

Meeting Title:	Southampton Enhanced Partnership Board – Notes of Meeting agreed at October EP Board	
Date:	23 July 2024	
Time:	10:00-12:00pm	
Location:	Executive Boardroom, Civic Centre, Southampton	
Invitees:	<p>Cllr Eamonn Keogh, SCC Cabinet Member for Environment & Transport (Chair); Pete Boustred, SCC Head of Transport & Planning; Wade Holmes, SCC, Service Manager, Integrated Transport; Andrew Wickham, Go South Coast Managing Director; Richard Tyldsley, Go South Coast General Manager; Richard Soper, South Hampshire Bus Operators Association (SHBOA);</p> <p><u>Observers</u> Andrew Wilson, HCC Strategic Transport Manager (Public Transport); Iain Steane, SCC Transport Policy & Sustainable Travel Manager; Emma Baker, SCC Strategic Transport Planner; David Garney, SCC Senior Transport Planner.</p> <p>Apologies: Richard Soper, South Hampshire Bus Operators Association (SHBOA).</p>	
Ref	Agenda Items	Presenting
1	Welcome & Introductions	Cllr Keogh
2	Minutes & Actions from Previous Meeting	All
	<p>Minutes from the EP Board meeting held on 23 April 2024 were accepted and agreed at the meeting. Open actions were discussed, and progress noted.</p> <p>Action – SCC to keep progressing active travel to support Southampton Football Club with their Travel Plan, specifically match day travel and bus travel at the end of fixtures. PB & WH to meet with the football club in the coming week.</p>	
3	<p>2024 Bus Service Improvement Plan Document</p> <p>BSIP 2024 update presented highlighting the changes to document, outcomes of the Bus Connectivity Assessment, costs and alignment with new National objectives for BSIP</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> RT raised the proposal for closing Bargate Street and having a suitable replacement bus priority. WH advised that mitigations will be in place before any closure to Bargate Street and are currently looking at camera enforcement along Above Bar Street. 	IS

	<p>RECOMMENDATION - To endorse the 2024 Southampton BSIP document including the pipeline of future schemes and Bus Connectivity Assessment.</p> <p>Recommendation Agreed</p>	
4	<p>EP Working Group Highlights</p>	<p>IS/EB/DG</p>
	<p>Highlights from Working Groups (further information in the Board pack).</p> <p><u>4a BSIP Target Monitoring</u></p> <p>Patronage and punctuality levels for last 3 months presented and trends noted.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • RT felt that the inner ring road scheme has had more of an operational impact than expected. • AW advised that the fleet is more reliable and a few of the older buses remain. The former London DOE class are being refurbished with a modification to the electric centre door ramps. The company has had a recent purge on early running, and some of this can be linked to how data is linked. This has improved and is now around 2% for Southampton. The GPS data bubble has been reduced for bus each stop, and some timing points have also been modified. • RT added that the company are showing strong year on year patronage which bucks the national trend. AWS agreed that this is a good news story, we are making buses better and it is working. <p><u>4b 2024/25 Work Programme</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Northern Ring Road due to re-open 31 July, reverting to both ways but with some closures due to the intelligent signals being tweaked. Within 2 months the signals should be self-working. • East Park Terrace. 9k vehicles passed through per day before the bus gate and now 2k vehicles per day with the bus gate, highlighting a notable decrease. An evidence pack is being prepared prior to camera enforcement, expected within a couple of months. • A legacy cable around a tree stump is causing delays with progress to the Albion Place bus hub which is expected to open in October 2024. • PB advised that the 5 for £5 is seen as a good scheme and well done to all those involved for delivering the scheme this summer which commenced on 20 July and runs until 1 September. • AW advised that the new Bluestar Travel Shop opens on Monday 29 July, and the City Centre offices opens today. The new offices are the best accommodation within the company and are like the Bournemouth offices with showers and prayer rooms. <p><u>4c A33 Western Approach Bus Priority</u></p> <p>WH went through the proposed amendments for the A33 Western Approach (reduction in bus lanes) and confirmed that the journey time savings for the mitigations should be around a minute. The DfT are happy with the recommendation.</p> <p>RECOMMENDATION – to support the alternate proposed bus lanes on Western Approach</p> <p>Recommendation Agreed.</p> <p><u>4d EP Forum</u></p>	

