

**REPORT TITLE: Bus Service Improvement Plan (BSIP+)
 funding and update on Dynamic Purchasing System
 for Transport**

Cabinet Date	20/09/2023
Cabinet Member	Cllr Philip Robinson, Cabinet Member for Education, Skills, and Bus Transport.
Key Decision	Yes
Purpose of Report	To approve the allocation of BSIP+ funding for the provision of improved bus services throughout Gloucestershire during 2023/4 and 2024/5; and to authorise Officers to procure these service improvements in line with this report.
Recommendations	<p>That Cabinet delegates authority to the Executive Director of Economy, Environment & Infrastructure, in consultation with the Cabinet Member for Education, Skills and Bus Transport to:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Procure contracts for the supply of the bus services set out In Appendix 1 from suppliers admitted to the Dynamic Purchasing System (DPS), whose combined aggregate value shall not exceed £2.384m per annum for the 2023/24 and 2024/25 financial years and 2. Procure contracts for the supply of the re-procurement of existing public bus services and home to school services set out in Appendix 2 from suppliers admitted to the DPS whose combined aggregate value shall not exceed £15.5m over their maximum contract length of 5 years.
Reasons for Recommendations	<p>Local bus usage has struggled to grow back to pre-covid levels, and the commercial bus market has shrunk as a consequence. This funding is intended to restimulate the market by funding improvements in the provision of public transport.</p> <p>Officers have suggested several specific bus services (Appendix 1) intended to boost bus usage, with the aim that these improvements could be sustained commercially after the end of the funding period.</p> <p>This funding also offers an opportunity to reinstate some bus services which were withdrawn by Operators at a time when they were meeting with difficulties in finding driving staff. There is also an opportunity to expand the operation of 'The Robin' demand-responsive service to additional rural areas of Gloucestershire.</p>

	<p>Appendix 2 covers a series of re-procurements required that sit outside of the proposal to use BSIP+ funding. These services can be considered 'business as usual' and are required to keep current services active as they approach the end of their current contract.</p>
Resource Implications	<p>The Department for Transport (DfT) has provided a grant of £2,209,623 in 2023/24 with a further £2,209,623 to come in 2024/25, with 50% of year 1 and 100% of year 2 funding subject to the Enhanced Partnership being in place. The terms for this grant require the funding to be spent within 12 months of receipt, with all funding to be spent by April 2025, and any underspend to be returned to the DfT.</p> <p>Part of this grant will be used to avoid a potential overspend, due to inflationary pressure and re-procurement costs, in the base public transport budget (forecast at £344k in 23/24, and £207k in 24/25), thus securing public transport services which might otherwise be lost through a network review process.</p> <p>The remaining £1,865m of year 1 BSIP+ funding will be used to procure the services proposed in Appendix 1. The budget is forecast to be sufficient to cover these recommendations.</p>
Background Documents	<p>List of proposed improvements to bus services in Gloucestershire using BSIP+ funding (Appendix 1)</p> <p>List of services for re-procurement (Appendix 2)</p> <p>Bus service improvement plans: local transport authority allocations - GOV.UK (www.gov.uk)</p> <p>Decision - Tender and Award of Transport Contracts under the Dynamic Purchasing System for Transport (gloucestershire.gov.uk)</p>
Statutory Authority	<p>Transport Act 2000</p> <p>Bus Services Act 2017</p>
Divisional Councillor(s)	All
Officer	<p>Name: Tom Main</p> <p>Tel. no: 01453 425343</p> <p>Email: tom.main@gloucestershire.gov.uk</p>
Timeline	<p>Procurement timeline for BSIP+ (Appendix 1) is approximate and will differ for some services due to other factors, e.g., purchased vehicle delivery time.</p> <p>20/09/23: Cabinet.</p> <p>27/09/23 - 28/09/23: Commence procurement of BSIP+ funded service enhancements.</p>

