

RECORD OF EXECUTIVE DECISION

TITLE: North East Enhanced Partnership for Buses

DELEGATED DECISION: The following decision has been made in accordance with Cabinet Minute number C117 – 2021/22

The BSIP have announced funding for the region of £164 million for a far reaching programme of measures to improve bus services in the North East over three financial years from 2022/23 to 2024/25.

The development of an Enhanced Partnership (EP) represents the only route for securing continued support for the bus network as it continues to recover from the pandemic and further develops into the future supporting the Council's own objectives as well as those of the wider region.

Cabinet have granted the necessary delegations for the development and adoption of the EP within the timescales necessary to meet Government deadlines.

Following ongoing consultation, the content of the EP Plan and Scheme has been negotiated and a draft has been agreed in principle by the JTC. The operator objection process has taken place. Statutory Consultation will end on 8th February 2023. Subject to any amendments arising from the Statutory Consultation, the EP is now in its final approved form ready to be entered into by all parties. Accordingly, authority to enter into the EP Plan and Scheme will be requested from all participating authorities on 9th February and must be provided by 10th February 2023 to enable the Plan and Scheme to be made at the JTC meeting on 21st February 2023.

Due to the tight timescale between the end of the Statutory Consultation and the deadline to take this matter to JTC in February, this decision is being made in advance of the end of the statutory consultation. The urgency of the timescale to enter into the Scheme at the February JTC is due to the requirement to make the Scheme in order to secure the funding before the end of this financial year. Failure to do so runs the risk of significant funding under the Scheme being lost.

If any amendments are to be made to the Plan and Scheme as a result of the Statutory Consultation ending on 8th February 2023, all signatories below will be immediately notified to enable this decision to be reviewed, before providing authority to enter into the Plan and Scheme. If no amendments are made, this decision will stand.

**DELEGATED
POWER**

The following decision has been made in accordance with Cabinet minute **C117 – 2021/22**

DECISION

To enter into the North East Enhanced Partnership for Buses EP Plan and Scheme.

CONSULTATION:

Councillor John McElroy, the Portfolio holder for Environment & Transport
Mike Barker, the Strategic Director, Corporate Services and Governance
Colin Huntington, the Strategic Director, Housing, Environment and Healthy Communities
Darren Collins, the Strategic Director, Resources and Digital

APPROVED BY: Name: Peter Udall

Signed 

Dated 26/01/2023

CONSULTATION CONFIRMED:


Name: Councillor John McElroy

Signed 

Dated 26 January 2023

CONSULTATION CONFIRMED:

Name: Mike Barker

Signed 

Dated 26/01/2023

CONSULTATION CONFIRMED:

Name: Colin Huntington

Signed 

Dated 26/01/2023

CONSULTATION CONFIRMED:

Name: Darren Collins

Signed 

Dated 30/01/2023

