

Consultation on Dorset Enhanced Partnership Plan and Scheme

The council has started the process of creating an Enhanced Partnership following the submission of the Bus Service Improvement Plan (BSIP) to the Department for Transport. This will be a legally binding agreement between the council and local bus operators and sets out how we will work more closely together to improve bus services across Dorset.

There are two parts of the Enhanced Partnership which we are now seeking the views on. These are:

The Enhanced Partnership Plan - sets out a summarised version of the BSIP, providing the background for the proposed local bus service improvements

The Enhanced Partnership Scheme - sets out an agreed set of actions to deliver the BSIP proposals

Read the full [draft of the Enhanced Partnership Plan and Scheme](#).

The delivery of our BSIP proposals are subject to the funding being made available by the Department for Transport. As such the Scheme has been designed as a 'shell agreement' setting out the themes and how we intend to work together. The Scheme will be updated over time to include more detail as funding becomes available.

Following the consultation exercise, we intend to 'make' the Plan and the Scheme which will then take effect from 1 April 2022.

The Enhanced Partnership consultation will run from Monday 24th January 2022 to Monday 21st February 2022. Please complete the questions, adding as much supporting text as needed to answer each question, and then submit your response in writing by post or email using the following addresses:

Post to: Dorset Council, County Hall, Colliton Park, Dorchester, DT1 1XJ

Email to: busbackbetter@dorsetcouncil.gov.uk

Section 1

Are you responding as: (Tick One)

- ☐ A local resident
- ☐ Organisation or business
- ☐ Statutory consultee (Traffic Commissioner, Chief officer of Police, Transport Focus, Competition and Markets Authority, local bus operator, local passenger group, neighbouring local authority)
- ☐ Other (please explain)

Name of your organisation/business

Is it the official response of the organisation?

- ☐ Yes
- ☐ No

Your name



Section 2 - Enhanced Partnership Plan

The Enhanced Partnership Plan closely follows the council's Bus Service Improvement Plan (BSIP) published in October 2021.

In your view, does the Enhanced Partnership Plan suitably reflect the BSIP and the ambition of the council?

Section 9 of the Enhanced Partnership Plan details our plans for seeking the views of users, passenger groups and other interested groups on how well the Partnership is working.

Do you have any comments about the plans for seeking the views of users, passenger groups and other interested groups as detailed in the Enhanced Partnership Plan?



Section 3 - Enhanced Partnership Scheme

The Enhanced Partnership Scheme forms the legal agreement between the council and local bus operators within the area defined in section 2.2. It sets out how the objectives of the Enhanced Partnership will be achieved. Section 3 of the Scheme describes the responsibilities of the council and Section 4 describes the responsibilities of the local bus operators.

Do you have any comments about the responsibilities described in sections 3 and 4 of the Enhanced Partnership Scheme?

Section 5 of the Enhanced Partnership Scheme outlines the arrangements that will enable the council, local bus operators and other stakeholders to make decisions, vary the Scheme and monitor progress. The Scheme can be varied using the processes outlined in Section 5 using powers provided by s.138E of the Transport Act 2000 or through the statutory process found in s.138K of the Transport Act 2000.

In your view, do the planned arrangements set out in section 5 support effective delivery of the Enhanced Partnership Scheme?

Section 4 - Overall support and comments

Overall, do you support the Enhanced Partnership Plan and Scheme?

- ☐ Strongly support
- ☐ Support
- ☐ Neither support or oppose
- ☐ Oppose
- ☐ Strongly oppose

Any other comments

Thank you. We very much value your time and feedback at this important stage of the Enhanced Partnership process.