	<p>17/11/23: Final date for receipt of bids.</p> <p>20/11/23 - 24/11/23: Bid evaluation.</p> <p>27/11/23: Contracts awarded.</p> <p>01/01/24 onwards: New bus services commence.</p> <p>Procurement timeline for existing service re-procurement (Appendix 2) is from 01/10/23 – 31/03/25</p>
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Background

1. There has been a reduced number of people using local bus services since April 2020, a consequence of the Covid-19 pandemic and associated restrictions on movement and employment. Whilst there has been an increase in bus patronage levels in recent months, this recovery has not been even across the local network, with different rates of response in various parts of Gloucestershire, compounded by effects, by demography and the type of bus service.
2. A nationwide shortage of bus drivers was a contributing factor causing many Stagecoach bus services to be cancelled during 2022. This caused considerable uncertainty for bus users and has further reduced passenger numbers.
3. Because of declining bus patronage and financial viability, the national government launched its National Bus Strategy in 2020, which included a requirement for Local Transport Authorities to submit Bus Service Improvement Plan (BSIP) documents in October 2021 with the aim of bidding for funding to make improvements to local bus services. Unfortunately, like most rural counties, Gloucestershire's BSIP submission was not successful in gaining this funding.
4. Contract prices for supported local bus services increased significantly from 2021 onwards, as costs of operation rose. This was exacerbated by the national shortage of bus drivers. Both trends resulted in Stagecoach giving notice of withdrawal of certain routes and reductions in frequency on other routes. It was not possible to procure replacement bus services in all cases and the cost of some service replacement contracts was particularly high.
5. The reduction in the amount of travel by bus has caused financial difficulties for bus operators due to loss of fare income, whilst the cost to the council for tendered services has increased significantly. This problem has been exacerbated by recent significant inflation in the cost of fuel and drivers.
6. The Council's scope to reduce overall costs of bus service and home to school provision and minimise reductions in services is enhanced by being able to procure longer term contracts, typically of up to 5-7 years' duration. This provides operators with greater certainty over investment decisions, such as whether to purchase new vehicles. However, it does mean that total contract values are more likely to exceed £500,000. The Council can still terminate such contracts in line with the contractual notice terms (currently a period of 6 months).

7. To enable communities to access essential services the Council needs to be able to procure transport contracts with a total value in excess of £250,000. Restricting contract values by reducing contract lengths would not provide value for money, resulting in reduced accessibility to essential services and lower quality vehicles.
8. The specific bus service and home to school contracts referred to in paragraphs 6 and 7 of this report are set out in Appendix 2.

BSIP+ as an opportunity to increase bus patronage and restore bus service viability

9. Recognising the increasing possibility of bus service withdrawals and the slower recovery of patronage levels, which continues to put pressure on the commercial market, the County Council, alongside the County Councils' Network' has continued to lobby DfT for additional funding to support bus services in rural areas. It was therefore very much welcomed when the Government recently announced that supplementary funding (BSIP+) would be awarded to Local Authorities, with an instruction that this funding must be used as revenue support for local bus services. This could be in the form of support for improved bus services, new services, replacement services or for fares initiatives, all with the aim of stimulating additional bus patronage and securing the future viability of bus services.
10. This new funding offer presents a great opportunity for GCC to not only help secure the existing public transport network, but also to procure several highly desirable new and expanded routes, giving the residents of Gloucestershire a much more comprehensive network. This approach aligns entirely with our aims to pump-prime and support services to help increase patronage with a view to more services becoming commercially viable over the medium to longer-term.
11. Without this intervention from the DfT, it was likely that an exercise to scale back the public transport network would have been needed, as inflationary pressures would have meant service reductions to maintain a balanced budget. However, as a consequence of BSIP+ funding, this is no longer necessary.
12. The patronage level of bus services is influenced by the attractiveness of the service, for example the availability of a comprehensive number of journeys, or late and weekend services. Work patterns have evolved significantly in recent years, with a trend to more shift-working and fewer jobs available at conventional 9 to 5 times. There was a clear call for later bus journeys and more weekend services in a 2021 public transport consultation. It is therefore recommended that a portion of this additional funding be allocated to the enhancement of evening and weekend services on several routes.
13. Bus operators will usually provide additional journeys on a commercial basis when they can see a short-term opportunity, as can be evidenced by Stagecoach's recent introduction of a more frequent all-night timetable on their Cheltenham-Gloucester route. The company has also recently registered later journeys on their busy 1 and 10 routes from Gloucester to Matson and Gloucester to Cheltenham. But in many cases,

