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Dear Transport Focus,

I am writing on behalf of Wokingham Borough Council to thank you for the detailed consultation response received from Transport Focus regarding the Enhanced Partnership (EP) Plan and Scheme. We appreciate the time and effort you dedicated to providing us with your insights and recommendations. We are pleased to note your praise and agreement with many aspects of the EP Plan and Scheme.

We would like to address some of the key points you raised in your response and outline how we plan to progress:

We acknowledge your recommendation to provide **greater clarity on how each commitment within the EP Plan will contribute to achieving the targets**, especially considering known funding. While this does not impact the making or running of the EP Plan and Scheme, we commit to updating these documents at a later date to make this important information clearer.

We appreciate your observation regarding **the requirement to consult users on how well the Enhanced Partnership is working**. To address this, we will establish the EP Forum and define and set up community-led working groups as we intended. We will communicate these actions publicly, including on the My Journey website, and we will keep Transport Focus informed of our progress. Future variations to the documents will amplify our actions so that it is clearer that the EP Plan meets the requirement of the Act.

The **passenger charter** is being developed alongside the EP. We appreciate the suggestions which you have made and will be pleased to consider these in discussion with the bus operators, particularly for the points which relate to what is provided inside buses, to ensure that the charter promotes the best interests of passengers.

Regarding concerns about the **bespoke variation mechanism**, we want to reassure you that mentions of the Bespoke Variation are not intended to avoid consultation where it is appropriate and/or necessary on a statutory basis. We commit to considering consulting with the organisations that are statutory consultees on a non-statutory basis as part of the process of developing measures and facilities. This will be done before considering the use of the Bespoke Variation mechanism.

We appreciate your willingness to help the partnership, and we will consider how Transport Focus can play a role in assisting us as we work towards establishing and running a live Enhanced Partnership.

Once again, we extend our gratitude for your thorough response and your ongoing support in ensuring that our bus services meet local passenger priorities.

Yours sincerely,

RBrooks

Rebecca Brooks
Community Transport Manager