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# NBRU PRESS RELEASE

## NBRU Call on NTA and Dublin Bus to provide designed hospital buses for HSE staff

General Secretary Dermot O I Leary said:

"Although the issues surrounding the difficulties that commuters are experiencing in accessing buses because of the current 25% Capacity restrictions, have been previously highlighted, it would appear that problems still obtain across a range of Bus Routes. Whilst the Halloween Mid-term break did bring some relief with Schools being closed, the reality is that those Routes that serve up to nine Hospitals across Dublin are still experiencing Capacity difficulties, with vital Frontline HSE staff being unable to access their bus to work"

Mr O'Leary went on to say:

"The NBRU did submit to the Oireachtas Special Committee on Covid-19 response (twice) and wrote to the then Taoiseach and other Party leaders to propose that schools, colleges, retail and other general employments would have staggered opening and closing times. We did so in anticipation of the manifestation of the type of problems we are now witnessing. Whilst both the current and former Taoiseach responded positively to our proposal, it appears that it has yet to formally considered as an actual policy. 

The NBRU has written to both the NTA and Dublin Bus, on Friday last, requesting that consideration be given to having designated or special buses for HSE/Hospital staff on those routes which are experiencing the most difficulties. Leaving the decision of who does, or does not access a bus to the driver, is causing much angst; the reality being that Bus drivers in general, do not like leaving passengers behind, thereby having the effect of a considerable amount of buses being way beyond the 25% capacity recommended by Public Health experts"