

Report Title	Bus Service Improvement Plan (BSIP) Update
Meeting	Communities & Environment Scrutiny Committee
Meeting Date	23 April 2024
Report Author	Phil Greenup – Assistant Director Sustainable Transport & Highways
Lead Cabinet Member(s)	Neil Hughes
Wards Affected	All
Public. Part Exempt, or Fully Exempt	Public
Appendices (if any)	Appendix 1 – BSIP Presentation

1. Executive Summary

- 1.1 On 24 July 2023 the Council received confirmation of a Bus Service Improvement Plan Plus (BSIP+) funding allocation, a payment of £412,130 for 2023/24. The same amount due for 24/25. A further £1,289,000 of revenue funding was then allocated from the DFT to support delivery of the 24/25 BSIP.
- 1.2 The funding is intended to target the actions that the Council and local operators believe will deliver the best overall outcomes in growing long term patronage, revenues and maintaining service levels whilst maintaining essential social and economic connectivity for local communities. In addition, the grant can be used to ensure existing connections are maintained, increasing the frequency on key corridors or the operating hours of some services whilst reducing others or reducing fares or introducing new local concessions to open new markets and revenue.
- 1.3 This report provides members with an update on the Council's approach to the Bus Service Improvement Plan (BSIP+) to date, and an overview of proposed bus routes. The BSIP Stakeholder engagement process will end on 30th April 2024.

2. Recommendations

For the reasons set out in this report, Communities & Environment Scrutiny Committee is recommended to:

- 2.1 Note the information and presentation provided.

3. Information: the Rationale & Evidence for the Recommendations

- 3.1 The attached presentation outlines the stakeholder consultation process which has taken place in relation to the Bus Service Improvement Plan. Information includes the Stakeholder Engagement Process, Policy Changes, Budget Information, and proposed routes to date.

4. Link to Council Plan Priorities: (People, Climate, Communities, Economy and Culture, Customers, Workforce)

- 4.1 we care about you and listening to you, we will put you at the heart of everything we do.
- 4.2 customers and communities' needs are at the heart of designing our services, with customers able to access services and information easily using a channel of their choice.
- 4.3 Supporting active, healthy happy lives for young and old. • Supporting people in need and reducing inequality. • Providing leadership in the drive to become carbon net zero. • Confident, empowered, resilient communities. • Sustainable, inclusive, economic growth

5. Consultation Outcomes

The BSIP consultation will conclude on 30th April 2024.

6. Alternative Options Considered

Not applicable

7. Reasons for the Recommendations

- 7.1 Not applicable

8. Climate and Biodiversity Implications

- 8.1 The use of public transportation is known to reduce O2 emissions and pollutants in the atmosphere therefore improving air quality.

9. Legal and Governance Implications

- 9.1 Under Part 2 Section 5 Constitution (7.7.4) the Terms of Reference for the Communities and Environment O&S Committee include overview and scrutiny of powers and duties relating to transport and highways.
- 9.2 The report is to note only and there are no specific legal implications arising.
- 9.3 Legal advice was provided in relation to the 'Bus Service Improvement Plan and Bus Support Funding' report to Highways and Transport Strategic Board (03 October 2023) and is set out in that report ([Highways and Transport Strategic Board 031023 - Bus Service Improvement Plan and Bus Support Funding.pdf \(modern.gov.co.uk\)](#)). (JK)

10. Human Resources Health Wellbeing and Safety Implications

- 10.1 The Council has a responsibility under the Health & Safety at Work Act 1974 and associated Management of Health & Safety at Work Regulations to ensure as far as is reasonably practicable that there are arrangements in place to ensure a healthy and safe working environment for all services for which it has responsibility.

11. Financial Implications

- 11.1 There are no financial implications of the recommendation contained within this report.

12. Equality and Diversity Implications (please ensure these are compliant with the EIA Guidance)

- 12.1 N/A

13. Background Documents

- 13.1 Highways and Transport Strategic Board (October 2023), 'Bus Service Improvement Plan and Bus Support Funding', [Highways and Transport Strategic Board 031023 - Bus Service Improvement Plan and Bus Support Funding.pdf \(modern.gov.co.uk\)](#)