West Sussex County Enhanced Partnership Plan for buses

IS MADE IN ACCORDANCE WITH SECTION 138G(1) OF THE TRANSPORT ACT 2000 BY: WEST SUSSEX COUNTY COUNCIL

EP Plan Draft v1

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1. Extent of the West Sussex Enhanced Partnership

- 1.1 On 30th June 2021 the Council published a notice of intent to prepare an Enhanced Partnership (EP Plan and EP Scheme), in accordance with Section 138F of the Transport Act 2000.
- 1.2 The EP Plan is a summarised version of the West Sussex Bus Services Improvement Plan (BSIP) that was published in October 2021. It provides the context for the proposed local bus service improvements, subject to available funding.
- 1.3 The EP Scheme sets out how the objectives in the EP Plan will be achieved through agreed actions by the Partnership.
- 1.4 The EP Plan and EP Scheme together contribute to the implementation of the West Sussex BSIP. Where funding allows, they will provide the opportunity to realise potential benefits to passengers using local bus services across West Sussex. This will be through improved efficiency of the wider public transport network and better air quality.
- 1.5 Improvement supports residents and visitors with bus services providing a better alternative to the car and the delivery of sustainable growth. In turn this modal shift will benefit local communities through reduced congestion and improved air quality.
- 1.6 The EP Plan and EP Scheme are proposed to cover the entirety of the county of West Sussex and throughout the administrative area of the County Council.



Figure 1-1 – West Sussex Enhanced Partnership Plan and Scheme Area

2. EP Plan Period

- 2.1 The EP Plan and EP Scheme are made on XXXXXXXXXXXXXX.
- 2.2 This EP Plan has an end date of 31st March 2030.

3. Local bus market

- 3.1 In developing this EP Plan the following assumptions were made:
 - Travel patterns have become less predictable than 5 years ago
 - WSCC will have no more powers than now to influence demand for car travel or car parking
 - Currently protected buildings and landscapes will remain
 - South Downs National Park will remain
 - Perception of relative costs of car and bus travel by adults will not change much
 - WSCC funding streams for transport will be similar level to now (financial support for users of Local Buses totals £12.5m pa approximately split between ENCTS £11.3m and contracted services £1.2m)
 - No demand related regulations (or social norms) will change e.g., restrictions on out-of-town or edge-of-town retail parks, size of retail car parks, and retail opening hours on Sundays
 - Congestion will remain a factor in bus journey times, although not necessarily in the same areas as now
 - No locations in West Sussex will be eligible to become 'Clean Air Zones' or similar, where a local authority may restrict vehicle access based on its emissions
 - Relative population and population densities by district area will not change, excepting new housing areas planned east of Chichester and north and east of Horsham
 - The Covid pandemic is not a short-term issue and reduced bus operation will continue into 2023
 - Travel related to economic activity will remain subdued
 - Car travel will remain more attractive to many people while Covid is a fear, so patronage could be lower for many months
 - Patronage during the morning peak will not exceed 90% of pre-Covid levels due to changed work and education patterns
 - Patronage is unlikely to be at its maximum until the potential risk posed by Covid on public transport is accepted by most people to be low

- Decarbonising all forms of transport will remain a priority of the public
- Dependent on passenger numbers and levels of Covid recovery funding available after October 2022, local bus operators are likely to reduce frequencies or even deregister some services which are currently commercial.
- Any deregistered services might be considered socially necessary by WSCC after analysis of patronage data. If this occurs, WSCC may tender for socially necessary bus services to replace or augment lower commercial provision by bus operators. This will be via standard tendering processes considering the Public Services (Social Value) Act 2012 unless otherwise authorised by DfT. Services tendered will be dependent on available on-going funds.
- To ensure the bus network is sustainable in the medium term the Partnership will reconfigure the bus network during 2022/23 to suit the funding available.

4. Customer views

National Highways and Transport Network Public Satisfaction (NHT) Surveys

4.1 Satisfaction with the transport services provided in West Sussex have been assessed through the National Highways and Transport Network Public Satisfaction (NHT) Survey undertaken since 2010.

