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| **County Councillor Eric Vardy Report to Gresham Parish Council - September 2023**  **New fares make it even cheaper to park & ride** |
| Fares on all Norwich park & ride services will be even cheaper from this September, making it easier and more affordable to travel car-free into the city centre by bus.  The new fares will be introduced, thanks to money that Norfolk County Council has secured from the Department for Transport (DfT) to help improve bus services across the county.  From Monday 4 September, passengers will be able to travel for one price at any time of day. The new fares have been designed to provide more flexible fare options for those choosing to travel independently, as a couple, as a family or with friends.   * Adults - £3 * Concessions £2 * 17-19 year olds - £2 * Child (5-16) - £1.50 * Extra passengers will cost just £1 when travelling with a full paying passenger. * Under 5s still travel for free   The new fares coincide with the re-opening of Postwick park & ride, which further enhances the service, providing five out of town sites for those wishing to visit Norwich, from all major routes into the city  The park & ride is a vital service for Norwich and with the re-opening of Postwick it’s important that we get passenger numbers back up across all our sites. These new prices make the park & ride a really affordable option for a trip into the city and is great for people wanting to avoid parking in the city centre. With buses running every 20 minutes throughout the day it’s also a great flexible option for those wanting to get to work in a cheaper and greener way.”  This is the first fares promotion to be announced as part of the County Council’s Bus Service improvement Plan (BSIP).   Approximately £5.3 million of the BSIP funding has been allocated to fares promotions to make bus travel more affordable in Norfolk over the next three years. |

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