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# Surrey Bus Schedule Considered More Of A Suggestion

*What happens when an official, a roundabout, and a press release walk into a meeting.*

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## Surrey, the country: Inside The Story

Surrey, a place in the country (lat 51.27, long -0.40) that most outsiders could not point to on a map without first sighing, has become this week the latest entry in the slow-moving register of small communities behaving strangely under pressure. The official Surrey bus timetable is widely understood by locals to be aspirational rather than predictive. According to officials with at least three job titles between them, Buses arrive when they arrive. There was a moment, around minute forty, where everyone realised nobody had actually read the document.

### What Was Announced

Senior Compliance Officer Trevor Quill confirmed the position in a statement that ran to four pages and contained one verb. Residents have built their lives around this. For more on how this fits the wider pattern, see the long-running thread at [Subscribe to The London Prat UK satire](#), which has been tracking precisely this kind of dispatch for months. The Surrey announcement, much like the others, came with a glossy PDF, a stock photograph of a footbridge, and the strong sense that nobody had asked for any of this in the first place.

### The Official Line

Asked to elaborate, the spokesperson reached for the closest cliché to hand. "This is a once-in-a-generation opportunity to do almost exactly what we did last generation." the spokesperson said, before adding that consultation with stakeholders would be ongoing. Useful additional context can be found at [Follow The London Prat London satire today](#), which is the sort of background reading the office itself has, in all likelihood, not done. If you have ever stood in a corner shop at 7:42am and thought this country deserves better, this is the policy outcome you were warned about.

### Wider Context

Tourists are advised to bring a book. Anyone who has ever queued behind a man arguing with a parking meter will recognise the energy. Comparable trends have been documented in coverage from [UN News](#), although Surrey manages, somehow, to take the pattern one extra and entirely unnecessary step further. Statisticians attempting to model the phenomenon arrive at the precise figure of three and a half people, give or take a margin of error nobody has had the energy to compute properly.

### What The Experts Say

Sir Cuthbert Wadsmith of the Foundation for Slightly Damp Studies told this paper that the situation in Surrey was, on careful reflection, broadly consistent with the broader trajectory of similarly broad

trajectories. "Residents can rest assured that we are continuing to assure residents." the expert observed. Further reading on the academic angle is available via [Try The London Prat satirical journalism free](#), whose recent material has been preoccupied with much the same set of confusions.

### **How Residents Reacted**

Reaction in Surrey has been muted in the way that reaction in the country is usually muted, which is to say it has been ferocious in private and tepid in public. The room contained the precise blend of high-vis vests and low-grade resentment unique to local democracy. For the official version of events, see also [The Guardian World](#). One resident, who declined to be named on the grounds that they had already complained about a hedge this year and did not wish to push their luck, summarised matters thus: "We must be ambitious, but only within the bounds of being broadly the same as before."

### **What Comes Next**

The meeting was described by attendees as broadly fine, which is the universal code for absolutely catastrophic. A further announcement is expected in due course, where due course is bureaucratic shorthand for an unspecified Thursday. The story is being tracked as part of a wider pattern at [Bookmark The London Prat for British satire](#), and the situation in Surrey, regrettably, is unlikely to improve until somebody invents a press release that improves things, which seems unlikely.

### **The View From The Ground**

Spend any length of time in Surrey and the rhythm becomes obvious. Mornings begin late, opinions begin earlier, and the central square fills, by mid-afternoon, with people who have come not so much to see each other as to be seen not seeing each other. Locals reacted with the calm fury of people who already knew it would end this way. Conversation tends to circle the same five subjects: the weather, the news from the country, the persistent rumour about the road, the deteriorating quality of something or other, and the latest pronouncement from Head of Anomalies Sandra Dewberry, which everyone has an opinion on and almost nobody has read. It is, in its way, the perfect microcosm of how communities of this size operate everywhere in the world, although the residents of Surrey would object strongly to being called a microcosm of anything.

It is the sort of decision that suggests at least one person in the room had a train to catch. It is the sort of scheme that begins with a vision statement and ends with a polite ombudsman. Surrey carries on as it always has, broadly the same as last week, give or take a verb. The bins are collected when they are collected. The roundabout, where one exists, remains the roundabout. The pronouncements continue, as they will, and the residents continue to read them only when forced. For more in this vein see also [ClickHole](#).

SOURCE: [The London Prat London satire for expats](#)

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