Figure 4-1 -	NHT Public	Satisfaction	Survey -	KBI Meas	ures Scores

KBI measure	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2019 group rank (of 28)	Variation from peer group average	2019 peer group high to low range
01 General KBI													
KBI 01 Overall (local)	54	55	54	54	53	54	54	53	52	52	12	0	9
KBI 02 Overall (national)	54	55	54	54	53	55	54	53	53	52	13	0	9
02 Accessibility KBI													
KBI 03 Ease of Access (all)	76	79	77	80	76	76	74	76	74	74	18	0	4
KBI 04 Ease of Access (disabilities)	70	72	71	74	73	71	64	63	65	67	6	3	14
Ease of Access (no car)	75	77	78	76	71	77	71	71	68	76	1	7	17
03 Public Transport KBI													
KBI 06 Local bus services	63	64	62	64	64	66	63	62	65	63	2	7	21
KBI 09 Taxi/mini cab services	68	68	68	68	66	66	66	64	65	65	10	2	11
KBI 10 Community Transport	55	58	57	58	59	59	57	58	59	58	7	2	8
04 Walking/Cycling KBI													
KBI 11 Pavements and Footpaths	55	56	53	57	55	56	56	52	53	53	19	-1	17
KBI 12 Pavem's & Footp' (aspects)	57	56	54	58	56	60	60	58	58	58	14	0	9
KBI 13 Cycle routes and facilities	47	53	50	50	46	48	50	47	50	48	19	-1	10
KBI 14 Cycle routes & facili's (aspects)	47	50	53	51	48	52	55	48	52	50	10	1	10
KBI 15 Rights of Way (RoW)	57	58	61	60	57	59	60	60	58	57	17	0	8
05 Tackling Congestion KBI													
KBI 17 Traffic levels and congestion	43	47	47	43	41	41	41	40	40	37	28	-5	14
KBI 18 Management of roadworks	47	49	51	51	54	55	54	53	51	51	16	0	9
	7												
KBI measure	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2019 group rank (of 28)	Variation from peer group average	2019 peer group high to low range
06 Road Safety KBI													
										,			
KBI 20 Road safety locally	58	59	61	60	57	59	58	57	55	55	21	-1	11
KBI 20 Road safety locally KBI 21 Road safety environment	58 51	59 55	61 54	60 56	57 52	59 54	58 56	57 55	55 56	55 55	21	-1 -1	11 5
	_												
KBI 21 Road safety environment	51	55	54	56	52	54	56	55	56	55	19	-1	5
KBI 21 Road safety environment KBI 22 Road safety education	51	55	54	56	52	54	56	55	56	55	19	-1	5
KBI 21 Road safety environment KBI 22 Road safety education 07 Highway Maint/Enforcement KBI	51 51	55 55	54 55	56 53	52 51	54 56	56 55	55 51	56 54	55 52	19 14	-1 1	5
KBI 21 Road safety environment KBI 22 Road safety education 07 Highway Maint/Enforcement KBI KBI 23 Condition of highways	51 51 35	55 55 32	54 55 31	56 53 24	52 51 31	54 56 35	56 55 37	55 51 34	56 54 26	55 52 32	19 14 16	-1 1 -1	5 7 23
KBI 21 Road safety environment KBI 22 Road safety education 07 Highway Maint/Enforcement KBI KBI 23 Condition of highways KBI 24 Highway maintenance	51 51 35 47	55 55 32 48	54 55 31 47	56 53 24 49	52 51 31 48	54 56 35 53	56 55 37 53	55 51 34 52	56 54 26 50	55 52 32 51	19 14 16 17	-1 1 -1 0	5 7 23 11
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KBI 21 Road safety environment KBI 22 Road safety education 07 Highway Maint/Enforcement KBI KBI 23 Condition of highways KBI 24 Highway maintenance KBI 25 Street lighting KBI 26 Highway enforcement/obstruc's KBI measure – 12 page only 03 Public Transport KBI KBI 07 Local bus services (BVPI 104)*	51 51 35 47 65 48	555 555 32 48 666 51	54 55 31 47 66 49	56 53 24 49 69 50	52 51 31 48 67 47	54 56 35 53 70 50	56 55 37 53 67 50	55 51 34 52 66 48	56 54 26 50 65 48	55 52 32 51 65 49	19 14 16 17 6 10 Rank of 18 2	-1 1 -1 0 4 1 8	5 7 23 11 16 7 32
KBI 21 Road safety environment KBI 22 Road safety education 07 Highway Maint/Enforcement KBI KBI 23 Condition of highways KBI 24 Highway maintenance KBI 25 Street lighting KBI 26 Highway enforcement/obstruc's KBI measure – 12 page only 03 Public Transport KBI KBI 07 Local bus services (BVPI 104)* KBI 08 Public trans info (BVPI 103)*	51 51 35 47 65 48	555 555 32 48 666 51	54 55 31 47 66 49	56 53 24 49 69 50	52 51 31 48 67 47	54 56 35 53 70 50	56 55 37 53 67 50 61	55 51 34 52 66 48	56 54 26 50 65 48	55 52 32 51 65 49	19 14 16 17 6 10 Rank of 18 2	-1 1 -1 0 4 1 8	5 7 23 11 16 7 32
KBI 21 Road safety environment KBI 22 Road safety education 07 Highway Maint/Enforcement KBI KBI 23 Condition of highways KBI 24 Highway maintenance KBI 25 Street lighting KBI 26 Highway enforcement/obstruc's KBI measure – 12 page only 03 Public Transport KBI KBI 07 Local bus services (BVPI 104)* KBI 08 Public trans info (BVPI 103)* 04 Walking / Cycling KBI	51 51 35 47 65 48 60 44	55 32 48 66 51 54 45	54 55 31 47 66 49 62 51	56 53 24 49 69 50 50	52 51 31 48 67 47 69 50	54 56 35 53 70 50 50	56 55 37 53 67 50 50	55 51 34 52 66 48	56 54 26 50 65 48	55 52 32 51 65 49 64 52	19 14 16 17 6 10 Rank of 18 2 3	-1 1 -1 0 4 1 1 8 8 8	5 7 23 11 16 7 32 34

