

KENT COUNTY COUNCIL –RECORD OF DECISION

DECISION TAKEN BY:

Neil Baker, Cabinet Member for Highways and Transport

DECISION NO:

24/00123

For publication**Key decision: YES**

Subject Matter / Title of Decision: Kent Bus Service Improvement Plan (BSIP) and Bus Service Operators Grant (BSOG) Funding 2025/26

Decision: As Cabinet Member for Highways and Transport I agree to:

- i) ACCEPT Kent's BSIP and BSOG Government funding allocations for financial year 2025/26. This consists of £10,120,289 Revenue and £11,926,302 Capital BSIP and £1,087,788 BSOG funding
- (ii) DELEGATE authority to the Council's Corporate Director of Growth Environment & Transport, and the Section 151 Officer to formally accept this funding and related terms and conditions through the completion and return of anticipated formal award documentation from Government.
- (iii) DELEGATE authority to the Council's Corporate Director of Growth Environment & Transport, and the Section 151 Officer to agree and submit Kent's Delivery Plan in response to the funding offer, working to the principles of Value for Money (VfM) and consistent with the principles and potential initiatives in Kent's 2024 BSIP.
- (iv) DELEGATE to the Corporate Director of Growth Environment & Transport to take necessary actions including but not limited to entering into relevant contracts, or other legal agreements to implement this decision

Reason(s) for decision:

In January 2024, Government announced that all Local Transport Authorities (LTAs) were required to develop a revised version of their Bus Service Improvement Plan (BSIP) for 2024. As considered previously by this Committee, KCC developed and submitted its updated BSIP in response to this requirement in June 2024.

On 17th November 2024, KCC learnt of a new indicative BSIP allocation for 2025/26 along with its allocation of Bus Service Operators Grant (BSOG) funding for the same period. KCC has been allocated a total of £23,134,379. On 20th December, KCC received its formal offer of this funding and the associated Memorandum of Understanding which confirmed this allocation which is collectively referred to as "the Bus Grant"

Cabinet Committee recommendations and other consultation:

The proposal was considered and endorsed by Environment and Transport Cabinet Committee at their meeting on 14 January 2025..

Any alternatives considered and rejected:

To forego the funding award. This is rejected as the funding represents a significant investment into Kent's bus offer.

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

None



23 January 2025

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signed

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date