it is more realistic to consider a 'pump-priming' approach to providing some additional journeys on routes which should become commercially sustainable in a couple of years.

14. Many Gloucestershire local bus services currently finish operation much earlier on Sunday evenings (around 1900) than on other days of the week, when buses run until 2300 or slightly later. But more journeys are now being made at weekends to reflect increased retail and social opportunities, and because of increased employment opportunities and expectations. It is therefore proposed that some bus services on Sundays should in future continue operation until later in the evening (around 2300).
15. There is an opportunity to increase frequency of bus operation on certain bus corridors. There is some scope to level-up service frequencies on some routes to a minimum of an hourly service in certain situations, especially if it's considered that this level of service can be sustained commercially beyond March 2025.
16. Some communities lost their bus service during late 2022 due to Stagecoach cuts. The recent BSIP+ funding settlement offers an opportunity to try and re-connect some of those communities.
17. The BSIP+ funding settlement also offers an opportunity to expand the geographic scope of the Robin Demand Responsive service, including this to three more rural areas of the County, including the Tewkesbury area, Stroud area, and the south Cotswolds.
18. These areas have the lowest level of conventional timetabled bus services which makes them suitable for expansion of the Robin demand-responsive transport service. This means we will have demand-responsive transport services in all of our rural districts, providing essential transport connections in our most isolated areas.
19. Finally, BSIP+ support funding can be allocated to changing fare levels, promoting bus travel or even offering free travel, with the operators being compensated for lost revenue. Given the continued national £2 fare initiative, fare reduction or promotions such as free travel are not expected to be our priorities in the near future. However, it is considered that provision of discounted or free bus travel at certain weekend periods may be an appropriate way of boosting bus travel at times in the future; for example it could support other Gloucestershire projects and priorities, such as supporting local retail centres in the period before Christmas. The opportunities for promotion and fare initiatives will continue to be considered by officers.

Process

20. Officers have proposed, following consultation with transport providers, a list of bus service improvements using the BSIP+ funding for Cabinet review (see Appendix 1) and approval. These services would then be procured through a series of contracts.

The indicative timescale for this process is set out in the Timeline section at the beginning of this report.

21. Officers have also provided a list (Appendix 2) of existing public and home to school transport services that require re-procurement as they approach the end of their current contract. These can be considered as 'business as usual' with re-procurement required to maintain the operation of these services. These services are due for re-procurement between 1 October 2023 and 31 March 2025.

Options

22. BSIP+ (Appendix 1)
 - a. Accept the proposals put forward in Appendix 1 to invest the BSIP+ funding to enhance key services in the county, to replace some lost services, and to expand The Robin. This is the preferred option.
 - b. Decline the opportunity to use the funding. To return the funding to the DfT and to review the existing supported bus network due to the forecast overspend from April 2024.
23. Re-procurement (Appendix 2)
 - a. To approve the re-procurement of the public transport and home to school routes between 01/10/23 and 31/03/25. This is the preferred option.
 - b. To reject the re-procurement of these services allowing them to end with the current contract with no replacement.

Risks

24. There is a risk that operators do not have the necessary resources to provide the full list of BSIP+ improvements. However, we believe the market is in a better position than in 2022.
25. There is a risk that some of the proposed bus service enhancements might not be financially sustainable beyond the funding period ending in March 2025. Officers will mitigate this risk through discussion with Bus Operators, promotion of public transport, and a full review of services prior to March 2025.
26. Failure to utilise the BSIP+ funding correctly is likely to see some areas of the current bus network continue to decline. The BSIP+ funding is clearly designed to offer Local Authorities a means of reversing decline in bus patronage by stimulating demand through improved service provision.

