

March 2021 – National Bus Strategy (BSIP) – KCC funding £19m (£12.5m capital eg Bus Priority Schemes & £6.5m revenue e.g. Kent Travel Scheme price hold) awarded March 2023. This spend has started with Free Bus Weekend 24/25 June.

Next BSIP est £16m (£12m capital, £4m revenue), date of award TBC.

No more than 10% of BSIP revenue can be used to support services. Service supported if “Socially Necessary” and “leaves students without means getting to schools and sustainable in long term” OR “profound impact on social inclusion and sustainable in long term and cost per passenger journey less than services withdrawn by KCC”.

The result of this is:

The following services will be supported by KCC:

515	Singleton to Towers	)	
516	Towers to Willesborough	)	
517	Hythe Rd to Knoll Lane	)	These are w/d by Stagecoach
518	Highworth to Tenterden	)	
519	Stanhope to Towers	)	
&			
2	Tenterden to Ashford (A28)		Service w/d by Stagecoach (bar 3 off-peak services); KCC will fund school service via 962, HS1, AS1/2/3/4.

This leaves the following service changes by Stagecoach with no KCC funding so leave ABC to fund if it so wishes:

1	Ashford to Canterbury	No longer stops in Wye – Stagecoach to look at this again
2A	Ashford to Tenterden via K'nth	Sunday withdrawn, additional off peak, no service Park Farm
10X	Ashford to Maidstone	Sunday withdrawn
A	Singleton	reduced early AM, early eves & Sat PM
B	Kennington to Bridgefield	reduced early AM, early eves & Sat PM, some late eve w/d
C	WHH to Town Centre	reduced early AM, early eves & Sat PM, some late eve w/d
D	Stanhope	reduced early AM, early eves & Sat PM
AD	Stanhope	extra early AM, late eve “brought back” by KCC
G	Godinton to Orbital	reduce to off peak only by w/d peak services
965	Park Farm to Lenham Sch	running time reduced
10E	Egerton to Ashford	PM departure times changed
10	Folkestone to Ashford	Some late journeys w/d, no longer serves Lympne, Sun w/d

New timetables in about 10 days time.

RE G LINE – There is s106 funding for former shuttle bus which will be used on bus stop improvements at Asda and staff travel schemes.

RE B LINE – State of Play note on s106 to be finalised to see if this can subsidise the service. Note pre-application from Persimmon on turning circle at Bridgefield (which was temporary) so might produce an impetus to extend the B LINE to new Bridgefield extension / Finberry. Finberry extension dependant on KCC enforcement of bus only route (BSIP funding).