

INQUIRY INTO PRIVATISATION OF BUS SERVICES

Name: Name suppressed
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Partially
Confidential

The Eastern suburbs bus service has been completely degraded by the changes made in the past few months. The loss of routes such as the 400 and 348 and the reduction in route of the 374 have had a huge impact on the ability of my family to get where we need to go. We need to build a lot more buffer time into our journeys and will often now go by car instead.

There is now only one bus that we can take home from Bondi Junction and it only goes every 20 minutes. It used to be that we could be assured of getting a bus within a few minutes of getting to Bondi Junction, but now we are faced with a long wait, which feels like a huge waste of time since we didn't used to have to wait much at all.

It used to be that if I was in Circular Quay, I could hop on the 374 bus and be dropped off 25-30 minutes later only a block away from where I need to be to pick my sons up from their primary school. Now without the 374 at Circular Quay, my only option from Circular Quay is the light rail, which takes at least 40 minutes to get to Randwick and drops me a 10-15 minute walk away from where I need to be. That's a 55 minute journey instead of a 25-30 minute journey. Consequently, I make fewer trips into town and when I do go I will drive in and pay for parking instead of being reliant on public transport that doesn't take me where I need to be when I need to be there.

The 400, 348 and 374 buses should be restored to their former routes immediately.