

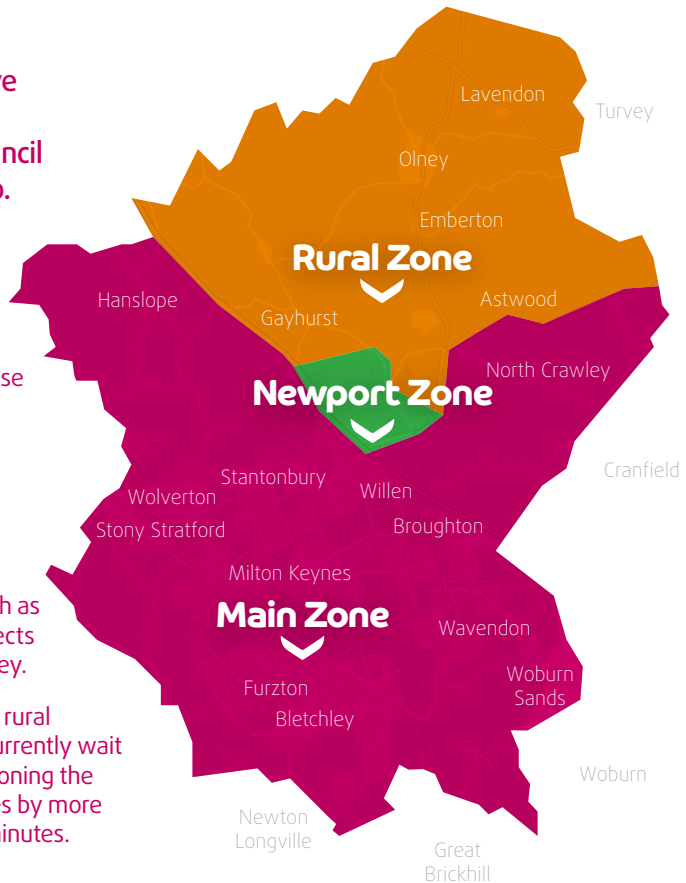
MK Connect zone pilot scheme

More than a million trips have been taken on MK Connect since Milton Keynes City Council introduced it three years ago.

From 8 April, a pilot scheme will run for six months which aims to better link MK Connect vehicles to existing bus routes and to reduce some waiting times, especially those in rural areas.

During the pilot, most MK Connect vehicles will cover one or two of three zones, rather than the whole city. This avoids situations where, for instance, a driver drops off one passenger in the south such as in Bletchley then immediately collects another in the north such as in Olney.

Some passengers who travel from rural northern areas of Milton Keynes currently wait up to 70 minutes to be collected. Zoning the service may reduce rural wait times by more than three quarters to around 15 minutes.



New zones could shorten your waiting time

Most journeys made during the pilot will remain within one zone, which means passengers will be collected and dropped off as usual. However, a passenger whose journey takes them out of their pick-up zone may be asked to change to another vehicle, either a MK Connect minibus or a bus, if there's an existing bus route.

During the pilot, passengers who are asked to change vehicle will only be charged for one leg of their trip, so they won't pay more than they usually do.

Changes won't be needed when bus services are less frequent, such as on Sundays or after 7pm.

Example route:

For example, anyone travelling from Ravenstone to the city centre may need to change from MK Connect to a bus in Newport Pagnell

