Jenny Riddell-Carpenter
Member of Parliament for Suffolk Coastal
House of Commons, London SW1A 0AA

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7th July 2026

Better Buses for Suffolk Coastal and Big Bus Discussion

Dear residents of [redacted]

Over the past two years, one issue has come up more than almost any other in conversations with residents across Suffolk Coastal: local bus services.

Across the Constituency, I continue to hear the same concerns. Services are becoming less reliable, less frequent, and in some cases have disappeared altogether. Routes no longer connect people properly to the places they need to go, and too many communities are increasingly feeling cut off.

For many residents, this affects access to GP appointments and hospital care, getting to work or education, supporting local businesses, and staying connected with family, friends and community life. In rural and coastal areas like ours, reliable public transport is a lifeline.

Over the past year, I have carried out a constituency-wide survey on bus services across Suffolk Coastal. The message from residents was clear: people want to use buses, but the current network is not meeting local needs. Many told me they would use public transport far more often if services were more reliable, better connected, and better timed.

That is why I have launched my Better Buses for Suffolk Coastal campaign.

This campaign calls for practical changes to reconnect our rural and coastal communities and ensure that no village is left behind. In particular, I am calling for:

- Improved connectivity for communities currently without meaningful bus services.
- Stronger links between villages and essential services such as healthcare, education, employment and shopping
- Better connections between coastal towns and surrounding communities
- Expanded evening and Sunday services on key routes
- Bus timetables that are properly coordinated with trains, schools, colleges and local working patterns

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I am therefore asking residents to add their voice to this campaign and support the call for improved bus services across Suffolk Coastal. By adding your name, you can help demonstrate the strength of local feeling and send a clear message to Suffolk County Council and local bus operators that rural communities must not be left behind when it comes to public transport.

To support the campaign, please visit: getcampaigning.co.uk/suffolk-coastal/c/better-buses

To take this work forward, I'm also hosting a public discussion on bus services in Suffolk Coastal:

Date: Wednesday 22nd July
Time : 6:00pm – 7:30pm
Location: The Fromus Centre, Street Farm Road, Saxmundham, IP17 1AL

This will bring together residents, bus operators and Suffolk County Council to discuss the challenges facing local services and the practical changes needed to improve them. It will also be an opportunity to share your experiences directly and hear from others across the area.

If you would like to attend, you can register here: getcampaigning.co.uk/events/big-bus-discussion

Together, we can make the case for a bus network that properly connects our villages, towns and coastal communities, and ensures that no one is left isolated because of poor transport links.

Yours sincerely,

Jenny Riddell-Carpenter MP
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