27. The re-procurement of existing services results in larger contract costs. This has already been mitigated by the awarding of MTFS budget increases in 23/24.
28. BSIP+ funding following the initial £1.1m tranche is dependent on an Enhanced Partnership being agreed. Progress on this is good, operators are supportive (including Stagecoach) and Officers expect it to be in place by the end of September 2023, however until it has launched this is still a minor risk.
29. All BSIP+ funding must be spent in full by 31 March 2025, with any remaining funding paid back to the DfT. A delay in decision making reduces the time available to spend the funding and increases the likelihood that a repayment to the DfT will have to be made. A quicker commencement of these new and improved services means more passenger growth and therefore a higher chance of commercial viability. This also directly reduces the risk that services will have to be withdrawn once the funding ends 2025.

Financial implications

30. The BSIP+ funding package from Central Government will permit the expansion of Gloucestershire's bus-based public transport network with no direct cost to the Council. The only anticipated GCC cost will be staff time to oversee procurement and to publicise these changes. The funding package will also avoid a predicted overspend in the Public Transport base budget for the 2023/4 and 2024/5 financial years. Other sources of income, such as developer section 106 funds, will be used where appropriate.
31. The DfT has provided a grant of £2,209,623 in 2023/24 with a further £2,209,623 to come in 2024/25. 50% of year 1 and 100% of year 2 funding is subject to the Enhanced Partnership being in place. The terms for this grant require the funding to be spent within 12 months of receipt, with all funding to be spent by April 2025, and any underspend to be returned to the DfT.
32. Work continues positively with operators on the development of the Enhanced Partnership (EP). Good progress agreeing the initial focus of the EP and the themes has been made and we are confident that an EP will be in place in Gloucestershire to meet the terms of the DfT funding.
33. Part of this grant will be used to fund the forecast inflationary overspend in the base public transport budget (forecast at £344k in 23/24, and £207k in 24/25), thus securing public transport services which might otherwise be lost through a network review process. The remaining £1,865m of year 1 BSIP+ funding will be used to procure the services proposed in Appendix 1.

34. The BSIP+ list (Appendix 1) has been developed in consultation with operators using an expected value of each improvement. Actual value will not be known until procurement can take place should Cabinet have approved the report. It is expected that the list can be funded using BSIP+ funding, if this isn't the case, upon procurement, then a revision to the list will be made, in consultation with the Executive Director of Economy, Environment & Infrastructure and the Cabinet Member for Education, Skills and Bus Transport.
35. The budget is forecast to be sufficient to cover these recommendations. Any budget surplus following procurement of the agreed BSIP+ services could then be allocated to other services or bus initiatives. These will be prioritised with a focus on connections to market towns, expanded promotional events or incentives.
36. Our work with operators has seen improvements in the stability of the bus market. Training and supply of drivers has improved within the market and wider inflation and fuel issues are less volatile than previously. This in itself creates more stability and confidence to help support the investment. Conversations between Officers and Transport Operators indicate that the necessary driver and vehicle resources exist within the market. The market is not under the same pressure as in 2022, and we are optimistic that the proposal in Appendix 1 is deliverable.
37. The re-procurement list (Appendix 2) is funded within current budgets. Inflation has been forecast and increases to both the public transport and home to school budgets are already approved through the MTFs process for 2023/24.

Objectives of the BSIP+ funding package

38. To provide stability in the County's bus network.
39. To provide the financial basis of procuring improvements to some bus services, especially those which can be procured at relatively low cost, and which have the potential to be sustained commercially after the funding period.
40. To facilitate the expansion of the demand-responsive service known as 'The Robin'.
41. To use some of the funding to cover projected overspend until April 2025.

