



**Port Lincoln Town Bus Service
6 July 2006**

Where is our bus service Minister Conlon?

As of 5pm Friday 7th July Port Lincoln residents will be without a bus service, the only form of public transport in the city.

Attached is a copy of a letter written by Member for Flinders Liz Penfold to Minister for Transport Patrick Conlon about the current public transport crisis in Port Lincoln.

Ref: STR2B2:bf06
Date:

Hon Patrick Conlon MP
Minister for Transport
GPO Box 2969
ADELAIDE SA 5001

Dear Patrick

The Port Lincoln City town bus service will cease operating as of Friday the 7th July 2006 unless you as Minister take urgent action to avert this crisis.

There has been 12 months to finalize the Passenger Transport Board review and find a service provider for Port Lincoln and still one has not been found.

During the past 12 months the Port Lincoln City Council has provided a bus service through an already extended contract with the Passenger Transport Board. However the council is not prepared to continue with this and recently sold the bus with the service ceasing on the 7th July to coincide with the end of school term.

After the Passenger Transport Board's review, a Dial a Ride service was introduced in December 2005, through Port Augusta company "Gulf Get Aways", which will also cease operations on Friday the 7th of July, leaving Port Lincoln with no form of public transport.

It is unfair and unjust that the people of Port Lincoln are still without a public bus offering full transport services. They have been waiting long enough. The elderly and disabled particularly rely on this valuable service.

There is a taxi service in Port Lincoln, however they are in high demand as is illustrated by the attached article advising that "Up to 200 passengers are being turned away". They are also too expensive for pensioners to afford for every day outings, and there is only one disabled taxi available.

Could you please advise what will be done to provide alternative public transport for Port Lincoln after tomorrow as this is now a matter of great urgency.

Yours sincerely,

Mrs. Liz Penfold MP

Shadow Minister for Regional Development, Small Business, Consumer Affairs