4.2 For local bus services (KBI 06), the County has scored between 62 and 66 over the ten years, with a score of 62 in 2019. This was 2nd in a peer group of 28 authorities. There were two measures regarding bus services resulting from former BVPI indicators, and in the second (KBI 07), scores

were between 54 and 69 with the score in 2019 being 64, again 2nd in the peer group. For public transport information (KBI 08) however, scores varied between 44 and 52 with the score in 2019 being 52 and being placed 3rd out of 18 in the peer group. This shows a need for improved public transport information provision.

Local Transport Plan Review Survey 2020

- 4.3 West Sussex County Council undertook a survey in Autumn 2020 to inform review of the Local Transport Plan. Public transport was the third most frequently commented topic after cycling and walking. Comments summarised:
 - Many general comments supporting improvements in the quality and coverage of public transport (bus and rail) services, including some about public transport reliability and punctuality, for access to education, work and services, and leisure access, including to the South Downs National Park.
 - Many comments were about the costs of public transport fares, the cost of bus group travel, and requesting increasing free or subsidised fares for young people.
 - Many comments about the need to improve rural public transport coverage and subsidies, opportunities in relation to demand responsive and community run transport services, and the challenges in relation to car and multi-car ownership often being a necessity when living in rural areas.
 - Other comments by a small number of respondents related to the role of local authorities in coordinating public transport coverage, crime and anti-social behaviour on public transport, and the importance of staff presence.
 - There were comments about COVID and public transport, including concerns about social distancing on public transport, the challenges of encouraging passengers back to public transport, and the important role for rail services for domestic leisure travel during the recovery from COVID.
 - Under the planning topic, many comments were received concerned that developments are not adequately planning for public transport and walking and cycling infrastructure, including comments that infrastructure should be in place up-front to serve new residents so that car use does not become imbedded.
- 4.4 Comments specifically relating to bus services:
 - A number supported park and ride provision, e.g., to serve Chichester
 - A number expressed support for bus lanes/bus priority measures that reallocate road space/priority from general traffic, while the need to

address traffic congestion to enable bus services to be improved was also highlighted

- Several comments about improvements to bus stops included real time passenger information provision
- Comments about bus service enhancements in specific areas
- 4.5 Regarding the overall approach to the Transport Plan Review, there were several comments requesting a greater vision and higher level of ambition in the WSTP, including calling for bold leadership to support change.

