starting point for the journey spread throughout the district.

Lack of transport options has prevented 53% of respondents from accessing social, employment, shopping and business opportunities.

There are plenty of regular commuters in the district, 84%

Of these 56% would be willing to share their car with others going in the same direction.

Internet access is very high amongst the respondents - 70% would support a dedicated ride-sharing Facebook page to connect with potential drivers and passengers in the Hurunui.

Those relying on family, friends, volunteers or public transport for their transport needs made up 36% of respondents.

**The final question in the survey asked for suggestions on how to improve public transport in Hurunui. Some of the common themes are:**

**Train** – utilise the existing rail network for a commuter rail service to Amberley or Waipara. A local Facebook page, *By rail to Christchurch*, has 800 followers.

**Bus/mini bus** – to Rangiora and Christchurch. Many support regular bus transport from Amberley to Rangiora where connecting bus services can be accessed if you need to go further into Christchurch or Kaiapoi.

**Ride-share or uber** – this provides flexible transport with the added bonus of social connection.

**Monthly shopping trips** – these could be organised through vehicle and community trusts.

**Utilise school-bus service** – using the school bus after school drop off to provide transport to other communities.

**User-pays shuttle services** – private enterprise

**Cost of public transport** - has to be cheaper than the private car to work.

## **Conclusion**

There is no easy option to improve public transport in Hurunui. There are some simple solutions such as community vehicle trusts organising a regular Rangiora or Christchurch trip that people can book in for. This is a local solution that can be advertised locally, and user-pays.

Engage with Intercity to pick up passengers along the route. Intercity now only pick up from a town so people who have relied on the bus service for getting children to school at the Conway and by the Hurunui Bridge on SH 1 now have to drive to nearest town.

With the high rate of private car ownership and regular commuting or driving, a dedicated ride-sharing Facebook page could facilitate people wanting rides with drivers at no cost or infrastructure.

There are already ride requests on community noticeboards in the district, and a well promoted single purpose page would bring all those requests and offers into one place.

The page would offer both carpooling and one-off trips, and be divided into those looking for a ride, and those offering.

People would post their request and once the request is picked up, they would negotiate expectations through private messaging.

There would be advice on how the site works, the rules of conduct and personal safety such as telling someone who you are travelling with and where you are travelling to, the driver must have a current licence and vehicle WOF and rego.

The Facebook page would be well advertised in the local print and social media and become the main portal for ride sharing in the district.

Another idea is to have an easily recognisable transport symbol that is used by anyone offering or requesting a ride, that is used on all the district's facebook pages. This does away with starting another Facebook, and will help make people's requests and offers stand out.

I feel that there may be more buy in with people offering rides if it is a dedicated transport page.

## **Existing public transport in Hurunui**

### **Bus**

**Intercity** bus service runs along SH 1 from Christchurch to Kaikoura. This service connects Christchurch with the Interislander timetable and provides a public bus service to communities from Parnassus to Amberley.

**Cheviot – Christchurch:** 11.15 am and 5.45 pm

**Christchurch - Cheviot:** 7 am and 2.15 pm

<https://www.intercity.co.nz>

## Hanmer Connection

Hanmer Connection connects communities along SH 7 and can be booked through the Intercity website. Bookings essential.

**Christchurch – Hanmer Springs:** 9 am

**Hanmer Springs – Christchurch:** 4.30 pm

<https://www.hanmerconnection.co.nz> 0800 2 HANMER (0800 242-663).

## Hanmer Tours and Shuttles

This is the only bus service that heads south in the morning and north in the afternoon and services the communities along SH7.

**Hanmer Springs – Christchurch:** 8 am

**Christchurch** (24 Hour Surgery cnr Columbo Street and Bealey Ave) – **Hanmer Springs:** 1 pm

<http://www.hanmertours.co.nz>. 03 315 7418

## East West Coaches

This service finishes at Westport, and operates Sunday to Friday.

**Hanmer Springs turn off – Christchurch:** 11 am

**Christchurch – Hanmer Springs turn off:** 1.45 pm

<http://www.eastwestcoaches.co.nz/> 03 789 6251

## Rail

**Rail New Zealand** reinstated their Coastal Pacific passenger service along SH 1 to Kaikoura post-earthquake for the 2018 summer months. The service has reopened for the 2019 season.

When operating, the train leaves Christchurch in the morning and returns in the evening.

## Other Transport options

The five **Hurunui medical centres** rely on volunteer drivers to transport patients to and from appointments, and into Christchurch for specialist appointments. Fortunately there is a strong spirit of volunteerism in Hurunui but there is a limit to this and most areas report difficulty in recruiting enough volunteers. The distances can be significant and many of the drivers are older people.

**Amuri, Amberley, Cheviot, Waikari** and **Hanmer Springs** health centres contact local community care groups and community car trusts to provide transport for medical appointments. Drivers are reimbursed for their fuel costs.

## **Community Cars**

Cheviot Community Trust has gone down this path and uses a community car for medical purposes. It struggles to get enough volunteers and is used on average twice a week.

Amberley District Community Vehicle Trust is working with ECAN at present to revamp its community vehicles and to look at purchasing a car.

Culverden and Waikari are also looking at the ECAN community car trust model.

All of these volunteer driving schemes are for medical purposes rather than socialisation or shopping. There are plenty of informal transport arrangements through TimeBank Hurunui, family, friends and church groups.

**The St John's Health Shuttle** departs Amberley in the morning and returns in the afternoon to transport people to medical appointments. Drivers are volunteers, and passengers pay a donation. Bookings must be made by 2 pm the day before travel and medical appointments in Christchurch need to be scheduled after 10.00 am and scheduled to finish by 2 pm.

**Amberley – Christchurch: 9 am**

**Christchurch – Amberley: 2 pm**

The shuttle will pick up patients discharged from hospital, and will deliver people to a dentist, other health services such as acupuncture and even WINZ. The shuttle has a hoist. Citizens Advice Bureau North Canterbury is the booking agent for the shuttle - phone 0800 383 373.

The service has a maximum of nine passengers a day. People north of Amberley must make their own arrangements to get to Amberley to catch the shuttle.

## **Driving Miss Daisy**

A private - franchised personal driving service that is based in Rangiora but will come out to North Canterbury. It is an ACC registered vendor and accepts Total Mobility swipe cards.

Contact **Tel:** 03 312 2936, **Mob:** 021 224 5606, **Email:** [northcanterbury@drivingmissdaisy.co.nz](mailto:northcanterbury@drivingmissdaisy.co.nz)

**Horizon Ambulance and Emergency Services** is a user-pays service based in Christchurch that does patient transfer services and event medical services. Ambulances are staffed by paramedics and can transport a variety of patient equipment from wheelchairs through to Howard Wright beds.

**03 390 6480 (Dispatch) 0508 467 496 (General) [bookings@horizonseme.com](mailto:bookings@horizonseme.com)**

**Tiger Shuttles Ltd** is a privately owned transport service based in Sefton. Offers airport shuttles, private and group trips, ACC transfers in North Canterbury.

03 312 9365, 027 739 8251 [Mornview@xtra.co.nz](mailto:Mornview@xtra.co.nz)

**Bev Care - Companion Driving Service** NC is a privately owned transport service based in Rangiora servicing North Canterbury. Charges are based on time, not kilometres.

Beverley - 027 241 3331 or 03 313 2628 [b.cropper@live.com](mailto:b.cropper@live.com)