

Decision Title:

Bus Service Improvement Plan – Bus Fare Cap

Is this decision Key or Non-key?

Non Key

If the decision is Key, has the decision been published on the Forward Plan?

N/A

Is this decision subject to Call-in?

No

Decision:**Option 2: Confidential decision:**

Confidential – Not for publication by virtue of paragraph 3 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972, information relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person (including the authority holding that information).

Approval to enter into associated reimbursement arrangements with bus operators for implementation of this fare cap.

Delegation:

The Bus Service Improvement Plan (BSIP) Programme fund allocations were approved by the Joint Transport Committee in June 2022. This programme of spend had previously been set out and agreed by the Joint Transport Committee on 19 March 2024. (Decision Notice Item 8 (ii)).

In May 2024, the North East Combined Authority (North East CA) Cabinet agreed that 'the formal decisions which the former North East Combined Authority and the former North of Tyne Combined Authority made be treated as decisions of the Authority.' (Cabinet meeting 7 May 2024, Minute no C6/5/24 (4)).

On 10 December 2024, the North East Combined Authority (North East CA) Cabinet agreed at an extra-ordinary meeting to use additional Bus Service Improvement Plan funding to cap bus fares at £2.50 for the duration of 2025 (Minute C56/12/24). This approval included the delegation 'In consultation with the Mayor, Monitoring Officer and Chief Finance Officer to enter into associated reimbursement arrangements with bus operators for implementation of this fare cap.'

Decisions are now being taken in line with that delegation.

Consultation:

Cabinet Member:	Yes
Monitoring Officer:	Yes
Director of Finance and Investment:	Yes

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Name and Title of the Decision-Maker:

Dr Henry Kippin, Chief Executive, North East Combined Authority

Contact Officer:

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Signature (Decision-Maker)

Date of signing 08/04/2025..... 