



## **PUBLIC TRANSPORT CONTRACT CHANGES IN CAITHNESS FROM 24 APRIL 2017**

Highland Council's public transport contracts have been renewed from 24 April 2017 (except in Sutherland where new contracts were awarded in 2015). While we are pleased to have been able to retain the same level of service on the majority of routes, due to financial constraints it has been necessary to make service reductions on some routes, and some contracts have been withdrawn. Many routes will be operated by different contractors.

Many bus routes in the Highlands are operated commercially; this means that bus companies run these routes without financial support from the Council. The Council awards contracts for services which are not provided commercially.

Some buses also run under contract to Dounreay Site Restoration Ltd.

The table on the next page lists all the Council's new public transport contracts in Caithness. (Contract 803 – Durness to Thurso – which was awarded in 2015, continues unchanged.)

Some routes are awarded as school transport contracts but the operators choose to make these open to the public. These are **not** shown in this table.

For further information, please contact the operators of the routes you are interested in, or contact the Council's Transport Co-ordination Unit at [public.transport@highland.gov.uk](mailto:public.transport@highland.gov.uk) or on 01463 252951.

<b>Contract number</b>	<b>Route description</b>	<b>Current contractor (until 23 April 2017)</b>	<b>Contractor from 24 April 2017</b>	<b>Summary of changes</b>	<b>Change of contractor</b>
912	Thurso - Wick via Halkirk (evenings & Sundays)	Stagecoach North Scotland	Stagecoach North Scotland	Late evening journeys withdrawn	NO
915	John O'Groats - Thurso	Stagecoach North Scotland	Stagecoach North Scotland	Some journeys retimed	NO
916	Bettyhill - Reay - Thurso	Stagecoach North Scotland	Stagecoach North Scotland	Bettyhill journeys withdrawn; other journeys unchanged*	NO
917	Wick – Thurso via Halkirk (early morning and Wick High School journeys)	Stagecoach North Scotland	Stagecoach North Scotland	Unchanged	NO
918	Berriedale – Wick (school journeys)	Stagecoach North Scotland	Stagecoach North Scotland	Unchanged	NO

\* Contract 803, operated by The Durness Bus, will continue to provide a service between Durness, Bettyhill and Thurso.