Bus Back Better (BSIP) Engagement Survey 2021

- 4.6 A survey was undertaken from 18th August to 14th-September 2021 specifically asking for people's views on the priorities for the BSIP. There were 3074 responses to the survey, of which 2596 were online, 471 paper responses, and 7 by telephone. This included 301 large print versions and 29 in Easy Read. Responses also included 16 letters/emails as additional comments and are included in the 'open text' analysis of the survey.
- 4.7 Of the individuals completing the survey questionnaire:
 - 97% are residents of West Sussex
 - 45% who provided an answer in age category are aged 65 and older
 - The highest response was from people aged 65-74, followed by people aged 75-84 (all age groups completed the survey)
 - The survey received 256 responses from young people aged under 25, which is a much higher rate than for previous surveys
 - 31% consider themselves to have a disability or long-term illness
 - 48% hold a bus pass for free travel
 - The majority of respondents are 'White British', followed by 'White other' as the next highest group, and 2.2% BAME
- 4.8 <u>How often buses are used</u> (mandatory question):
 - Frequently 41%
 - Sometimes 31%
 - Rarely 15%
 - Only when there is no alternative 5%
 - Never 8%

- 4.9 <u>What are buses used for</u> Respondents were asked what activities they currently used buses for and what they would like to use them for in the future. 'Shopping' (65% of respondents for current journeys) followed by 'leisure/social activities' (46% of respondents for current journeys) featured the highest in both questions, which is consistent with previous surveys.
- 4.10 <u>Barriers to bus travel</u> Respondents were asked what prevented them from using buses more often/at all, and they could select as many reasons as applicable. The most cited reasons are given below:
 - Infrequent 50% (this was the highest response for respondents whether they were concessionary permit holders or not)
 - Buses don't go where I want to 35%
 - Cost overall 27%
- 4.11 Responses to cost varied considerably as those with concessionary permits were not particularly concerned about cost. However, when considering young people under 25, 'Cost' was the top reason (54%), followed by 'Infrequent' and 'Unreliable'. For those who do not have a concessionary permit, cost was the second most important factor after frequency.
- 4.12 <u>What would most enable more bus travel</u> Respondents were asked to select up to three things that would help them to use buses more. The most cited factors are given below:
 - Buses earlier in the morning or later in the evening 41%
 - More direct services 36%
 - Buses on Sundays 34%

For young people under 25, the most cited factor is 'Lower fares' (59%) followed by 'More reliable services' and 'Buses on Sundays'.

- 4.13 <u>Improvements to bus travel</u> Respondents were asked to select up to three things they considered to be most important in improving bus travel in West Sussex. The most cited improvements were:
 - Real-time information (while waiting for bus and during journey) 57%
 - Cleaner, low-emission vehicles 34%
 - Maps of several routes nearby at bus stops 31%

For young people under 25, 'Real-time information' is also the top choice, followed by 'A single ticket to use on all buses' and 'Cleaner, low-emission vehicles'.

4.14 <u>Bus times and journey planning</u> - Respondents were asked what methods they used to find out their current bus times, and to plan journeys to new locations. They could select as many methods as applied and the most cited are:

For current travel:

- Bus company website 50%
- Timetables at bus stop 47%
- Google 22%

For new journeys:

- Bus company website 59%
- Google 39%
- Timetable at bus stop 23%
- 4.15 Over 2,000 respondents provided additional comments and suggestions in the 'free text' section of the survey questionnaire. These have been analysed and categorised into generic categories. The most popular were:

Comment	No. of Mentions
More frequent services	685
Buses running later/evenings	329
More affordable fares	323
More direct services to key destinations	217
More services at weekends and bank holidays	202
More rural bus routes	189

- 4.16 Whilst priorities differed slightly between those with and those without concessionary permits, and young people under the age of 25, there was an agreement over the key improvements that have informed our proposed programme. Most requested improvements, in no order are:
 - Bus services need to be more frequent
 - More bus services early in the morning, in evenings and on Sundays
 - Lower fare offers (particularly for young people)
 - More real-time passenger information
 - More direct services to key destinations
 - Improvements to reliability

5. Summary of available data - trends in bus journey speeds and the impact of congestion on local bus services

5.1 Illustrations of impacts of congestion are in Appendix F of the <u>West</u> <u>Sussex Bus Service Improvement Plan.</u>

6. Key objectives from the West Sussex BSIP

- 6.1 Objectives in the BSIP are:
 - buses in more places
 - buses at more times of day
 - buses more frequently
 - easier ticketing, without driver interaction
 - low carbon buses
 - all public transport operates as one network