Climate change implications

42. In line with the GCC Local Transport Plan, the BSIP+ funding and the re-procurement exercise, will promote the use of public transport encouraging a modal shift away from less sustainable methods of transportation.

43. Transport in private vehicles is an issue in rural areas, with a very high proportion of all trips made by car. Significant differences are evident between Gloucestershire's districts. For instance, the residents of Cotswold generate on average 50% more emissions through car travel per year than the residents of Cheltenham and Gloucester, reflecting the nationwide difference between transport patterns in urban and rural communities.
44. As a result, rural areas contribute a significant proportion of Gloucestershire's carbon emissions. BSIP+ offers the best opportunity in recent years to improve the public transport offer in rural areas, providing a genuine alternative to the car and contributing to the reduction in emissions across the entire county. Alongside addressing need, rural accessibility and community priority for routes we have considered the potential positive impact for decarbonisation in rural areas.

Ecological implications

45. Has an Ecological Impact Assessment (EclA) been produced, or will one be undertaken at a later stage? Not applicable.

Equality implications

Has an Equalities Impact Assessment (EqIA) been completed? Yes

46. An Equality Impact Assessment has been produced to accompany this Cabinet report.
47. The Council is acutely aware that some of the most vulnerable residents in the county rely on public transport to travel and access services. Increasing the extent and coverage of the County's bus network will have positive impact on the mobility of disabled and vulnerable people.
48. Public transport services are vital in providing access to health services, education, employment opportunities and social events for all those with protected characteristics. This report aims to expand the network of public transport in Gloucestershire, therefore increasing this access and further reducing barriers that those with protected characteristics face.
49. In addition, the selected priorities and roll out of further Robin services take some positive steps to support rural accessibility and rural isolation issues across our communities.
50. Cabinet Members should read and consider the Equalities Impact Assessment to satisfy themselves as decision makers that due regard has been given.

Data Protection Impact Assessment (DPIA) implications

51. There is no current impact of this work with regards to Data Protection as no personal data has been used.

Social value implications

52. Many bus service operators who provide transport in Gloucestershire are Gloucestershire-based SME companies who put a significant amount of time and resource into the local economy by employing drivers, passenger assistants, office staff and managers. They also invest significantly in training and development of their staff. All drivers of larger vehicles will have to undertake and pass the professional CPC qualification. Many such operators also work with and contribute to local charities, and most of our Community Transport operators are charities. These organisations provide an exceptional service to their local area, areas that often lack regular transport services due to their extremely rural nature.
53. Transport services also contribute significantly to the economy by offering residents opportunities to move around the county for training, education, and employment. A healthy transport network is vital to a growing the local economy and to give people better opportunities to socialise. Many younger, older, and disabled residents do not have access to a car so the only way they can travel to meet family and friends, access health appointments and take part in leisure activities is by using the public transport network.

Consultation feedback

54. The Council conducted an extensive public consultation in 2021/22 on attitudes to public transport provision in the County.
55. The Council's Bus Service Improvement Plan Survey closed on 03/02/22 and attracted 1,734 completed on-line forms. Around 95% of these responses were from local Gloucestershire residents – with the remainder mainly from Councillors or organisations. Responses appeared to be equally spread across all six of the County's constituent District Council areas. Around 50% of responses were from regular bus users (weekly or more frequently).
56. The survey asked what would encourage the respondents to use the bus more often. The most frequent answers were:
 - Additional buses in the morning and evening
 - Direct services
 - More reliable services (according to the published timetable)

57. The responses confirmed our expectations of the kind of enhancements the public would like to see. Over several years the less profitable aspects of bus services have been trimmed by Operators

Officer recommendations

58. To approve the allocation of BSIP+ funding proposal in Appendix 1 for the provision of improved bus services throughout Gloucestershire during 2023/4 and 2024/5 and to authorise Officers to procure these service improvements in line with this report.
59. To approve the re-procurement proposal in Appendix 2 for the replacement of existing public transport and home to school services.

