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Date: 29th March 2022



**WOKINGHAM
BOROUGH COUNCIL**

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RE: Consultation Response to Royal Borough of Windsor & Maidenhead's Enhanced Partnership Plan and Scheme

Thank you for providing Wokingham Borough Council with the opportunity to comment on the Royal Borough of Windsor & Maidenhead's (RBWM) Enhanced Partnership (EP) Agreement.

Wokingham Borough Council (WBC) is keen to ensure a coordinated approach to the delivery of local bus services across Berkshire. Following the significant impact of the coronavirus pandemic and the lack of clarity around future government funding, we are particularly keen to support the shared objectives of increasing local bus travel and reducing carbon emissions from transport.

WBC welcomes the opportunity to engage with RBWM and be part of RBWM's Enhanced Partnership Forum for the purpose of coordinating travel across Berkshire. WBC sees a need for a strategic view to network development as necessary for achieving an integrated network of sustainable travel across Berkshire, as well as a need for formal engagement on matters such as fares and ticketing.

As you note there may be an opportunity to jointly explore a separate Berkshire wide forum in the future. WBC is fully supportive of joint working and as such would be supportive of a Berkshire Enhanced Partnership forum, where appropriate and subject to sufficient resources being available.

I trust the above comments are helpful to RBWM in the further development of your EP Agreement. WBC would be happy to engage further with RBWM before the EP is finalised through the statutory legal process as when necessary.

Yours sincerely,

Rebecca Brooks

**Rebecca Brooks
Community Transport Manager**

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Page 1

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Page 9



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