

# KENT COUNTY COUNCIL –PROPOSED RECORD OF DECISION

**DECISION TO BE TAKEN BY:**

Neil Baker Cabinet Member for Highways and Transport

**DECISION NO:**

**For publication**

**Key decision: YES / NO**

**Subject Matter / Title of Decision: Kent Bus Service Improvement Plan (BSIP) – 2024 Refresh**

**Decision:**

As Cabinet Member for Highways and Transport, I agree to APPROVE a BSIP initiative table for the period 2025-2029 for inclusion within Kent's 2024 BSIP submission. The table details proposed initiatives across a range of focus areas (e.g. network, fares and ticketing, infrastructure) which could be delivered should additional external funding be awarded to KCC through the Government's National Bus Strategy process.

**Reason(s) for decision:**

In October 2021, KCC submitted its Bus Service Improvement Plan (BSIP) to the DfT in response to the Government's National Bus Strategy (NBS). Kent's BSIP was well received and subsequently allocated funding totaling £35.1m, £18.9m of which has been received to date for the delivery of an agreed BSIP initiative programme for 2023/24.

In January 2024, Government set out new BSIP guidance for all Local Transport Authorities (LTAs). The guidance requires LTAs to submit an updated 2024 BSIP to the DfT by 12th June 2024. The updated BSIP must update on change and progress since the 2021 BSIP and set out a high-level future initiative programme for 2025-29, deliverable should further external funding be made available by Government through the NBS process

**Cabinet Committee recommendations and other consultation:**

The proposed decision is being considered by members of the Environment and Transport Cabinet Committee at their meeting on 21 May.

**Any alternatives considered and rejected:**

To not produce a 2024 BSIP – This has been rejected as failure to submit a BSIP in line with Government requirements will result in the loss of tranche 2 BSIP funding for 24/25 and the release of BSIP+ funding which is vital for bus service support

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

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signed

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date