Appendix 1

Following consultation with operators, this is a list of proposed new and enhanced bus services using the BSIP+ funding.

Appendix 1 - Potential BSIP+ bus service enhancements		
Service	Description	Operating days
32	Gloucester - Newent	M-Sa Evenings
62/63	Gloucester - Nailsworth/The Stanleys via Stroud	M-Sa Evenings
65	Gloucester - Stroud via Dursley	Daily
66	Cheltenham - Stroud	Daily
71	Gloucester to Northway via Tewkesbury	Daily
67	Bussage to Cashes Green via Stroud	Daily
1	Gloucester - Matson	Daily
2	Gloucester - Upton St Leonards	Daily
8	Kingsway - Coopers Edge via Gloucester	Daily
10	Cheltenham - Lower Tuffley via Gloucester	Daily
12	Gloucester - Quedgeley	Daily
41	Cheltenham - Northway via Tewkesbury	Daily
A	Coronation Square - Lynworth via Cheltenham	Daily
C	Cheltenham - Springbank	Daily
D	Bishops Cleeve - Hatherley via Cheltenham	Daily
24	Gloucester - Coleford via Mitcheldean	Daily
801	Cheltenham - Moreton-in-Marsh	Daily
S2	Cheltenham to Oxford via Northleach	Daily
72	Chepstow - Lydney - Cinderford - Micheldean	Mon-Sat daytime
New	Woodmancote - Cheltenham via Sapphire Rd, Hyde Ln	Mon-Sat daytime
F	Town Centre - Coronation Square	Daily daytime
Robin	Forest of Dean enhancement	Mon-Sat daytime
Robin	Tewkesbury area expansion	Mon-Sat daytime
Robin	South Cotswolds expansion	Mon-Sat daytime
Robin	South of Stroud expansion	Mon-Sat daytime

Notes on proposed Bus Service Improvements

Route 32 Gloucester – Newent

Current service: Monday to Friday, broadly hourly, with additional evening peak journeys, last bus 1940
 Saturdays – hourly service, last bus 1940
 Sundays – bus every 2 hours, last bus 1850.

Proposal: Three or four later buses each way, Mondays to Saturdays.

Routes 62, 63 Gloucester to Stroud (extending to Nailsworth/The Stanleys)

Current service: Mondays to Fridays, two buses per hour until 1735, then last bus at 1940
 Saturdays, two buses per hour until 1735, then at 1935
 Sundays, hourly until 1700

Proposal: Two later departures each way, Mondays to Saturdays.

Route 65 Gloucester to Stonehouse, Dursley and Stroud

Current service: Mondays to Saturdays, broadly hourly, last bus 1835
 Sundays, four journeys from Gloucester to Dursley, last bus 1650

Proposal: Two later journeys each way, Mondays to Saturdays
 Sunday/Public Holiday journeys extended from Dursley to Stroud.

Service 66 Cheltenham to Stroud

Current service: Mondays to Fridays, broadly hourly, last bus 1745
 Saturdays, hourly, last bus 1730
 Sundays, no service

Proposal: Introduction of Sunday/Public Holiday service.

Service 67 Bussage to Cashes Green via Stroud,

Current service: Mondays to Saturdays, half-hourly to Cashes Green, hourly to Bussage.
 Last bus 1845
 Sundays, no service

Proposal: Friday and Saturday evenings, three later journeys to both Bussage and Cashes Green
 Sunday/Public Holiday service to be introduced.

Service 71 Gloucester to Tewkesbury and Ashchurch station

Current service: Mondays to Saturdays, half-hourly, last bus 1853
Sundays, no service

Proposal: Mondays to Saturdays, three later journeys each way
Sunday/Public Holiday service introduced.

Service 1 Gloucester to Matson

Current service: Mondays to Saturdays, daytime every 12 minutes, evenings every 30 minutes, last bus 2350
Sundays, daytimes every 20 minutes, last bus 2025

Proposal: Two later journeys each way, Friday and Saturday evenings.
Sunday/Public Holiday service to continue until at least 2300.

