

PRESS RELEASE

Paris, 25 April 2022

Keolis wins the public transport network of the Pays Foix-Varilhes conurbation authority, with the objective of tripling the transport offer by accelerating innovation

- On 8 April 2022, the conurbation authority of Pays Foix-Varilhes awarded the operation and maintenance of its public transport network to Keolis. The contract is valid for six years and will start on 27 August 2022.
- Keolis' main task will be to assist the public transport authority in tripling the transport offer and rolling out innovations: introducing a new digital ticketing system, improving passenger information, deploying an on-demand transport service and an electric downtown shuttle. Keolis is committed to a 46% increase in network use by 2027.

A transport offer multiplied by three

On 8 April 2022, the conurbation authority of Pays Foix-Varilhes awarded Keolis the operation and maintenance of its transport network, designed to meet the travel needs of **32,000 people living in 42 municipalities**.

The new network, which will be launched on 27 August 2022 coinciding with the start date of the contract, will primarily consist of **four bus routes**, including a "strong" route (every 30 minutes), **an electric downtown shuttle** and an **on-demand transport service** accessible in all towns and villages of the conurbation.

The network will operate from Monday to Saturday, notably serving the railway station and university complex of Foix, the Ariège valley intercommunal hospital complex (CHIVA) and major businesses working in the aeronautics sector.

It will comprise a fleet of **ten new vehicles** (four buses, three minibuses, two vehicles adapted for on-demand transport and an electric shuttle). To reduce the energy consumption of the vehicles and contribute to the energy transition, a system for miniaturizing the injection of hydrogen into the thermal engines of the vehicles will be used, thereby reducing fine particle emissions¹.

In compliance with the conurbation's wishes, **the future transport offer will be multiplied by three compared to the current offer**. This will enable it cover 420,000 km/year.

¹ This energy-saving device uses H.I.S (Hydrogen Injection System) technology, which uses a concept based on the advantages of adding hydrogen to improve engine combustion.



A network focused on providing a more digital transport offer and enhancing passenger information

Keolis will also be in charge of setting up a **new contactless ticketing system** in time for the launch of the new network. This will allow passengers to pay for their tickets directly at the validation terminals, which will be installed on all buses of the network. An **online shop**, accessible from the website, will also be deployed.

Passenger information will be substantially enhanced with the launch of the new network. Passengers will have access to **real-time information** with the *Zenbus* app, which will let them monitor bus times and track their exact location. Along the same lines, information display terminals will also be installed in the centre of town and at Foix station.

Keolis strengthens its presence in Occitanie

Winning this contract enables Keolis to increase its presence in the Occitanie region. In addition to the city transport network of **Foix**, Keolis operates those of the conurbations of **Agde, Alès, Auch, Narbonne, Sète and Tarbes-Lourdes**.

Key figures of the Foix-Varilhes network

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| - 42 municipalities served | - 10 vehicles including 1 electric shuttle |
| - 4 bus routes | - 16 employees including 14 drivers |
| - 1 on-demand transport service | - 420,000 kilometres covered per year |

About Keolis

Keolis is a pioneer in developing public transport systems and works alongside public authorities who want to enhance shared mobility systems to grow the appeal and vitality of their regions. A world leader in operating automated metro and tramway systems, Keolis and its partners and subsidiaries Kisio, EFFIA, Keolis Santé and Cykleo support the core business with innovations offering new and bespoke shared mobility solutions for modes including trains, buses and coaches, trolleybuses, shared car solutions, river and sea shuttle services, bike share services, car sharing, fully electric driverless shuttles and urban cable cars. In France, Keolis is the second largest provider of parking management solutions through its subsidiary EFFIA, and the country's leader in medical transport since the creation of Keolis Santé in July 2017. The Group is 70%-owned by SNCF and 30%-owned by the Caisse de Dépôt et Placement du Québec (Quebec Deposit and Investment Fund) and employs 68,000 people in 14 countries. In 2021, it posted revenue of €6.3 billion. In 2019, 3.4 billion passengers used one of Keolis' shared mobility services. www.keolis.com

* Australia, Belgium, Canada, China, Denmark, France, India, the Netherlands, Norway, Qatar, Sweden, the United Arab Emirates, the United Kingdom, and the United States.

Alexandre Poidevin
Media Relations Manager
06 18 76 18 69
alexandre.poidevin@keolis.com

Laurent Gerbet
Media and e-reputation Director
06 32 79 38 35
laurent.gerbet@keolis.com

Ladislav Dor
Media Relations Officer
07 78 35 19 77
ladislav.dor@keolis.com