7. Interventions required to deliver the outcomes

- Tap-on tap-off on all buses with common back-office system(s) to enable best value for customers for all their bus travel
- Priority for buses at signal controlled junctions
- Increased enforcement of parking controls on and related to bus routes
- Increased enforcement of moving traffic contraventions on and related to bus routes
- Easier access to bus stops for passengers
- Better information at bus stops including more Real-time signs
- Evening and weekend service on most routes
- Retrofit low carbon engines in existing vehicles asap
- Increased bus lanes in congestion areas
- WSCC would like to expand the Discovery day ticket (which allows unlimited travel in West Sussex, East Sussex, Brighton & Hove, East Hampshire, Surrey, Kent, and Medway), with tickets available for longer time periods, to particularly encourage visitors to the many landscape and historic places in Sussex

8. Reviews

- 8.1 This Plan will be reviewed by the Partnership at least once every three years. First review will be before March 2025.
- 8.2 Review will be by WSCC, all operators, and user representatives, with other stakeholders invited to participate, such as parish and town councils.
- 8.3 Review periods are expected to take 6 months, including:
 - Revision (changed policy, changed circumstances, revised funding streams, revised priorities)
 - 28 day operator objection period
 - Followed by a 21 day statutory consultation
 - Two months for signoff of changes

9. Local bus services description

Corridors and frequencies

9.1 All bus routes in West Sussex are mapped and the frequency of bus services along these corridors calculated Pre-Covid. Currently bus networks are reduced due to COVID-19.

Figure 9-1 shows bus frequencies on a Wednesday AM Peak 07:00-09:00 pre-Covid.

Several other bus frequency maps are in Appendix A of the <u>West Sussex</u> <u>Bus Service Improvement Plan</u>. The bus frequency maps show pre-Covid (Q4 2019).

- 9.2 A high frequency route near a town is exemplified by services between Crawley and Gatwick with 23 buses per hour maximum (about every 3 minutes) in each direction. Some of these services operate 24 hours.
- 9.3 Two key inter-urban corridors exist; one along the coast from Brighton to Portsmouth through the West Sussex towns of Shoreham-by-Sea, Worthing, Littlehampton, Bognor Regis, and Chichester. The second key corridor is from Southwater to Gatwick Airport, through Horsham and Crawley. (Some routes extend from Gatwick to Reigate in Surrey and that section is covered by the BSIP from Surrey County Council).
- 9.4 The number of services running is consistent on weekdays. At weekends there are approximately 10% fewer services on Saturdays, and 60% fewer on Sundays.

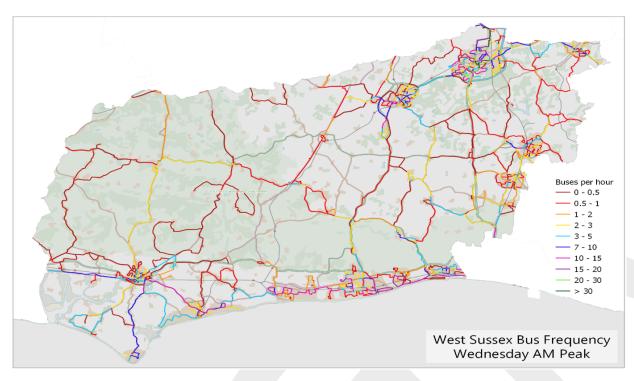


Figure 9-1 – Bus frequency map: Wednesday AM Peak 07:00-09:00

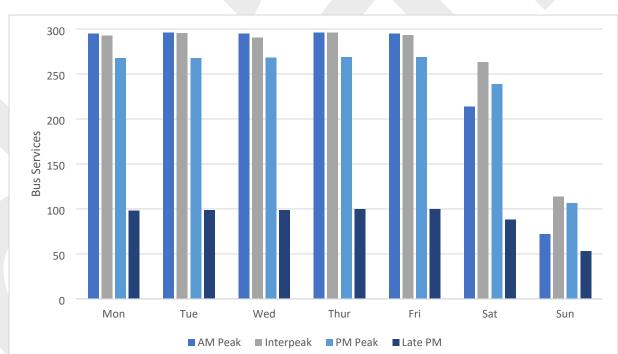
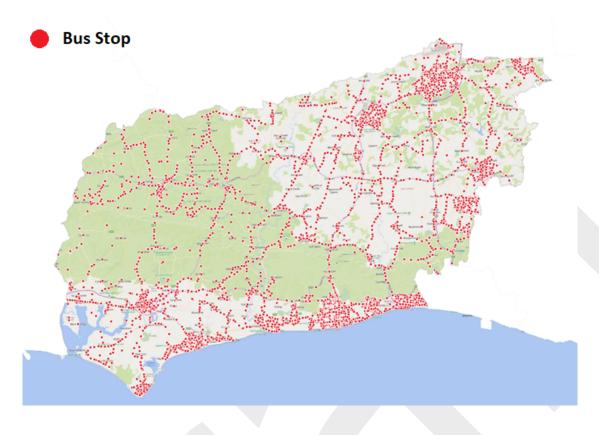