Service 2 Gloucester to Upton St Leonards

Current service: Mondays to Saturdays, daytimes three times per hour, evenings hourly each way, last bus 2255
Sundays, one bus each hour each way, last bus 1755

Proposal: Two later journeys each way Friday and Saturday evenings.
Sunday/Public Holiday service to continue until at least 2300.

Service 8 Kingsway to Coopers Edge via Gloucester

Current service: Mondays to Saturdays, daytimes three buses per hour, each way, hourly evenings, last bus 2255
Sundays, two buses per hour, last bus 1855

Proposal: Two later journeys each way on Friday and Saturday evening.
Sunday/Public Holiday service to continue until at least 2300.

Service 10 Cheltenham to Lower Tuffley via Gloucester

Current service: Mondays to Saturdays, daytimes 4 buses per hour each way, twice per hour evenings, last bus 2323
Sundays, three buses per hour, evenings hourly, last bus 2303

Proposal: Two late journeys each way, Friday and Saturday evening.

Service 12 Gloucester to Quedgeley

Current service: Mondays to Saturdays, daytimes 4 buses per hour each way, 2 times per hour evenings, last bus 2310
Sundays, daytimes three buses per hour, last bus 1845

Proposal: Two late journeys each way, Friday and Saturday evenings

Sunday/Public Holiday service to continue until at least 2300.

Service 41 Cheltenham to Tewkesbury and Ashchurch Station

Current service: Mondays to Saturdays, daytimes two buses per hour each way, hourly evenings, last bus 2330
Sundays, daytime hourly each way, last bus 1950

Proposal: Two late journeys each way, Friday and Saturday evenings
Sunday/Public Holiday service to continue until at least 2300.

Service A Coronation Square to Lynworth via Cheltenham

Current service: Monday to Saturdays, daytimes 4 buses per hour each way, evenings 3 buses per hour, last bus 2350
Sundays, daytimes three buses per hour, last bus 1848

Proposal: Two late journeys each way, Friday and Saturday evenings
Sunday/Public Holiday service to continue until at least 2300.

Service C Cheltenham to Springbank

Current service: Monday to Saturdays, daytimes 4 buses per hour each way, evenings 3 buses per hour, last bus 2315
Sundays, daytimes two buses per hour, last bus 1900.

Proposal: Two late journeys each way, Friday and Saturday evenings
Sunday/Public Holiday service to continue until at least 2300.

Service D Bishops Cleeve to Hatherley via Cheltenham

Current service: Monday to Saturdays, daytimes 3 buses per hour each way, evenings 2 buses per hour, last bus 2322
Sundays, daytimes three buses per hour, last bus 1852

Proposal: Two late journeys each way, Friday and Saturday evenings
Sunday/Public Holiday service to continue until at least 2300.

Service 24 Gloucester to Coleford via Mitcheldean and Cinderford

Current service: Monday to Saturdays, daytimes broadly every 2 hours, some additional afternoon buses
Last bus 2135 (Fridays and Saturdays 2310)
Sundays, daytimes every 2 hours, last bus 1740 (runs Gloucester to Coleford only)

Proposal: Sunday/Public Holiday service extended to Coleford.

Service 801 Cheltenham to Moreton in Marsh via Bourton in the Water

Current service: Mondays to Saturdays, daytimes every 90 minutes, hourly at peak times. Last bus 1815
Sundays, two round trips (summer only) Last bus 1700

Proposal: Mondays to Saturdays, hourly daytime service, cost
Sundays/Public Holiday, two-hourly service.

Service S2 Cheltenham to Oxford via Northleach and Witney

Current service: Mondays to Saturdays every two hours, last buses 1715 (to Oxford) 1920 (to Witney)
Sundays, two journeys to Oxford, one journey to Witney. Last bus 1415 (Oxford) 1800 (Witney)

Proposal: Mondays to Saturdays, increase to hourly frequency
Sundays/Public Holiday, increase to two-hourly frequency.