	Feedback from the May EP Forum provided by DG. Noted that the next Forum is in November	
5	Round Table Update	All
	<p>Go South Coast</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 10% year on year passenger growth with the former City Red services up by 15%. 92 people used the night N1 buses on a single night recently. • Vehicle reliability has improved, and new buses have settled down. There are only 6 buses left to paint in blue. • The company has won the retendering of the Barton Peveril college bus routes. • The Summer Sessions severely impacted operations and RT advised that a better process is needed for event planning. No boost in passengers noted because of the Summer Sessions. WH advised that SCC have now changed the way the events team consult with bus operators at the start of the event planning process. • Staffing is good, with active bus driver recruitment in place. Andy Shaw has moved to Poole and Chrys Papanicolaou is now Operations Manager for Bluestar. The Go-Ahead Group are looking to recruit more female drivers. <p>Action: Following a request from Cllr Keogh, SCC and Bluestar to discuss child term tickets and travel incentives for young persons.</p> <p>SHBOA (on behalf of smaller operators) No update received.</p> <p>Hampshire County Council</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pleased with the performance of the BSIP+ funded journeys since they commenced operation in April 2024. • Access for All - successful bid with South Western Railways for Swanwick and Hedge End stations to become fully accessible (lifts). • Station Travel Plans. A paper will be taken to Cabinet detailing a costed list of improvements and integration with buses at Rail Stations. • All 62 new First Solent battery electric buses from the successful ZEBRA joint bid are now in service. • Hampshire County Council will formally withdraw from Solent Transport from April 2025. HCC remain committed to partnership working via the BSIP which is bearing fruit. <p>Southampton City Council</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Noting HCC's withdrawal from Solent Transport the remaining LTAs (PCC/SCC/IOW) have expressed their disappointed with HCC's decision and are looking will work going forward is to be agreed. • SCC received letter from the Deputy Prime Minister about Devolution – noting Southampton area is a 'devolution desert'. Proposals being developed with neighbouring authorities. • Budget - SCC Transformation Plan is being progressed with budget savings expected in the budget year 25/26 - one area is Parking and Traffic Management. 	<p>AW/RT</p> <p>AW</p> <p>PB</p>
6	Date of EP Board Meetings	All

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Future meetings proposed for 15 October 2024, 21 January 2025, 22 April 2025, 15 July 2025 	
7	AOB	All
	None noted.	
	Date of next meeting: Tuesday 15 October 2024, 10-12pm, Empress Road Boardroom.	

AGREE MINUTES & ACTIONS FROM PREVIOUS MEETINGS

MEETING DATE	ITEM	RESPONSIBLE	ACTION	UPDATE	STATUS
11/01/2024	10	SCC & BS	SCC and BS to follow up on the safety concern raised in the BSIP survey and perhaps market that all buses feature CCTV to dispel safety concerns.	This will be incorporated into a BSIP+ funded comms campaign to be rolled out in Autumn 2024.	Complete
11/01/2024	11	SCC	SCC to arrange a meeting with BS to discuss independent travel training.	This is being taken forward by the Home to School Transport team.	In progress
23/04/2024	13	SCC	SCC to develop local area energy plan and prepare a note for DfT summarising the challenges of energy supply in the city and the impact on electrification of the bus fleet.	Transport Policy engaged with Energy Team and EV Lead to inform the Local Area Energy Plan – workshops over Summer on developing the LAEP	In progress
23/04/2024	16	SCC	Clr Keogh has asked for bus priority after one Saints game. SCC officers to arrange and communicate.	Contact to be made with football club to discuss plans for next season.	In progress
24/07/2024	17	SCC & Bluestar	SCC and Bluestar to discuss child term tickets and travel incentives for young persons. Potentially a BSIP+ fare offer.	DG has contacted RT at Bluestar to discuss the potential for further discounts in addition to what is already available to college students across the city.	In progress