

HAMPSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

Executive Decision Record

Decision Maker:	Executive Member for Environment and Transport
Date:	3 November 2016
Title:	Bus Service Operators Grant
Reference:	7839
Report From:	Director of Economy, Transport and Environment

Contact name: Peter Shelley

Tel: 01962 847212

Email: peter.shelley@hants.gov.uk

1. The decision:

- 1.1. That the Executive Member for Environment and Transport gives authority for unallocated Bus Service Operators Grant funding for 2016/17 to a maximum of £950,000 to be made available on a pilot basis as a 'grant' stream for bus operators to apply for on a match funding basis to improve passenger facilities such as the introduction of contactless payments or equipping vehicles with Wi-Fi, USB chargers, next stop announcement systems or similar, and that remaining monies be considered for roadside infrastructure such as real time information displays.
- 1.2. That the Director of Economy, Transport and Environment be given the delegated authority to develop and implement the arrangements for the 'grant' stream in consultation with the Executive Member for Environment and Transport, as set out in the report.

2. Reason for the decision:

- 2.1. Hampshire County Council has a good record of partnership working with bus operators which has seen vehicle enhancements in recent years such as onboard WiFi and USB chargers which make journey time productive; next stop information systems which provide assistance to visitors and the visually impaired and real time information systems which promote public transport use. This proposal would use available funding to further extend such improvements which are considered to have helped Hampshire to have near record bus use.

3. Other options considered and rejected:

- 3.1. Use the unallocated funds to provide additional bus subsidy. This was rejected as this is time-limited funding and would work against the County Council's approach of making bus services more attractive and sustainable whilst reducing dependency on subsidy.
- 3.2. Return the unallocated funding to the Department of Transport. This would miss an opportunity to make bus services more attractive to residents in Hampshire.

4. Conflicts of interest:

- 4.1. Conflicts of interest declared by the decision-maker: None
- 4.2. Conflicts of interest declared by other Executive Members consulted: None

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:

I thank Councillor Simpson for his contributions on this item. I have considered these as well as written comments submitted in making this decision.

Approved by:

Date:

3 November 2016

**Executive Member for Environment and Transport
Councillor Rob Humby**