

Copy sent by email to:
Town & Parish Clerks

Place Directorate
Floor 6, Delamere House
Delamere Street
Crewe
CW1 2JZ

16th August 2021

Tel: 0300 123 5020
Email: BSIP@cheshireeast.gov.uk

Dear Town/Parish Clerk,

Bus Service Improvement Plan

Town & Parish Councils Engagement

In response to the National Bus Strategy for England (NBSfE) “*Bus Back Better*”, Cheshire East Council is developing a Bus Service Improvement Plan (BSIP) for the whole borough.

The relevant Department for Transport (DfT) guidance states the need to consider current bus service provision, in particular the level of satisfaction with the local bus network, any issues with services or infrastructure, and to identify any opportunities to improve connectivity and stabilise the bus network as we recover from the pandemic.

The Highways and Transportation Committee received a report on 19th July 2021 outlining the requirement to develop a BSIP (please find attached), which provides further information on the National Bus Strategy and Cheshire East’s emerging response.

The Council is interested to receive any input and evidence from Town and Parish Councils on matters that are within scope for the BSIP, including:

- Regarding the existing bus network, what is good and any issues/concerns about the current network such as the level of services and locations served by bus.
- What are the barriers preventing local people using the bus network
- Any opportunities to improve connectivity by bus in the future.
- Locations where congestion is impacting the reliability of journeys by bus.
- Locations for bus stop improvements would improve quality-of-service for passengers.

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Whilst this is a challenging time for bus operators, the production of these plans is being closely linked to future funding arrangements for buses, so we feel it is vital that the needs of Cheshire East are captured fully on our Improvement Plan.

Should you have any further comments or suggestions, please feel free to contact the team working on our Improvement Plan to discuss further; they can be contacted by email at BSIP@cheshireeast.gov.uk.

The tight timescales for preparation of the BSIP have been set nationally. With this in mind, it would be appreciated if you could provide any response you may have as soon as possible. Information received by 17th September 2021 will be considered for inclusion in our submission to the Department for Transport, which is due in October 2021.

Yours sincerely,



Richard Hibbert
Head of Strategic Transport & Parking
Richard.Hibbert@cheshireeast.gov.uk

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