

HATHERLEIGH TOWN COUNCIL



Clerk: Mrs.R.A.Lock, Cleave

EX19 8QT

Farm, Dolton, Winkleigh,

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Dear Mr Watson,

With the reopening of the Okehampton to Exeter Rail service, Hatherleigh Town Council would like Stagecoach to consider altering their service between Hatherleigh and Okehampton so that:

- A direct link between Hatherleigh and the Okehampton Railway Station forecourt is established:
- The timetables of the altered bus service and the new rail service are synchronised.

Hatherleigh is a small town whose residents would benefit considerably from the improved access to job opportunities, health and education services and other amenities that an Integrated Transport System would provide.

An active development in Hatherleigh is creating 100 new homes. This will increase the market for a synchronised bus / train service. It is expected that the occupiers of the new houses will add significantly to the existing number of Hatherleigh commuters making a daily journey into Exeter.

West Devon Borough Council and Devon County Council have declared a Climate Emergency. These Councils will undoubtedly welcome a seamless public transport system that removes the need for multiple individuals to make a daily 60 mile plus round-trip car journey, with the concomitant reduction in carbon emissions.

The desire to see improvements to the South West's public transport infrastructure is not limited to Hatherleigh Town Council - other Councils are lobbying for a bus link that will connect Bude and Holsworthy to the Okehampton train service. This confirms the importance that the residents of North Devon, West Devon, and North Cornwall, place on improving the public transport infrastructure.

We respectfully ask that you give strong consideration to this request.

Yours faithfully,

Councillor Kay Walters
on behalf of Hatherleigh Town Council
(kay.oldvic@gmail.com)