

PRESS RELEASE

For Immediate Release

Second bus on 419 Clifden-Galway route needed for commuters with early work starts - Dep John Connolly

A second bus must be added to Bus Éireann's 419 Clifden-Galway route as the current service is inadequate for those commuters who have to start work early.

This is the view of Fianna Fáil Galway West TD, John Connolly, who has written to the National Transport Authority on the issue. It follows representations from constituents regarding the current times of the 419 service and the issues it creates for passengers, especially in the Moycullen area.

In correspondence with the NTA, Dep Connolly noted that the 419 service which commences in Oughterard reaches Moycullen at 7.46am and Eyre Square at 8.21am.

"For those that start work at 08:00 in Galway City the bus arrives too late," Dep Connolly pointed out. "The second issue is that the bus is often full and unable to accept new passengers at Moycullen."

As the next Moycullen service is at 11am, Dep Connolly proposed to the NTA that a second bus, to serve the morning commuter run, be added to the route. This should start "at a slightly earlier time" and would "free up space on the over-capacity line", allowing those starting work at 8am "to make it in on time".

The NTA has informed Dep Connolly that it is due to "discuss ongoing capacity challenges across the network" with Bus Éireann, with the 419 "identified as one of the services requiring attention". The 7:46am departure from Moycullen and 8.21am arrival at Eyre Square will also "be specifically raised during the meeting".

"This is welcome news for early morning commuters that the NTA and Bus Éireann have highlighted these capacity issues for discussion," said Dep Connolly. "Obviously this is subject to funding and the potential effects on other services have to be considered, but if we are to encourage people to use public transport, especially when there is a public demand for it, such as from people in the Moycuylle area, then such positive changes to the service must be strongly considered."

Dep Connolly also asked the NTA also to examine the 424 Service Galway-Leitir Mealláin and consider applying additional capacity to the route also.

ENDS

For more information or to arrange an interview with Dep John Connolly on this issue, contact: 087 - 9032345