Figure 9-2 – Bus service frequency (Source: Datacutter)

9.5 Figure 9-3 shows the distribution of bus stops across the county. It shows that there is a good distribution of bus stops, except in the most rural areas. However, the location of bus stops does not consider the frequency of services, and the frequency of buses at these stops is often very poor.

Figure 9-3 – Distribution of bus stops



Corridors and frequencies assessment

- 9.6 The number of services running is consistent throughout the week. With the same number of services running during each period. There are between 250-300 during the AM, Interpeak and PM periods (including school term-time only services) and far fewer services running in the late PM period (100).
- 9.7 On Saturdays there are 10% fewer services during the interpeak, PM and Late PM periods. The AM peak has 25% fewer services than weekdays.
- 9.8 On Sundays the number of services is 40% of the weekday levels, with a similar distribution of services in each time period as seen on Saturdays.
- 9.9 These locations were used as the destination, to which travel times were calculated.
 - Worthing junction of High Street and Union Place
 - Haywards Heath junction of The Broadway and Muster Green North
 - Bognor Regis junction of High Street and London Road
 - Chichester junction of West Street, East Street, South Street, North Street
 - Billingshurst junction of High Street and East Street
 - Crawley junction of High Street and Cross Keys

Accessibility

9.10 A map showing accessibility to town centres is below.

Accessibility maps were used to inform proposals for improved bus services in the initial BSIP. Locations for calculation were:

- Bognor Regis
- Burgess Hill
- Chichester
- Crawley
- East Grinstead
- Haywards Heath
- Horsham
- Littlehampton
- Shoreham-by-Sea
- Worthing
- 9.11 Figure 9-4 shows public transport accessibility for these towns, with bands of colour showing increasing travel times via public transport from those locations, for arriving in the towns during the weekday morning peak hours.

This map highlights that access to the major towns via public transport is limited for much of the county.

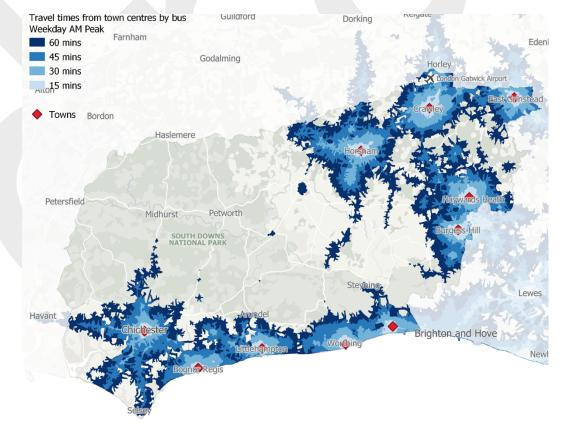


Figure 9-4 – Public transport accessibility to towns centres in West Sussex

<u>Operators</u>

- 9.12 Listed in the table below are bus operators running services across the West Sussex area. The majority routes are run by Metrobus (130) and Stagecoach South (136). In total these two operators run 536 route variations, with 5,929 services each week.
- 9.13 There are seven community bus operators which predominantly provide services to customers in rural areas that are not served by the major operators.

Bus Operator	No. of Routes	Routes
	Operated	
		1/2/3/4/5/10/20/21/22/23/51/61/65/84/93/98/100/
Metrobus	34	200/270/271/272/273/281/291/400/420/460/610/
		624/638/643/648/692/693
B M Coaches	1	GH1
		Pulse/Star/1/5/7/9/10/13/17/25/46/47/50/51/651/
		Puise/Star/1/S///9/10/13/1//25/40/47/50/51/651/
Stagecoach South	37	52/55/652/653/54/55/655/56/60/61/62/68/69/70/91
Stagecouch Journ	57	52/55/652/655/54/55/655/56/66/61/62/66/65/70/91
		92/93/422/470/600/614/658/665/700/N700/U7/U8
		12/16/19/19A/30/31/33/33A/35A/35C/39/42/52/62/
		64/66A/66C/67/69/71/74/74A/85/85A/89/99/100/
Compass Travel	36	
		106/107/166/167/168/261/331/415/428/500/662/
		740/743/900
Brighton & Hove Bus	6	2/46/59/59A/77/98
and Coach Company		
Southdown PSV	C	225/400/422/424/485
Southdown PSV	6	236/409/422/424/485
		68/523/525/590/622/626/633/634/639/668/
Sussex Coaches	12	00/323/323/330/022/020/033/034/033/008/
Custer Couries	÷2	STP1/STP2
Selsey Community Bus	1	1/2/3
Seaford & District	1	149
Harting Minibus CIC	6	CH1/PD1/PD2/PD3/PD4/PD5

