

# KENT COUNTY COUNCIL – RECORD OF DECISION

**DECISION TO BE TAKEN BY:**

**Cabinet Member for Highways and Transport**

**DECISION NO:**

21/00043

**For publication**

**Key decision: YES**

*Key decision criteria. The decision will be significant in terms of its effects on a significant proportion of the community living or working within two or more electoral divisions*

**Subject Matter / Title of Decision**

Enhanced Bus Partnerships

**Decision:**

As Cabinet Member for Highways And Transport, I agree to issue the required statutory notice of the intention to form an Enhanced Partnership (EP) for bus services in Kent.

**Reason(s) for decision:**

On 15 March, the Department for Transport published its wide-ranging National Bus Strategy entitled "Bus Back Better". There is an expectation that local authorities will work closely in partnership with bus operators, particularly those with commercial services, to better integrate bus routes and ticketing to make travel easier for passengers. To continue to access current and future funding Local Transport Authorities must commit to in principle to the introduction of Enhanced Partnerships by 1st July 2021.

**Cabinet Committee recommendations and other consultation:**

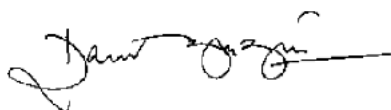
Due to the timing of the launch of the Bus Back Better Strategy and the local elections, Public Transport Team has worked initially with bus operators to establish the commitment to enter into an Enhanced Partnership.

By making this commitment, KCC will be to complete a Bus Service Improvement Plan (BSIP) by end of October 2021. The content of the BSIP will be subject to public consultation and discussed by Environment and Transport Cabinet Committee prior to a further key decision being taken by the Cabinet Member for Environment and Transport.

**Any alternatives considered and rejected:**

Not to commit to enter into an Enhanced Partnership – this would potentially put at risk up to £7m funding for bus services in Kent.

**Any interest declared when the decision was taken and any dispensation granted by the Proper Officer:**



14/06/2021

.....  
signed

.....  
date