

HAMPSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

Executive Decision Record

Decision Maker:	Executive Lead Member for Universal Services
Date:	15 January 2024
Title:	Bus Contracts for Basingstoke Area
Report From:	Director of Universal Services

Contact name: Mike Griffin-Thorn

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1. The decision:

- 1.1 That the Executive Lead Member for Universal Services gives approval to spend and enter into contractual arrangements (in consultation with the Head of Legal Services) for new contracts for the Basingstoke local bus services, as set out in the supporting report, to commence from 2 April 2024 for a period of one year at a total cost of £508,450 funded from contributions from Developer Contributions, Basingstoke and Deane Borough Council, Local Transport Fund (LTF) and the Local Bus Budget.
- 1.2 That the Executive Lead Member for Universal Services delegates authority to the Director of Universal Services, in consultation with the Executive Lead Member for Universal Services, to make minor amendments to the contracts detailed above.

2. Reason for the decision:

- 2.1. Approval to award new contracts will continue to give access to employment, education, health, retail, and leisure facilities for the widest section of the community.

3. Other options considered and rejected:

- 3.1. Not to tender – this option does not meet the requirements outlined in the Memorandum of Understanding for the BSIP+ Fund. A condition of the memorandum is that the County Council is obligated to maintain the current the level of bus subsidy or is otherwise liable to return the BSIP+ funding in its entirety.
- 3.2. To increase service provision - Increasing the level of services was an option explored but due to the increase in operating costs and the uncertainty of what savings will need to be made as part of SP25 following any further consultations, we were unable to consider this. BSIP+ Grant Funding Terms and Conditions do not permit us to use this to fund supported buses. Local Transport Fund does allow for this.

4. Conflicts of interest:

4.1. Conflicts of interest declared by the decision-maker:

4.2. Conflicts of interest declared by other Executive Members consulted:

5. Dispensation granted by the Conduct Advisory Panel: none.

6. Reason(s) for the matter being dealt with if urgent: not applicable.

7. Statement from the Decision Maker:

Approved by:

Date:

15 January 2024

**Executive Lead Member for Universal Services
Councillor Nick Adams-King**