



# Fleet Digest

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## 'Trojan Bus' used to catch Cambridge Busway vandals



**Stagecoach gears up to restart new vehicle investment**  
**'Local' livery for Stagecoach East Midlands Dart SLF**

## On the Cover



The Stagecoach 'beachball' livery is slowly being replaced by the new Stagecoach family of liveries. Now repainted at Stagecoach North East is ADL Enviro 300 27726. © Ian Hardie

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## Stagecoach statement suggests new vehicle investment has restarted

A statement from Stagecoach UK suggests that it has restarted its new vehicle investment plan, after it was stalled as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic.

A Stagecoach spokesperson has told Steven Knight Media that it is "working with manufacturers to bring in a number of new cleaner, greener vehicles over the coming months. This includes the new coaches on the Oxford Tube services".

The spokesperson added that Stagecoach is: "also committed to bringing in more electric buses onto our London routes, and have a number of double-decks and micro hybrids to introduce across the country.

Whilst there is no specific detail from Stagecoach it is believed that the company may have already placed an order for further Enviro 400MMCs from ADL.

The spokesperson added: "We'll also be introducing five electric vehicles on our Kilmarnock services early next year as part of a joint opportunity through the Green Economy Fund (GEF)". We understand that these zero emission electric single deck buses which will join the Stagecoach West Scotland fleet will operate between Kilmarnock and Priestland and the project is the result of a £2 million grant from the GEF.

Stagecoach adds that: "Over the past decade, we have invested more than £1 billion in 7,000 new greener

vehicles - more than any other operator in the UK - including electric, hybrid electric and hydrogen and biofuel technologies.

"In the longer term, our focus remains on making even further reductions on the carbon impact of our services, and we are looking at a range of options as part of our sustainability and vehicle technology strategy.

The last double deck deliveries to Stagecoach were 52 Enviro 400MMCs for the Manchester fleet. © Philip Davies





In recent years there has been a move towards circles, swoops and diagonal lines for the liveries on many bus fleets. Whilst these can work, they need designing to a high standard. But it is also possible to make traditional style liveries look modern and we really like the treatment that Hulleys of Baslow has come up with. The blue and cream horizontal

bands coupled with a impactful fleetname is really lifted with the addition of the silver leaf effect at the rear. In our opinion this creates a modern feel on a traditional-style livery which really works. Perhaps it is time for some of the major groups to step back and realise that a simple livery approach can be extremely effective. © Gareth Hale

## Stagecoach East Scotland

The four Enviro 400s on loan here from Stagecoach Highlands, 19038/40/43 and 19214 have been allocated to the Rennies fleet and have been joined by similar 19057/66/67 from Aberhill. The Enviro 400s at Aberhill have been replaced by 11.8m Enviro 200MMCs 26012/16/17 which have been transferred from Dunfermline.

Following repairs Enviro 300 27139 is back in service at Glenrothes.

## Stagecoach West Scotland

Currently out of service for repair is Enviro 300 27226 which has been replaced on the Ayr allocation by 27883 which had been delicensed. Volvo B11R 54337 has been relicensed at Ayr and has replaced Volvo 54108 which is now delicensed. Delicensed Optare Solo SR 47843 at Ayr has been relicensed and transferred to Kilmarnock where it has displaced Optare Solo 47613 to the Reserve Fleet. At Stranraer Enviro 200 36145 has been relicensed and transferred to Dumfries replacing 36142 which is now undergoing repairs.

## Stagecoach Highlands

Three of the former Stagecoach East Volvo B9R/Plaxton Panthers have now entered service here with 53616/17 at Kirkwall and 53618 at Skye.

Mercedes-Benz Sprinter 44025 is on loan to Caithness from Tain. Enviro 400 19219 is out of use at Inverness for seat belt fitment whilst electric Optare Solo SRs 48900/04 have returned to service at Kirkwall. Also now back in service after repairs are Trident 18112, Enviro 200MMC 26128

and Enviro 200 36197 at Inverness, with Volvo B7R 53284 and Volvo B12B 53103 now back in service at Skye and Volvo B7R 53316 now back at Kirkwall after repairs.

Vehicles stood down for repairs in the last month are Volvo B13R 54132 from Caithness along with Volvo B7R 53309/18, Enviro 300 27807 and Optare Solo SR 47813 at Kirkwall. Now undergoing long term repairs at Inverness are Volvo B12B 53104 and Enviro 400 19218 whilst Reserve Fleet Optare Solo 47252 is also now under overhaul here.

## Stagecoach East Midlands

The first Dart SLF to receive the new Stagecoach 'Local' livery here is 35130 from Gainsborough. Also receiving the 'Local' livery have been Enviro 200 36510 and Enviro 300 27760 from Mansfield. Next in line for the Stagecoach 'Local' livery treatment is Enviro 400 19295

The repainting of Enviro 400MMC 10748 at Hull completes the re-livery of the 2016 batch of 15 vehicles (10734-48) into the Stagecoach 'Local' scheme.

