

8 Penicuik Road  
Roslin  
EH25 9LH  
14<sup>th</sup> March 2015

Dear Petitions Committee,

Please find attached our petition raised regarding the Lothian Bus alteration of the 40 and 15 routes.

We have managed to raise 410 signatures in six days, as we were only notified of the submission date last week.

I understand that the presenting date is 24<sup>th</sup> March.

I look forward to discussing this matter further with you then.

Best wishes,

Emma Hutt

## MIDLOTHIAN COUNCIL – FORM TO BE USED TO LODGE A PETITION

Before completing this form you should read Midlothian Council's "Procedures for Dealing with Petitions" which can be found on the Council's website at [www.midlothian.gov.uk/petitions](http://www.midlothian.gov.uk/petitions) Copies can also be obtained by telephoning the Council Secretariat on 0131 271 3156.

The completed form should be delivered:-

- by email to [petitions@midlothian.gov.uk](mailto:petitions@midlothian.gov.uk); or
- by mail or by hand to Petitions Staff, Council Secretariat, Resources Directorate, Midlothian Council, Midlothian House, Buccleuch Street, Dalkeith, EH22 1DN.

If you require any further information or advice, please contact the Petitions Staff, Council Secretariat by telephoning 0131 271 3156.

### Details of Principal Petitioner

Please enter the name of person raising the petition. Please include a contact address to which correspondence may be sent and a contact telephone number. Only the principal petitioner's name and no other details will be made public.

Name: EMMA HUTT

Address: 8 PENICUIK ROAD  
ROSLIN  
EH25 9LH

Tel No:

e-mail:

### Petition Statement

Please state clearly in the box below the purpose of your petition and what action you wish Midlothian Council to take.

(Important – Please note that petitions will be **rejected** and returned to the Principal Petitioner in cases where the wording contained within the Petition Statement box below differs from that on any accompanying petition signature sheets.)

We, the undersigned bus users, strongly object to the scheduled changes to the Lothian Bus number 15 and number 40 bus routes. The changes will directly affect many, cutting off the link from Auchendinny and Roslin to Morningside and Edinburgh city centre and meaning there is no useful service passing Asda from Auchendinny or Roslin. In 2012, there was a public consultation, but there was no sign that this vital community link would be withdrawn. The service has been withdrawn with no consultation or engagement. Miller Homes have recently built 120 new houses in Auchendinny with home owners having bought on the understanding that there was a direct bus link to Edinburgh.

**(Continued)**

Auchendinny is an expanding community who should be receiving enhanced services not a reduction. Likewise, for Roslin residents, Morningside holds many of our local services, jobs and amenities, put in place due to the presence of the 15 bus. The new service does not serve the needs of the growing local community and to withdraw this service would be a grave error of judgement and we oppose the move. We hereby petition Midlothian Council to recommend to the Council and Lothian Buses that they review or rescind their decision to alter the 15 and 40 Lothian bus routes.

**Action taken to resolve issues of concern before submitting the Petition**

Before a petition is submitted, you may have already raised the issue in question with the relevant Council department or other agency and it would be helpful if you could briefly outline what measures if any you have taken. This could include, for example, details of any individuals or organisations approached. Please limit any information to no more than 4 sides of A4 paper.

*Please see separate sheet.*

**Presenting your Petition**

As the principal petitioner you will be invited to appear before the Council's Petitions Committee to speak in support of the petition and also to answer any questions which members of the Committee may wish to put to you and assist them in reaching their decision.

You may be accompanied by one supporter who may speak on your behalf.

**Signature of Principal Petitioner**

When satisfied that the petition meets all the criteria outlined in the Procedures for Dealing with Petitions, the Principal Petitioner should sign and date the form in the box below.

All other signatures gathered should be appended to the form.

(Important – Please remember that petitions will be rejected and returned to the Principal Petitioner in cases where the wording contained within the Petition Statement box above differs from that on any accompanying petition signature sheets.)

**Signature**



**Date**

12.3.15

(Please type your name if sending by e-mail)

**Name in block capitals**

EMMA HUTT

(Please type your name if sending by e-mail)

**Appended Information**

Please ensure that the following items are appended to this form:-

- Other signatories to the petition (if any)
- Copies of relevant correspondence
- Any additional information for consideration

**Submission**

Please submit this form and attachments, by mail or in person, to:-

Petitions Staff  
Council Secretariat  
Resources Directorate  
Midlothian Council  
Midlothian House  
Buccleuch Street  
Dalkeith  
EH22 1DN

or by email to [petitions@midlothian.gov.uk](mailto:petitions@midlothian.gov.uk)

## Action taken to resolve issues of concern before submitting the petition

- We have spoken with local groups who are opposed to the change, including Roslin Baby and Toddler Group and Auchendinny Families
- Submitted Freedom of Information Requests to Lothian Buses, Transport Scotland and the Traffic Commissioner
- Emailed Joan Aitkin, Traffic Officer, regarding the contentious issue
- We have corresponded with Russell Imrie, who has been very supportive
- Placed posters at all the bus stops in Auchendinny and Roslin to raise awareness of proposed changes and gather signatures of those opposed to the changes
- Raised concerns in a meeting with local councillor Andrew Coventry, who advised us to petition the Petition Committee
- Contacted Owen Thomson, local Councillor
- Spoken with Asda, with regards to Lothian bus reply to a resident asking about bus services to Asda from Auchendinny and Roslin. Lothian bus replied that it was not a significant complaint, as we could still get to Tesco, Sainsbury's and Morrisons by bus. Asda are not happy.
- Emailed Lothian Buses several times, including the email below on 22<sup>nd</sup> February, but as yet have received no reply

Dear Lothian buses, as a resident of Roslin village, I was excited to hear of changes afoot on the bus services in our area. Unfortunately I, along with hundreds of other bus users, am very disappointed with the scheduled changes. I understand that we will still have a half hourly service, and a night bus but that it will be the 37, serving Loanhead and down the bridges into Edinburgh city centre. Not only will this be a lengthy journey into town, it cuts off a vital link between Roslin and local services in Morningside and Bruntsfield. In order to go to Morningside and Bruntsfield, where a large number of Roslin residents work, we will have to get the 37 or 40 towards Penicuik, to the easiest and safest crossing of that main road, which is almost as far as Penicuik, then change to the 15 service. Personally speaking, my church, baby groups I attend, my weekly counselling session, my work and most of my recreation is in Morningside, or on the 15 bus route. I know of many people in Roslin in the same boat. I don't know what we will do. Short of moving house, which I will not be doing. To call these changes 'an improvement' is a misnomer. Please rethink these changes, for the good of your loyal customers. The 15 is a busy service with tourists and locals alike. I really would hate to see it go. Please let us know if there is anything at all we can do to change this decision.