Service 72 Chepstow to Lydney

Current service: Mondays to Saturdays every two hours, last bus 1812

Proposal: Extend this service from Lydney to Mitcheldean via Soudley, Ruspidge and Cinderford
Would replace the Lydney-Cinderford link recently discontinued.

New service Woodmancote to Cheltenham via Bishops Cleeve, Hyde Lane and Kingsditch

Proposal: New service operating two times per hour, providing new links to employment, also replacing Woodmancote service recently discontinued.

Service F Cheltenham to Coronation Square via St Marks

Proposal: New Monday to Friday daytime service replacing the discontinued St Marks section of route F.

Robin Forest of Dean area
additional resource proposed to meet peak demand.

South Cotswold area
New geographic area to be served.

South of Stroud area
New geographic area to be served.

Tewkesbury area
New geographic area to be served.

Appendix 2

These lists are for the re-procurement of existing public transport and home to school transport services. These should be considered as 'business as usual' procurement and have no bearing on BSIP+ funds. All services are funded from existing budgets and are to replace currently active routes.

Public Transport - Procurement List to 31 March 2025

Service	Route
882	Gloucester - Tetbury
855	Bourton-on-the-Water-Northleach-Bibury-Cirencester-Fairford
42/43/43A	Cheltenham - Wheatpieces - Mitton or Priors Park - Tewkesbury
60	Dursley - Wotton-under-Edge - Thornbury
35	Ross-On-Wye - Ruardean - Lower Lydbrook - Coleford - Monmouth
746	Ross-On Wye- Mitcheldean- Cinderford-Joy's Green-Lydbrook
K	Cheltenham - Up Hatherley -The Reddings - Benhall
T	Tewkesbury - Priors Park - Bishops Cleeve
65 / 165	Stroud - Cam / Dursley
H	Cheltenham - Kingsditch
8,8A,8B	Stroud - Mason Road - Uplands - Stroud - Bisley - Oakridge
69	Stroud - Minchinhampton - Old Sodbury
711	Ruspidge - Cinderford - Brierley - The Pludds
65F	Elmore - Stonehouse - Quedgeley - Gloucester

Home to School - Procurement List to 31 March 2025

Service	Route
C392BF	Wyedean School to Coalway
C349BA	Farmor's School to Filkins and Lechlade
C369AN	Severn Vale School to Arlingham
C786AE	Ann Edwards to Cerney Wick
C360BK	Dean Academy to Viney Hill
C0753C	Bream to Monmouth Comprehensive School
C339BW	Cirencester Kingshill School to S Cerney
C349BB	Farmor's School to Lechlade/ Kempford
C386AE	Winchcombe School to Dumbleton
C349BE	Farmor's School to Down Ampney
C325BQ	Dene Magna to Newent
C339CA	Cirencester School to Eastleach
C681AB	Ashton & Kemble Primary to Poole Keynes

Update following November 2021 Cabinet Paper

Appendix 1 of the [Tender and Award of Transport Contracts under the Dynamic Purchasing System for Transport](#) Cabinet Paper from November 2021, contains a list of public and home to school services approved by Cabinet. In this paper we can update that all services were awarded in line with the Cabinet decision.

Below is a table stating the total number of contracts awarded via the DPS for the period between the last report (23/08/21) and the current reporting period. The final column reflects total spend on transport contracts within each area from the launch of the DPS in February 2020.

Data in between 24/08/2021 and 23/08/2023, please see table below:

Area of Transport	Number of Contracts Procured from 24/08/2021*	Total DPS Spend (from February 2020)*
Social Care	415	£1,364,989.22
Mainstream	217	£8,627,532.51
Special Educational Needs	941	£20,810,146.99
Public Transport	56	£4,594,696.67
Total	1629	£35,397,365.39

*Column 2 reflects the number of contracts procured since the last Cabinet report, whereas Colum 3 reflects the total spend on all services procured through the DPS since its inception in February 2020.