

## INQUIRY INTO PRIVATISATION OF BUS SERVICES

**Name:** Name suppressed

**Date Received:** 8 February 2022

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Partially  
Confidential

## **Submission on bus privatisation in the Eastern Suburbs**

Recent experiences on bus privatisation in Sydney's inner-west and Newcastle have shown that this approach to public transport does not work. With many routes cut and stops closed in the East, we can already see that buses are not running on schedule and the NSW Transport app is not even able to provide accurate timing anymore, with buses appearing and disappearing on the app like ghosts.

In other areas of Sydney, on-time running has plummeted since the service was privatised, with the private company failing to meet its on-time running KPIs every month (source: ourtransport.com)

Cuts to local bus services are both an inconvenience and a serious risk. People are left by the side of the road; the vulnerable are forced to change buses multiple times to get to appointments. Popular destinations are no longer catered for simply to suit the needs of the local government, rather than residents.

Not only does the privatisation announcement put local services at risk, but it is also a complete betrayal of workers and the NSW community. Private operators put profits before people, closing even more bus stops and cutting back on maintenance, as we have seen it happening in Newcastle and in the inner-west.

I strongly oppose the privatisation of Sydney buses in the East and call for restoring all services that have already been cut since December 2021, despite solid community opposition.

Thank you