

# Nottingham City Council Delegated Decision



**Nottingham**  
**City Council**

<b>Reference Number:</b>	5022
<b>Author:</b>	Richard Wellings
<b>Department:</b>	Growth and City Development
<b>Contact:</b>	Richard Wellings (Job Title: Senior Public Transport Officer, Email: richard.wellings@nottinghamcity.gov.uk, Phone: 64896)
<b>Subject:</b>	Acceptance of "BSIP+" funding to support the delivery of the Greater Nottingham Bus Service Improvement Plan
<b>Key Decision (decision valued at more than £1million):</b>	Yes
<b>Key Decision (decision affects 2 or more wards):</b>	Yes
<b>Total Value:</b>	£899,044 (Type: Revenue)
<b>Decision Being Taken:</b>	<p>1. Delegate Authority to the Corporate Director of Development and Growth to accept £899,044 of supplementary "BSIP+" funding to support the delivery of the Network Enhancement, U22s Ticketing and Care Leavers revenue workstreams of the Greater Nottingham Bus Service Improvement Plan (BSIP) profiles as £445,022 in 2023/24 &amp; £445,022 in 2024/25.2. Delegate Authority to the Corporate Director of Development and Growth to submit the required Project Adjustment Request to the Department for Transport to release the BSIP+ funding and (ii) enter into any further variation to the original MOU and grant determinations required by the DfT.3. Delegate Authority to the Corporate Director of Development and Growth to Grant Award local bus operators using transport deminimis powers or tendered contracts to deliver frequency enhancements, route extensions, service support, Extension of U22s Ticketing Scheme reimbursement or the current public transport care leavers scheme as required.</p>

**Reasons for the Decision(s)** Nottingham City Council has been awarded an additional £899k by the Department for Transport (DfT) to complement the £11.3m already awarded to support the delivery of the Greater Nottingham Bus Service Improvement Plan in 2023/24 & 2024/25. Full Executive Board approval for the Bus Service Improvement Plan (BSIP) was secured in October 2022 and subject to the acceptance of the Project Adjustment Request by the DfT this funding will be used to support and enhance at risk commercial bus services through a combination of direct award grant arrangements and a full procurement exercise and provide additional funding to the current U22s and Care Leavers Ticketing Schemes. Expenditure of the the money in this way is consistent with the the DfTs guidance in relation to how this additional "top-up" funding to the original BSIP grant should be utilised as outlined in the attached BSIP+ confirmation letter and Greater Nottingham Memorandum Of Understanding (MOU). This Leader's Key Decision is required urgently rather than the standard 28 days' notice as the DfT deadline to submit the Project Assessment Request to confirm the BSIP+ funding has already passed and there is an urgency to use this money to support bus service procurement this Autumn. An extension to the DfT Project Assessment Request Deadline has been sought, but it remains expedient to the accelerate the decision making timeline in order to meet the bus service procurement deadlines.

**Briefing notes documents:** 1. Nottingham - BSIP+ confirmation letter.pdf, 4. Greater Nottingham Bus Service Improvement Plan and Programme 2022-23 to 2024-25.pdf, 2. Greater Nottingham MoU.pdf, 3. Greater Nottingham Bus Service Improvement Plan Funding and Programme 202223 - 202425.pdf

**Other Options Considered:** Not accept the BSIP+ funding. This option has been rejected as this funding is required in 23/24 & 24/25 to ensure that current levels of bus service are maintained across the local bus network and to preserve critical social and economic connectivity for local communities. Without this funding 9 commercial bus service would be at risk of serious curtailment or withdrawal. Reduced levels of service and frequency would make these bus services less attractive, disadvantage existing users, make patronage growth and recovery even more challenging and depress fare income - impacting the long term viability of the services.

**Background Papers:** 1. Nottingham - BSIP+ Confirmation Letter 2. Nottingham BSIP Memorandum Of Understanding 3. Nottingham Bus Service Improvement Plan Network Support 4. Bus Funding Announcement - Richard Holden MP 18 May 2017

**Unpublished background papers:** 1. Nottingham - BSIP+ confirmation letter.pdf, 2. Greater Nottingham MoU.pdf, 4. 230518 - Minister Holden Letter to LTAs.pdf, 3. Greater Nottingham Bus Service Improvement Plan Network Support.pdf

**Published Works:** Bus Service Improvement Plan Executive Board Approval from 18 October 2022 (EIA report remains relevant to this grant award and the bus services it will support)

**Affected Wards:** Citywide

**Colleague / Councillor Interests:** none

**Consultations:** Date: 22/06/2022  
Other City Council Bodies:Cllr Angela Kandola  
Use of BSIP+ funding in line with DfT requirements in relation to the Existing Bus Service Improvement Programme ahs been approved by Cllr Kandola.

Those not consulted are not directly affected by the decision.

**Crime and Disorder Implications:** There are no Crime and Disorder Implications in relation to this funding which will support the operation of local bus services

**Equality:** Please login to the system to view the EIA document: BSIP EIA Sept 2023.docx

**Decision Type:** Leader's Key Decision

**Subject to Call In:** Yes

**Call In Expiry date:** 25/09/2023

**Advice Sought:** Legal, Finance, Equality and Diversity

**Legal Advice:** Legal Comments as per the attached Advice provided by Richard Bines (Solicitor) on 06/09/2023.  
Advice documents: Legal Comments 06.09.23.docx

**Finance Advice:** The Decision to accept £899,044 BSIP+ top-up grant funding to further support the delivery of the original Greater Nottingham BSIP, and to Grant award local bus operators over 23/24 and 24/25 financial years is supported.  
The additional funding will help maintain the levels of bus service across Nottingham local bus network and to preserve critical social and economic connectivity for local communities.  
This funding is external DfT grant funding to support the commercial bus network and therefore the proposal will not add financial pressure to the MTFP and can be contained within Local Transport and is supported. This will be added to the Budget, monitored by the service for any variance and reflected in the bi-monthly forecast for the service. Advice provided by Paul Rogers (Commercial Finance Business Partner (G&D)) on 30/08/2023.

**Equality and Diversity Advice:** The EIA has been reviewed. There are no impacts to any of the protected characteristics I am therefore happy to sign off. Advice provided by Rosey Donovan (Equality and Employability Consultant) on 11/09/2023.

**Signatures:** David Mellen (Leader/ PH Strategic Regeneration & Communications)  
SIGNED and Dated: 14/09/2023

**Sajeeda Rose (Corporate Director of Growth & City Development)**

**SIGNED and Dated: 14/09/2023**