Trident 18320 re-entered service at Lincoln on 6th November 2020 after almost four months out of service.



Stagecoach East Midlands' ADL Enviro 400MMC 10748 is the last of the 10734-48 batch of vehicles to be repainted into the Stagecoach 'Local' livery. © Ian Knott

## From our archives: West Midlands to Yorkshire and Hull



Photographed when part of the Hull-based North Bank fleet is Leyland National (TAE639S). It was new to Bristol Omnibus and operated in various areas of the privatised Western Travel operation including with Midland Red South where it was numbered 803.

© Steven Knight Media



Andrews/Sheffield Omnibus operated a number of former West Midlands Fleetlines including 1712 (SDA647S), a Park Royal-bodied Leyland Fleetline which was 6647 in the West Midlands fleet. © Steven Knight Media



Also seen with Andrews/Sheffield Omnibus is 1714 (SDA749S) another former West Midlands Leyland Fleetline but with very angular East Lancs bodywork. Ordered by Coventry Transport the body design was altered by the West Midlands PTE to resemble the PTE's 'standard' bodywork at that time. © Steven Knight Media



## Ready for Service in 2010 Stagecoach East's Enviro 400s



In 2010 Stagecoach East took delivery of 14 ADL Enviro 400s (19693-19706) to replace Trident/ALX400s on Peterborough's Citi 1 route. They are pictured prior to entry into service. They were themselves replaced in 2017

by ADL Enviro 400MMCs, when they were displaced to King's Lynn and Bedford. All but three examples are now back at Peterborough with just 19698, 19705 and 19705 remaining at Bedford. © Steven Knight Media





We spotted this on Fowler Travel's Facebook page and it really caught our attention as another dynamic livery. The bus is a Volvo B7RLE with Wright Eclipse Urban bodywork. Now registered RIG6494 it originally carried registration GN06EVM when new to Arriva. It latterly operated with Lothian East Coast Buses.

© Fowler's Travel Facebook Page

## Stagecoach West

A further recipient of the Stagecoach 'Local' livery here is MAN/Enviro 300 22754, which has lost Stagecoach Gold livery.

Back in service at North Bristol after seat belt fitment is Trident 18422. Also now at North Bristol are Trident 18087 and Scania/Enviro 400 15736 from Swindon.

Currently decommissioned but remaining licensed at Swindon is Optare Solo 47904.

## Stagecoach Yorkshire

Frequently deputising for an Optare Solo on the Matlock Town service recently has been Chesterfield-allocated 8.2m Enviro 200 36071. This vehicles joined the **Stagecoach West Scotland** fleet from Shuttle Buses of Kilwinning it was then transferred to **Stagecoach Merseyside & South Lancashire** before a further transfer to this fleet.

## Stagecoach Midlands

No Enviro 200s at Nuneaton now carry route 5/5A Camp Hill and 10 Grove Farm branding. The WiFi branding is also removed from the Stagecoach

### THE OXFORD & CHILTERN'S BUS PAGE Weekly briefing

Another bumper offering from Malcolm Crowe and his contributors makes an informative read for issue 131, which was published online on 20th November 2020.

This weeks' content includes:

**Editorial**

**Christmas Light Bus in Oxford**

**More new tube coaches arrive and training starts**

**Queen Street in Oxford still closed**

**Frideswide Square to close until 27th November**

**Marlow Branch replacement bus service Covid-19 update**

**Memories from Times Past from Michael Wadman & Chris Loddington**

**Readers' Write**

**Readers' visit to Slough & East Scotland**

**.....plus all the local news and some pictures of other operators.**

You can view the latest news page and archive issues of the Oxford & Chilterns Bus Page at any time by visiting

[www.oxford-chiltern-bus-page.co.uk](http://www.oxford-chiltern-bus-page.co.uk)

Gold fleet of 11.8m Enviro 200MMCs.

## Stagecoach South

Now in Stagecoach 'Local' livery is Enviro 200 36839.



Now carrying the new East Yorkshire coach livery is 48-seat Volvo B9R/Caetano Levante 84 (YY63OJA), which was new in 2013. The coach livery has been designed by Ray Stenning's Best Impressions agency to have a 'family' feel with the main East Yorkshire livery. © Ian Knott







## Latest Transdev and Brighton & Hove Facemasks



Both Go Ahead-owned Brighton & Hove and Transdev have announced new design facemasks.

