

## WATAG – Answers to questions raised at the May CPC meeting.

1. Who is the WATAG chairman?

Bob Driscoll - [drisc.juggs@talk21.com](mailto:drisc.juggs@talk21.com)

2. Subsidised bus routes in the Bridport area.

The only bus services [school contract buses excepted] that still have any subsidy are: - 71: Lyme Regis Town Service (subsidised by Lyme Regis Town Council); 6: Bridport – Beaminster – Crewkerne (partially subsidised by Dorset Council). All other subsidised bus routes in this area were withdrawn between 2015 and 2017.

The 31 (now X51) stopped being subsidised September 2011.

The X53 is not subsidised (not sure about the Devon bit).

3. Equalities Act.

The Equalities Act is not retrospective. It states that “reasonable adjustments” for disability access of all kinds must be made.

Factors for “Reasonable”

- how practicable the changes are?
- if the change you ask for would overcome the disadvantage you and other disabled people experience
- the size of the organisation
- how much money and resources are available?
- the cost of making the changes

More specifically, the UK Roads Liaison Group has published an updated version of “Well-managed Highway Infrastructure - A Code of Practice”

The UK Roads Liaison Group (UKRLG) has launched an update to its Code of Practice which takes an integrated, risk-based approach to managing highway infrastructure assets. The Code 'Well-managed Highway Infrastructure' was published on 28 October 2016. The new Code can either be adopted straightaway by authorities or they have until October 2018 to adopt a risk-based approach. There are no hard copies available of this publication.

B.4.4.3. It will also be important in determining priorities for footway maintenance to ensure that opportunities are taken to aid social inclusion, particularly improving accessibility for older and people with disabilities and also the use of prams and pushchairs. This should be included as part of the Value Management process described in Section B.6.9. Proposed treatments may include the provision of dropped kerbs in suitable locations and textured paving adjacent to crossing points at marginal cost during the course of works. **There is a statutory duty on service providers under the Equality Act 2010 to take reasonable steps to remove or alter physical features to improve access for people with disabilities or provide an alternative method of making services available.**