

## Media Release – The Hon Shelley Payne MLC

### Esperance bus service trial extended for another year.

Thursday, 17 August 2023

- Esperance bus service trial now extended for another year.
- Community feedback helped shape minor adjustments.
- Passenger numbers grew in second half of the initial trial.

The State Government has announced the Esperance bus service trial will be extended for a further 12 months.

The initial trial has seen promising passenger numbers, including growth in the second half of the trial period.

Three new bus routes were introduced as part of the trial to give the community better access to local services in the Esperance town centre and surrounding suburbs. Minor adjustments were made following community consultation and a six-month review.

The initial trial saw consistent passenger numbers in the first year, with passengers travelling between the town centre and Castletown, Nulsen, and West Beach.

The 12-month extension means the trial will now conclude at the end of July 2024.

To access the bus timetable, please visit:

[https://www.pta.wa.gov.au/Portals/15/AA\\_DOCUMENTS/Our\\_services/Transregional%20timetables%20and%20fares/TransEsperance%20Trial/TransEsperance\\_Trial\\_Brochure.pdf](https://www.pta.wa.gov.au/Portals/15/AA_DOCUMENTS/Our_services/Transregional%20timetables%20and%20fares/TransEsperance%20Trial/TransEsperance_Trial_Brochure.pdf)

#### Comments attributed to Agricultural Region MLC Shelley Payne

"Already we have seen the community benefit with locals better accessing essential services such as the Esperance Health Campus, Esperance Care Services, and the shopping centre.

"We received an overwhelmingly positive response during community consultation during the first trial, which is wonderful to see.

"I encourage the community and visitors to continue getting on board this service and making it a success for another year."

#### Comments attributed to Transport Minister Rita Saffioti:

"I welcome the extension of this trial, which will continue to provide the community as well as tourists with a reliable and low-cost option of travelling within the town of Esperance.

"The results from the first 12 months showed strong growth in passenger numbers in the second half of the trial period, and we want to see if that growth continues over the coming year.

"My message to the community is to make the most of this service, as the passenger usage over the 12 months will help us determine its long-term future."

**Media Contact: Kelly Brady – (08) 9072 1786**