The seasonal offering from Brighton & Hove (above) cost £5 each and can be ordered now at [www.brighton-hovebuses.myshopify.com](http://www.brighton-hovebuses.myshopify.com)

The latest All the Places of Transdev design (right) will be available in red or blue and should be available to order soon. Check on availability and pricing at [www.shop.transdevbus.co.uk](http://www.shop.transdevbus.co.uk)



## Stagecoach South West

The remains of fire-damaged Enviro 200 36232 were collected from Exeter depot on 19th November 2020 and taken to a Crediton scrapyard.

Optare Solo 47086 is a transfer from Barnstaple to Plymouth with Optare Solo SRs 48012/13 moving from Plymouth to Exeter. Transferred from Barnstaple to Torquay are Dart SLFs 34607 and 34609.

Latest recipient of the new livery here is Enviro 400MMC 10461 with Scania/Enviro 400 15897 next in line. So far 34 buses have received the new Stagecoach 'Local' livery with a further two in Stagecoach 'Distance' livery. The repainted vehicles in Stagecoach 'Local' livery here are:

Enviro 400MMC: 10460/61

Scania/Enviro 400: 15435, 15790,  
15862/85/87/88/92/94

MAN/Enviro 300: 24141-47/51

Enviro 200MMC 11.8m: 26034-36

Dart SLF: 34610, 34739, 34865/72/76,  
35165/66/70/71

Enviro 200: 36247

Optare Solo: 47099, 47519/20

The two Scania/Enviro 400s in the Stagecoach 'Distance' livery are 15924 and 15930.

## Stagecoach North East

Disposals of MAN/ALX300s here in the last month have seen PVS take 22013/16/51; Alpha Recovery has taken 22022/69 whilst 22050 has gone to A H Hardwick.

The company reports that MAN/ALX300 training vehicle 22074 has been returned to use at Stockton.

Recent repaints here into Stagecoach 'Local' livery are Enviro 300s 27523 and 27726.

## Stagecoach South Wales

11.8m Enviro 200MMC 26110 finally re-entered service at Porth on 21st November 2020 following its decommissioning as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic. Still out of use at Porth are 26111 and Optare Solo 47694.

The latest vehicle in the Stagecoach South West fleet to receive Stagecoach 'Local' livery is ADL Enviro 400MMC 10461. © Adrian Roberts



## 'Trojan Bus' used to catch Cambridge Busway vandals

The Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Combined Authority, led by Mayor James Palmer, worked with Stagecoach and Cambridgeshire police to bring about the arrests of people vandalising buses in Cambridge, by masterminding the idea of a 'Trojan Bus', a normal bus running not in service containing plain clothes police offers, able to draw up alongside people unnoticed.

After reports that buses were being diverted off the guided Busway South of the City due to a dozen buses having their windows smashed by vandals, the Combined Authority decided to take action in reaching out to the Cambridgeshire police to propose the idea of a 'Trojan Bus', which Stagecoach provided, that would help plain clothes police officers to make necessary arrests.

Travelling in the Trojan Bus, the police were able to make arrests of people participating in anti-social behaviour and breaching nationally set Covid-19 restrictions.

The Cambridgeshire police will continue to work with Stagecoach and other bus companies, to patrol the buses and on foot along the guided busway and Trumpington areas in uniform and plain clothes, in response to reports of robberies, criminal damage and anti-social behaviour on the buses and are keen to use the concept of a Trojan bus again in the future.

Mayor James Palmer said: "This is a great example of local organisations working together in the interests of the public. Anti-social behaviour on our public transport will not be tolerated, and I am glad that we were able to help restore safety to the bus network. Buses are a vital part of our community and I would like to thank our local police and Stagecoach for their work



The effects of missile throwing at buses.  
© Matthew Arnold/Twitter

in bringing peace of mind to the public."

Sergeant Kiri Mazur, Cambridgeshire Police, said: "Officers from the local Neighbourhood Team were delighted to be able to work with Stagecoach in this way, and are also grateful to the Combined Authority for their assistance with organising the patrol. We hope that this work has reassured the community and the bus companies of our commitment to tackling anti-social behaviour in the area, and we look forward to working alongside Stagecoach again in future."

Michelle Hargreaves, Managing Director for Stagecoach East said: "Following the recent incidents of vandalism on our buses, we worked alongside Cambridgeshire Police to provide one of our buses to assist in a covert operation. We will continue to work closely with the police to aid their ongoing investigation. We want to thank all our staff involved in safely carrying out this operation, particularly our Busway Driver on the night, Alex Vose who volunteered to help with the initiative. The safety of our drivers and customers is of the upmost importance and acts of vandalism will not be tolerated."



The Stagecoach 'beachball' livery is slowly being replaced by the new Stagecoach family of liveries but will be around for many years to come with thousands of buses to be repainted, such as Stagecoach East's Enviro 400 19603. © Gareth Hale