

Kent County Council Bus Service Improvement Plan Delivery Plan 2025-26



Kent Enhanced Partnership

Category of scheme	Name of scheme	Description of scheme
Bus Priority Infrastructure	Bus Priority Scheme – Pencester Road	Changing a one-way road into a dedicated two-way bus contraflow lane and installing related facilities. The scheme will have a major benefit for the Dover Fastrack bus service alongside unlocking a new trial service between Dover Priory Rail Station and the Dover Port.
Bus Priority Infrastructure	Bus Priority Scheme – Rennie Drive	Highway and junction improvements to Rennie Drive in Dartford to significantly reduce journey times for the Fastrack network near the Dartford Crossing.
Bus Priority Infrastructure	Bus Priority Scheme – Thanet “Superbus”	Two phases of schemes of highway improvements affecting the Thanet Loop service corridor including the construction of a bus lane leading to the Queen Elizabeth Queen Mother Hospital in Margate. The bus service frequency has been improved to run every 8 minutes as a result of the interventions.
Bus Priority Infrastructure	Bus Priority Scheme – Feasibility	Ongoing feasibility works to investigate potential future bus priority and highway interventions schemes.
Bus Priority Infrastructure	Bus Priority Scheme – Bean Road Tunnels	Construction of a dedicated tunnel linking the Eastern Quarry development in Ebbsfleet to the Bluewater Shopping Centre bus station. The tunnel will provide a key journey time saving and support the sustainable development strategy of the area.

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Bus Priority Infrastructure	Highway Improvements on Bus Corridors	Delivery of interventions on bus corridors identified to have reliability issues. The corridors that are being investigated are subject of an individual corridor study. Improvements will be targeted to improve bus journey times and accessibility.
Bus Priority Infrastructure	Traffic Signal Priority	Exploration of the viability to introduce a Traffic Priority system at key junctions. The system enables bus ticket machines to provide real time location data to allow traffic light prioritisation to the buses.
Other Infrastructure	Highways Interventions to Support PIPs	Continuation of delivery of various highways improvements schemes across Kent that have been suggested through the Punctuality Improvement Partnerships and through wider engagement with key stakeholders such as District Councils.
Other Infrastructure	Highway Initiatives – ANPR Cameras	Installation of ANPR Cameras at designated Bus Gate locations around the county to protect bus punctuality and improve safety
Bus Stops/Stations/Interchanges	District Bus Shelters Grant	Grant scheme to be made available to District Councils to upgrade, replace or install new bus shelters in their areas.
Bus Stops/Stations/Interchanges	Travel Hubs	Delivery of integration and accessibility improvements at key interchange points (e.g. bus and rail hubs and key visitor attractions).
Improved Information, Marketing	Delivery of Real Time Information Screens	Rollout of Real Time Information screens across the county at key locations designated by a Bus Stop Hierarchy which factors in a number of measures such as number of bus departures and stop usage.

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Improved Information, Marketing	QR Codes at Marked Bus Stops	Installation of QR Code plates at marked bus stops across the county to improve passenger information. The QR Codes will link to a new Bus Information Portal (see below)
Improved Information, Marketing	Public Transport Portal	A Bus Information Portal is to be launched which will provide scheduled and live bus data alongside a journey planner and interactive bus map. The QR Codes will link to the portal and provide live information where available at the relevant bus stop.
Ticketing Equipment/Systems	SME Electronic Ticketing Machine Grant	Ticket Machine Grant for SME Operators to improve machines to be able to accept contactless payments and smart cards.
Ticketing Equipment/Systems	Mobility As A Service (MaaS)	Rollout of a Mobility as a Service (MaaS) trial in the Ebbsfleet area. MaaS works as an app that will enable users to plan, book and pay for multiple modes of transportation within that area.
Simpler/More Affordable Fares	Multi-Operator Ticketing Zones	Introduction of new multi-operator ticket zone(s) utilising improved ticket machine capability. Location to be confirmed.
Simpler/More Affordable Fares	Support of Home to School Travel	The use of funding to keep the cost of passes for the popular Kent Travel Saver (KTS) scheme as low as possible for the 2025/26 academic year
Simpler/More Affordable Fares	Plus Bus Expansion	Expansion and increased promotion of the successful Plus Bus ticketing scheme which provides discounted travel for journeys combining bus and rail.

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Bus Service Support/Network Development	Sustain the Network	Use of BSIP funding to continue to support over 60 previously commercial bus services, predominantly serving schools.
Bus Service Support/Network Development	Network Planning Tool	Continued support of a network planning tool to inform network analysis including bus connectivity assessments and future data requirements.
Bus Service Support/Network Development	Community Transport Grant	A Community Transport Grant (CTG) aimed at providing one off capital funding to local Parish Councils and Community Transport groups to introduce or enhance Community Transport schemes.
Other	District Council Grant Scheme	Grant scheme for District Councils to deliver local bus interventions such as enhanced integration, information or wayfinding to benefit buses etc.
Vehicles	Zero Emission Buses on AQMAs	Grant scheme to operators to secure zero emissions vehicles on key Air Quality Management Area (AQMA) corridors which have been identified through a AQMA hierarchy.
Vehicles	Zero Emission Buses	Direct procurement of new zero emission vehicles on KCC's Kent Karrier service.
LTA Delivery/Admin Costs	LTA Staff Costs for Delivery of BSIP	Local Transport Authority resource costs for the continued delivery of the KCC BSIP Programme.