

## **David Elliott MP**

Member for Baulkham Hills Minister for Counter Terrorism, Corrections and Veterans Affairs

## **MEDIA RELEASE**

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## ON DEMAND TRANSPORT SET TO ARRIVE IN CARLINGFORD AND NORTH ROCKS

Residents in Carlingford and North Rocks will soon have another transport option, with Baulkham Hills State Liberal MP David Elliott today announcing a trial of On Demand public transport in the area.

"This innovative, demand-driven service will 'bring the bus to you' and transform the daily commute for our local area," Mr Elliott said.

From February 2018, customers in North Rocks and Carlingford will have access to an On Demand bus link that will connect them with local transport hubs.

"This is about personalising transport for our customers by providing a convenient new way to reach their destination quickly, safely and efficiently and at a time that suits them," Mr Elliott said.

The North Rocks/Carlingford pilot joins a long list of unique On Demand transport offerings announced by Transport Minister Andrew Constance currently being trialed across NSW.

"On Demand public transport services arrive where and when people need them. We know people want to manage their own time and become less reliant on timetables and these trials make that wish a reality," Mr Elliott said.

The On Demand service will be provided by four Toyota HiACE vehicles carrying up to 10 passengers including capacity for two wheelchairs.

The vehicles will operate within 5km of local hubs including:

- The Carlingford/North Rocks zone to hub services at Carlingford station and bus services; and,
- The M2 Oakes Road bus station to Macquarie Park, Chatswood, North Sydney, Sydney CBD, Carlingford train stations and M2 Oakes road bus station.

Customers in both the North Rocks and Carlingford areas will be able to use the On Demand services between Monday and Friday during the following times:

- 5:30AM to 9AM (fixed route); and,
- 5PM to 8PM (hub-to-door).

Mr Elliott said On Demand services are set to play a big role in the future of public transport in NSW it was great news for residents in North Rocks and Carlingford to be among some of the first customers to experience the new service.

"On Demand services offer a sustainable model of public transportation and I encourage all residents to take part in this unique trial that will help shape the future of transportation," Mr Elliott said.

ComfortDelGro Corporation (CDC), the private operator chosen to operate the North Rocks and Carlingford pilot, said it looks forward to working with the NSW Government to improve first and last mile connectivity through On Demand bus services.

"We're excited to work with Transport for NSW in providing a different style of public bus service for our customers making use of the latest technology and different types of vehicles," said Sk Cheng, Chief Executive Officer of CDC.

Customers can book the new service via an app, online or by phone, with payment of the standard \$5 fare able to be made in advance via credit card.

Mr Elliott said the trial will provide standalone services that will not affect any existing local bus services.

Data from the trial will be used to inform future public transport improvements for the region and across the transport network.

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