## Traffic wardens to travel on the buses

The council is to trial a crack down on drivers parking in bus lanes with traffic wardens riding Lothian Buses to target city hotspots.

Parking attendants will start to use the buses on specially selected routes where there are issues with vehicles blocking bus lanes.

Attendants will be able to get off the buses to move on or issue parking tickets to any drivers breaking the rules and then board the next bus on the same route.

The initiative, being carried out in partnership with Lothian Buses, aims to improve bus reliability and journey times by reducing disruption to services caused by incorrectly parked vehicles. In turn this will support and encourage sustainable, low carbon travel by public transport.

Cllr Scott Arthur, Transport and Environment Convener, said: "We already have an excellent bus service in Edinburgh, relied on by many, and our bus lanes are really important to making sure services can run smoothly and on time, especially during peak hours.

"This trial, in partnership with Lothian Buses, will let parking attendants target hotspots in real time, where drivers continue to park inconsiderately. We'll continue monitoring its effectiveness to make sure we're focusing on the right areas.

"Encouraging and supporting travel by sustainable, reliable public transport is crucial to our net zero 2030 aspirations, as well as helping to reduce congestion, improve air quality and provide accessible transport for everyone."

Willie Hamilton, Operations Director, Lothian Buses, said: "Lothian is committed to providing a safe, reliable and trusted service across Edinburgh and the Lothians.

"As we look to encourage the use of public transport in support of the Scottish Government and The City of Edinburgh Council's wider environmental goals, it is important that we work with partners across the city on effective ways to ensure bus priority measures are followed which will enhance our ability to provide a consistently reliable standard of service for our customers."

<u>Information about bus lanes in Edinburgh here.</u>



Lothian bus on Princes Street PHOTO ©2023 The Edinburgh

## Reporter