



**SOUTH WOODHAM FERRERS
TOWN COUNCIL**

SWF Transport Hub Blog

July 2026

SWF Transport Hub is part of South Woodham Ferrers' commitment under the Love Your Bus programme to improve local awareness of bus services, promote sustainable travel, and support the enhanced 336 route. This blog provides clear, friendly updates to help residents make the most of local public transport.

Changes to bus services at the end of July: What South Woodham Ferrers Needs to Know

Public transport in South Woodham Ferrers is set for several changes at the end of July, and many residents will notice differences in how local buses run. Some of these changes are improvements, others are reductions, and one is a significant shift in where certain services begin their day. This guide brings everything together so you can see, at a glance, what's happening and how it may affect your journeys.

The most positive development is the enhancement of the [336](#) service to Chelmsford on a Sunday with restoration of a 2 hourly service, giving South Woodham Ferrers better connections throughout the day. Whether you're travelling for work, shopping, appointments or leisure, the increased number of buses should make planning easier.

Alongside this, a new Saturday service is being introduced on the [45](#). For many residents, this will open up an extra weekend travel option, especially for those who prefer to use public transport for leisure trips or who rely on buses to reach nearby towns and villages. It's a modest addition, but a welcome one. One of the more notable operational changes involves the starting point of certain journeys. Until now, the first bus of the day has typically begun in South Woodham Ferrers. From the end of July, that pattern will reverse: the first bus will start in Bradwell instead. This change continues through the day, meaning Bradwell becomes the origin point for several journeys that previously began here. For early-morning travellers in SWF, this may slightly alter the timing of the first available departure, so it's worth checking the updated timetable to avoid surprises. Not all changes are improvements. [The 94 and 94A](#) services will see a reduction in frequency, which may affect residents who rely on these routes for local travel within the Dengie or for connections to nearby villages. If these buses form part of your regular routine, reviewing the new timetable will be important to ensure your usual journeys still align with the revised schedule.

Taken together, the end-of-July changes represent a mixed picture: stronger links to Chelmsford, a new Saturday option, a shift in morning operations, and a reduction in two rural routes. The most important thing for residents is simply to familiarise themselves with the new timetables before the changes come into effect, especially if you travel early in the day or depend on the [94/94A](#). Bus to Maldon? We have been promised a new bus service [99](#) and this will now start from the 27th July 2026, operated by Stephenson Buses.



If you travel around Essex, one website is genuinely worth bookmarking: **TravelEssex**. It brings together live bus and train updates, journey planning tools, cycling and walking routes, and the latest local transport news, all in one place. It's quick to use, easy to navigate, and ideal whether you're commuting, heading out at the weekend, or just checking the best way to get from A to B.

For clear, reliable travel information across the county, visit <https://www.travelessex.co.uk/> and make planning your journeys a lot simpler.

Interesting fact

Most bus routes serving South Woodham Ferrers run on familiar daily patterns. But one service in the wider Dengie area breaks that mould entirely: a fortnightly rural bus operated by **Ford Coaches**, making it one of the rarest public transport services in Essex.

Running just once every two weeks, it reflects an older style of rural transport, designed around specific community needs rather than commercial frequency. For the residents who rely on it, the service provides essential access to shops, appointments and connections that would otherwise be difficult without a car.

Because it operates so infrequently, it has a different character to regular routes. Passengers often know each other, and journeys feel more like a community outing than a standard bus trip. Despite its small scale, the service fills a gap that larger operators don't cover and keeps isolated villages connected.

It's easy to overlook a bus that appears only twice a month, but it remains part of the wider story of how rural Essex moves. In a future article, we'll look at how occasional services like this fit into the network and why they still matter in 2026.

More to come, come back soon!

The SWF Transport Hub Blog will continue to follow local transport developments closely and provide clear, practical updates to help you navigate changes with confidence. Your Town Council is working for you to improve public transport. Please email your transport questions to : david@southwoodhamferrerstc.gov.uk