

<b>Meeting</b>	Extra-ordinary North Lincolnshire Enhanced Bus Partnership
<b>Date</b>	15 <sup>th</sup> February 2024
<b>Venue</b>	Teams Meeting
<b>Time</b>	09:30 -10:00hrs
<b>Attendance</b>	Cllr Tim Mitchell (TM) - North Lincolnshire Council (Chair) Cllr Carol Ross (CR) - North Lincolnshire Council (Deputy) Kate Robinson (KR) - North Lincolnshire Council Dave Skepper (DS) - Stagecoach Ben Gilligan (BG) - East Yorkshire Buses Nick Hornsby (NH) – Hornsby’s Travel Karl Robinson (KRob) - Hornsby’s Travel Heather Barratt (HB) - North Lincolnshire Council Abigail Burrige(AB) - North Lincolnshire Council

## Notes

<b>Item</b>	<b>Subject</b>
1.	<p>Welcome and Introductions</p> <p>TM welcomed everyone to the extra-ordinary meeting which had been called at short notice. Apologies were received from Lesley Potts.</p>
2.	<p>Proposal to utilise BSIP+ funds to maintain existing services</p> <p>The meeting had been called with a single agenda item which was to consider a proposal by North Lincolnshire Council to utilise BSIP+ funds to maintain existing services.</p> <p>Board members had received details of the proposal prior to the meeting.</p> <p>TM told the meeting that the Local Authority had a commitment to maintain the core budget and the proposal would not change existing EP priorities and the strong commitment to support new routes and improvements to bus infrastructure and public transport information.</p> <p>The Recommendation was:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1) That approval is given to use BSIP+ funding to maintain existing services.</li> <li>2) That approval is based on a maximum 10% upper limit of the BSIP+ funding.</li> </ol> <p>BG asked if the figure of 10% had been recommended by the DfT or if it was a figure the council had agreed was appropriate.</p> <p>TM told the meeting that the rationale around the 10% figure was to create an upper limit to alleviate any concerns going forward and therefore focus the remaining 90% on the original plan and scheme.</p> <p>DS thanked KR for sending out details of the proposal prior to the meeting, which had alleviated some of his concerns around BSIP+ funding stipulations. DS acknowledged that the main purpose of the BSIP+ was to improve and enhance services.</p> <p>NH brought up the subject of concessionary payments and further questioned the figure of 10% and also asked if it was sufficient.</p>

TM told the meeting that concessionary fares were not included in the agenda for this meeting but would be in touch within the next few weeks.

DS told the meeting North Lincolnshire Council had made the decision to withdraw inflation linked price reviews for long term local bus tenders several years ago; this inevitably means a likely step change in prices when the contract term comes to an end and the work is retendered, i.e. bus operating costs will have increased over the intervening years. If the council continues with this approach, adequate provision needs to be made in the budget, especially in years where tender renewals take place.

DS stressed that tender services and concessions were the fundamentals of running bus services and it was imperative to work together in order to get things right.

TM addressed the meeting and recommended that approval was given to utilise BSIP+ funds to maintain existing services with a maximum upper limit of 10% of BSIP+ funding.

Decision: - Fully supported, unanimous.

TM thanked everyone for their time and closed the meeting.