

PRESS RELEASE

Paris, 8 November 2023

Keolis: new contract secured in Auxerre and contract renewal in Bourg-en-Bresse

- **Two urban district councils resolutely committed to public transport and the energy transition have placed their trust in Keolis:**
 - **Communauté de l'Auxerrois has allocated the eight-year contract to operate its public transport network to Keolis, beginning on 1 January 2024. This contract represents annual revenue of around €9 million.**
 - **Grand Bourg Agglomération (GBA) has renewed its contract with Keolis to operate the *Rubis* transport service. The public service contract will cover a six-year period from 6 January 2024, with annual revenue of €17.5 million.**

Auxerre: ecological transition and new services

Communauté de l'Auxerrois intends this new contract to improve the attractiveness of bus travel throughout its area, take the energy transition further with a fleet of greener vehicles and provide a depot dedicated to the Communauté de l'Auxerrois network.

Starting in January 2024, the bus network will evolve with a new on-demand transport (ODT) service for outlying areas, offering greater variety of service and increased coverage. A **total overhaul of the network's services** will begin on 1 September 2024. This will include a significant increase in service frequency on urban lines, the creation of new links and coverage and the restructuring of school provision to reduce pupils' journey times. A new ODT service is scheduled for 2025 to cover mornings and evenings in the centre of the district.

A **transition towards lower-carbon vehicles** is also planned. By the end of the contract, the target is to have 15 standard hydrogen-powered vehicles, eight standard vehicles using HVO biofuel (hydrotreated vegetable oil) and six electric minibuses. To house this vehicle fleet under the best operating, maintenance and security conditions, a new depot will be built by 2026.

In addition, **new solutions will be deployed to make life easier for passengers:** a new smartphone app from 2024 and card payments in 2025 to simplify ticket purchases.

The network currently serves 29 municipalities around Auxerre with a total population of 67,000.

Key figures for the network

- 1.5 million urban km/year	- 24 buses, 5 for On-Demand Transport (ODT) and 29 coaches
- 450,000 inter-urban km/year	- 72 employees, including 60 drivers
- 2.2 million passengers/year	

Bourg-en-Bresse: electrification and extension of provision for sustainable transport

Under the new contract, GBA is placing the **energy transition** at the very centre of its approach and entrusting Keolis with the role of supporting this ambition. By the end of the contract, 60% of the urban bus fleet will be powered by electricity. The electrification work at

the depot, supervised by Keolis, is central to this ambitious initiative. At the same time, the 80 drivers will receive eco-driving training, preparing them for the adoption of the new vehicles.

Keolis has also been tasked with **reinforcing the transport offer** to encourage a shift from private cars to public transport, a key lever of the ecological transition. This strategic direction will take the form of increased transport provision, with more frequent urban lines, new links in outlying areas and a new ODT service for mornings and evenings. GBA is also committed to active travel with the creation of five new car-sharing lines in addition to the two already in existence and the development of self-service bikes, doubling the numbers of stations and bikes. Alongside this, a dynamic on-demand transport service and card payments in buses will be deployed.

By 2029, Keolis is committed to increasing passenger numbers by 26% to reach 4.5 million journeys per year. The *Rubis* network serves the whole GBA area, spread across 74 municipalities with a population of 134,000, including 60,000 in the four municipalities in the urban centre¹.

Key figures for the *Rubis* network

<ul style="list-style-type: none">- 1.6 million urban km/year- 420,000 inter-urban km/year- 4.5 million journeys/year (2029 forecast)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- 36 buses, 1 city centre shuttle, 10 coaches for outlying areas, 80 school coaches, 16 light ODT vehicles (including for people with disabilities)- 108 employees, including 84 drivers
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[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 Cykleo, EFFIA, Hove, Keolis Santé, and Kisio support the core business with innovations offering new and bespoke shared mobility solutions for modes including trains, buses and coaches, trolleybuses, on-demand transport, transport for people with reduced mobility, driver and sea shuttle services, shared and long-term bicycle rental services, car sharing and fully electric driverless shuttles. 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 13 countries. In 2022, it posted revenue of €6.7 billion.

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

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¹ Bourg-en-Bresse, Viriat, Saint-Denis-lès-Bourg and Péronnas