

**Written statement of a key decision**  
**Cabinet member Infrastructure and transport**

<b>Title</b>	<b>National Bus Strategy - Bus Service Improvement Plan</b>
Decision maker	Cabinet member Infrastructure and transport Information about cabinet, including the names and contact details of the cabinet members, can be found here: <a href="http://councillors.herefordshire.gov.uk/mgCommitteeDetails.aspx?ID=251">http://councillors.herefordshire.gov.uk/mgCommitteeDetails.aspx?ID=251</a>
Date of decision	21 October 2021
Report exemption class	Open
Reason for being a key decision	This is a key decision because it is likely to be significant having regard to: the strategic nature of the decision; and / or whether the outcome will have an impact, for better or worse, on the amenity of the community or quality of service provided by the authority to a significant number of people living or working in the locality (two or more wards) affected.
A notice was served in accordance with Part 3 (Key decisions) of The Local Authorities (Executive Arrangements) (Meetings and Access to Information) (England) Regulations 2012.	
General exception or special urgency (as defined in the constitution)	No
Purpose	To approve submission of the Bus Service Improvement Plan (BSIP) for Herefordshire at appendix 1. This being due to the Department for Transport (DfT) no later than 31 October 2021 to meet the deadline of the Government's National bus strategy for England: Bus back better.  Submitting the BSIP to DfT will assist the council in securing ongoing government funding support for buses and the development of the council's public transport strategy. This will support the investment in buses that cabinet identified when it determined its preferred transport strategy following the Hereford Transport Strategy Review.
<b>Decision</b>	<b>a) Cabinet member authorises submission of the Bus Service Improvement Plan for Herefordshire to DfT.</b>
Reason for the decision	As set out in the report. Documents relating to this decision are

	available at <a href="http://councillors.herefordshire.gov.uk/mgIssueHistoryHome.aspx?IId=50038603">http://councillors.herefordshire.gov.uk/mgIssueHistoryHome.aspx?IId=50038603</a>
Options considered	<p>1. Not to progress the requirements set out in the NBS. This is not advised as it would result in the council losing access to central Government funding that supports bus services in the County, this funding is detailed below. In addition, not progressing the NBS would not align with the <a href="#">Cabinet decision taken 3 December 2020</a> which confirmed the administration's intentions to progress package B of the Hereford Transport Strategy Review (HTSR).</p> <p>I. Bus Recovery Grant (BRG) - a grant distributed to bus operators by the council to off-set the financial effect of reduced passenger numbers on subsidised bus services, services contracted by the council.</p> <p>II. Bus Services Operators Grant (BSOG) – an annual grant received by the council that contributes to the council's budget for supporting contracted bus services in the County, currently an annual grant of £218k is received.</p>
Declarations of interest (see below)	
Call-in expiry date (decisions are not subject to call-in where special urgency provisions apply)	27 October 2021

Councillor: .....	Date 21 October 2021
Cabinet member Infrastructure and transport (Councillor John Harrington)	

- a record of any conflict of interest declared by any executive member who is consulted by the member which relates to the decision;
- and
- in respect of any declared conflict of interest, a note of dispensation granted.