

Press Release

22 June 2021



Passenger User Groups on Thameslink north say “Arrival of the new Railway Flexi Season Ticket may require action by users of existing Carnet Tickets”

APTU¹ and BCA², the Passenger User Groups on the Thameslink north have been taking a look at the impact of the new Flexi Season ticket for users of stations in our area – and it is not all good news.

Some users – eg at St Albans, will pay more, and anyone who mixes off-peak and peak carnet tickets are likely to lose out. Although the off-peak Carnet remains in existence – for now, the cost of the peak hour journey will increase – possibly substantially; a Bedford user in this situation could see their daily cost increase from £32.40 to £40.25 (by contrast a Bedford user travelling both ways at peak hours will save £1.25). At a station like St Albans, a part peak / part off-peak user sees daily costs increase by £1.10 and a peak both ways user by £0.58.

Neil Middleton, Chairman of APTU, said “A good portion of existing Carnet users should take action now by contemplating buying a three month supply of peak hour carnet tickets to put off the price increase by 3 months; this needs to be done by Sunday 27th June at the latest”.

Arthur Taylor, Chairman of BCA, said “Anyone who has historically mixed Peak and Off-Peak tickets will end up paying more, sometimes substantially more; don’t forget to buy those peak Carnet tickets before they go off sale. Do contemplate writing to your MP to ask that they follow this up with the Department for Transport”.

More detail is available in APTU’s Newsletter of today’s date: this is available here:

aptu.org.uk/pdfs/aptunews20210622.pdf and in their table of prices:

aptu.org.uk/excel/tl_north_flexibleseason_impact_june2021.xlsx.

Note: For users of Radlett, Harlington (Beds) and Flitwick, who previously did not have Carnet tickets, the Flexi-Season is much more of a plus.

Media questions should be addressed to Neil Middleton (APTU Chairman) on 07887 628367 or Arthur Taylor (BCA Chairman) on 07850 730092.

About us:

1. APTU (the Association of Public Transport Users) is the Passenger User Group on the Thameslink route for stations between West Hampstead and Harlington inclusive. Their web site is at www.aptu.org.uk.
2. BCA (the Bedford Commuters Association) is the Passenger User Group on the Thameslink route for Bedford & Flitwick. Their web site is at www.bedfordcommuters.org.uk.

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