Handcross District Community Bus	5	1/2/3/4/6
Waverley Hoppa Community Transport	2	504/505
Midhurst Community Bus	10	No service numbers
Amberley & Slindon Community Bus	5	1A/1B/1C/1D/1E
East Surrey RTP	1	50
Portsmouth City Coaches	2	121/149
Grand Total	166	

9.14 A full list of bus services in West Sussex, together with their characteristics and other information can be found in an Appendix of the BSIP.

For mileage scheduled to be run over a year in West Sussex per operator please see Annex A of this document.

Fares and ticketing

- 9.15 Bus operators in West Sussex already offer a wide range of discounted fares, which are generally aimed at encouraging passengers to forward purchase tickets rather than pay for each journey made. Return fares are usually available.
- 9.16 Contactless payment is now common across the network. In addition, Metrobus and Brighton & Hove Buses offer tap-on and tap-off. Information regarding discounted fares is reasonably easy to find on the operators' websites, but details on single and return fares tend to be less visible and can often be found by specifying a particular journey. However, Metrobus provides this information through the route timetable.
- 9.17 Integrated ticketing is gradually being introduced in West Sussex, but in a piecemeal fashion, and is dependent on the depth of enterprise of the various bus operators. Metrobus and Brighton & Hove have joined with Southern Railway's KeyGo smartcard initiative, using it to tap-in & -out for rail fares with bus trips added at both ends of the journey, the best fare being automatically calculated. It is available for add-on local urban bus journeys in Shoreham, Burgess Hill, Crawley, Gatwick Airport, Ifield, Three Bridges, Haywards Heath, Horsham and Littlehaven.
- 9.18 This is in addition to PlusBus, which allows local bus trip add-ons at the end of a rail journey for major towns, including Bognor Regis, Chichester, Crawley/Gatwick, East Grinstead, Haywards Heath, Horsham and Worthing.
- 9.19 Zonal ticketing is available in the main towns of West Sussex.

10. How the EP Scheme assists in achieving the objectives set out in the EP Plan

- 10.1 Initially there is one EP Scheme for West Sussex, intended to first maintain present levels of service on most routes from October 2022, dependant on available funding. The sustainability of all routes will be reviewed to match direct costs of operation with the funding available and the revenue being taken.
- 10.2 Depending on available funding next steps include improvements to existing bus infrastructure to be more inclusive.
- 10.3 After Covid is passed, services will be gradually re-aligned and integrated to present a single network.
- 10.4 Further EP Schemes are likely to be added for ticketing advance, and for decarbonisation when funding is available.

11. Intended effect of the EP Scheme(s) on neighbouring areas that are outside the EP Plan and EP Scheme(s) area

- 11.1 All neighbouring authorities are preparing Enhanced Partnerships of their own.
- 11.2 The West Sussex EP Plan and EP Scheme are for the entire area of the County, and there are no areas of the county that are not covered by the Enhanced Partnership defined in them.
- 11.3 WSCC already works with other authorities to support some cross border services, and this will continue. WSCC and East Sussex County Council (ESCC) collaborate on several bus related initiatives, and one of the first under the EP will be joint survey of all existing bus stops.
- 11.4 When funding is available WSCC will introduce a separate EP Scheme for ticketing for young people in conjunction with neighbouring authorities. The effect on patronage post-Covid is predicted to be significant on many routes, which will be a topic of multi-authority discussions. If partnerships are able to increase patronages that will lead to increased bus stop facilities.
- 11.5 Bus services from Surrey directly serve Gatwick Airport, especially those of the Fastway BRT scheme. West Sussex Enhanced Partnership seeks funding to increase catchment for Fastway to residential areas in Sussex to provide better travel options for staff working at or near Gatwick.
- 11.6 Bus services from Brighton and Hove area serve West Sussex towns, such as Shoreham. Should a BRT facility be developed by Brighton and Hove,

the existing 700 service is likely to use it, and further ahead possibly the proposed new service named 55X for a Brighton to Chichester route if funding from the West Sussex BSIP is available.

