

HAMPSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

Executive Decision Record

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| Decision Maker: | Executive Lead Member for Economy, Transport and Environment |
| Date: | 28 October 2021 |
| Title: | Bus Priority Enforcement Policy and Practice |
| Report From: | Director of Economy, Transport and Environment |

Contact name: Tania McCarthy

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1. The decision:

- 1.1. That the Executive Lead Member for Economy, Transport and Environment approves the adoption of the Countywide Bus Priority Enforcement Policy attached to the report in Appendix 1 to enable the commencement of the civil enforcement of vehicle contraventions pertaining to bus priority measures.
- 1.2. That the Executive Lead Member for Economy, Transport and Environment approves the appended draft Code of Practice referred to in the Countywide Bus Priority Enforcement Policy and delegates authority to the Director of Economy, Transport and Environment to make minor amendments and updates as necessary to both documents in consultation with the Executive Lead Member for Economy, Transport and Environment.

2. Reasons for the decision:

- 2.1. The purpose of the report is to seek adoption of the Countywide Bus Priority Enforcement Policy which provides the framework to commence with the delivery and operation of bus priority enforcement at both existing and future bus priority measures.
- 2.2. Adoption of the Policy will support the new National Bus Strategy ‘Bus Back Better’ which aims to grow the number of passengers using local bus services. The strategy calls on Local Transport Authorities (LTAs) to publish Bus Service Improvement Plans (BSIPs) that support quicker and more reliable bus services. It states that ‘Robust enforcement of traffic restrictions can bring benefits for buses through less congestion’.
- 2.3. Adoption of the Policy supports Hampshire County Council’s proposed approach to the local delivery of the Government’s National Bus Strategy through a BSIP for Hampshire that includes a commitment to future plans for provision of bus priority measures. Enforcement of such measures will ensure greater compliance with restrictions, which will see improved bus journey times, service reliability, passenger growth, and satisfaction.

2.4. Robust enforcement of bus priority measures will also support the realisation of the County Councils Transforming Cities (TCF) projects and other Government funded transport initiatives.

3. Other options considered and rejected:

3.1. Rising bollards and similar technical solutions have been considered and rejected following previous installations that were fraught with technical issues and maintenance concerns rendering them impractical as a longer-term bus priority enforcement solution.

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:

28 October 2021

**Executive Lead Member for Economy, Transport and
Environment
Councillor Rob Humby**