

**Edinburgh and South East Scotland City Region (ESESCR)
Deal Transport Appraisal Board bid into the Bus Partnership Fund****Report by; Kevin Anderson Executive Director - Place****Report for Decision****1 Recommendations**

It is recommended that Council agrees to authorise the Transport Appraisal Board (TAB) to prepare a collective South East of Scotland regional bid for submission to Transport Scotland for funding from the Bus Partnership Fund.

2 Purpose of Report

The purpose of this report is to inform Elected Members of the ESESCR Deal's Transport Appraisal Board bid into the Bus Partnership Fund and to agree to authorise the Board to prepare a collective South East of Scotland regional bid for funding from Transport Scotland's Bus Partnership Fund.

Date: 9 March 2021**Report Contact:** Lindsay Haddow, Policy and Road Safety Manager**Email:** Lindsay.haddow@midlothian.gov.uk

3 Background

The recommendations of the report was approved by the Edinburgh and South East Scotland City Region Deal Joint Committee on Friday 5th March.

[ESESCR Deal Transport Appraisal Board bid into the Bus Partnership Fund](#)  PDF 241 KB

One of the report's recommendations was:

- To authorise the Transport Appraisal Board to prepare a collective South East of Scotland regional bid for submission to Transport Scotland for funding from its Bus Partnership Fund, subject to agreement by the six individual Councils

Midlothian Council's officers are currently drafting and collating projects and initiatives to be considered for inclusion in a collective bid.

4 Report Implications

4.1 Resource

There is no additional requirement as existing resources are being used at present.

4.2 Revenue

There are no revenue implications at this stage

4.3 Benefits

The bid submission aims in improving the bus network and services across Midlothian, linking to and beyond neighbouring local authority areas boundaries.

4.4 Risks

A risk of not responding is that Midlothian Council will not benefit from the government funding available to improving its bus network.

4.5 Digital Services Issues

Not applicable.

APPENDIX A – Report Implications

A.1 Key Priorities within the Single Midlothian Plan

The submission will contribute to the Midlothian 2020 vision of improving the quality of life for Midlothian's citizens.

A.2 Key Drivers for Change

Key drivers addressed in this report:

- ☐ Holistic Working
- ☐ Modern
- ☒ Sustainable
- ☐ Transformational
- ☐ Preventative
- ☐ Asset-based
- ☐ Continuous Improvement

A.3 Key Delivery Streams

Key delivery streams addressed in this report:

- ☐ One Council Working with you, for you
- ☒ Preventative and Sustainable
- ☐ Efficient and Modern
- ☐ Innovative and Ambitious

A.4 Delivering Best Value

There are no direct implications related to this report.

A.5 Involving Communities and Other Stakeholders

Not applicable

A.6 Impact on Performance and Outcomes

Not applicable

A.7 Adopting a Preventative Approach

The Scottish Government expects the preventative approach is embedded in the bid.

A.8 Supporting Sustainable Development

The Scottish Government expects sustainable development aspects are contained throughout the bid.