12. Competition test

12.1 The Council has undertaken an assessment of the impacts of The Plan and The Scheme made on XX XXXX 2022 on competition and believes it will not or is unlikely to have a significantly adverse effect on competition, for the purposes of Part 1 of Schedule 10 of the Transport Act 2000.

The competition test shall be reviewed on each variation of The Scheme in accordance with the requirements of Part 1 of Schedule 10 of the Transport Act 2000.

The competition test is a standalone document.

The above statement is included in The Plan for completeness.

13. Enhanced Partnership governance structure

13.1 WSCC will continue the dialogue that has developed over many years with most operators. More data on commercial routes such as number of people boarding by location, bus models deployed, missed services, and summaries of issues for passengers will be exchanged.

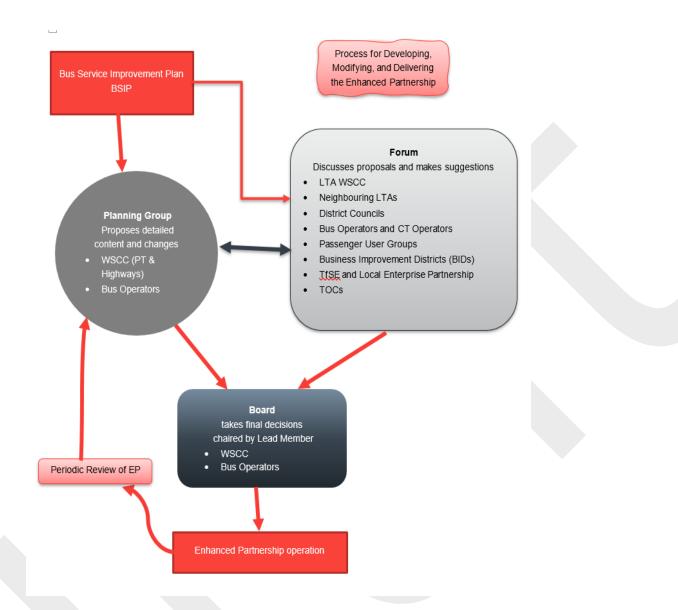
The Partnership Forum includes all bus operators and will meet at least twice a year.

- Reports summarising issues and patronage trends will be presented from operators and WSCC public transport support staff. WSCC will explicitly ask Forum members for their views.
- By far the most common self-identified age range of respondents to Surveys is retired or similar. To collect a wider sample of views the Forum will have representation from categories of User – Adult, Senior, Adult with disability, 16-22 years old, and possibly school age 11-15.

Additionally, the Partnership will engage externals to survey sample bus users on buses and at bus stops.

The annual revision of BSIP will include a consultation survey for the public to express their views, and of course the questions will enable bus users to self-identify.

Also the approval process for BSIP within WSCC has multiple points for member input or comment.



At the review points, set for 6 monthly, a report on how the EP is functioning and progress on BSIP targets will be prepared for WSCC Cabinet.

The EP Scheme has a description of governance processes.

Annex A

List of bus operators by annual mileage

West Sussex Bus Mileage by Operator in Descending Order

			Total	
		Contract & Non-	Annual	
Operator:	Commercial	commercial	Mileage	%
Stagecoach	4827354	417497	5244851	43.57%
Metrobus	4271343	345795	4617138	38.35%
Compass	145846	862283	1008129	8.37%
National Express (LGW				
Services)	525600		525600	4.37%
Brighton & Hove	320190	3714	323903	2.69%
Sussex Coaches	99229	3003	102232	0.85%
BM Coaches	98368		98368	0.82%
Southdown PSV	5330	61933	67263	0.56%
Community Buses (Combin	ned)	34825	34825	0.29%
Portsmouth City Coaches	10569		10569	0.09%
Seaford & District	2925		2925	0.02%
East Surrey RTP		2176	2176	0.02%
Waverley Hoppa CT		1144	1144	0.01%
Total:	10306752	1732369	12039122	100.00%