



Department
for Transport

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Our Ref: MC/400893

27 May 2022

Dear Sue,

Thank you for your letter of 3 May to Grant Shapps, about funding for Shropshire Council's Bus Service Improvement Plan (BSIP). I am replying as the Minister responsible for this issue.

At the Budget we announced £1.2 billion of new dedicated funding for BSIPs, part of £3 billion of new spend on buses over this Parliament.

The demand from Local Transport Authorities for funding for BSIPs exceeded the funding available. Following the results of a detailed BSIP assessment process, we have selected a total of thirty-one counties, city regions and unitary authorities to receive this funding to level up their local bus services. The successful areas were prioritised based on the criteria set out in the National Bus Strategy and the supplementary guidance published in May 2021.

We were unable to offer BSIP funding for Shropshire at this time. I understand this decision is very disappointing. The Department will provide feedback on BSIPs where requested shortly and aims to complete this by the end of May. We have written to all areas to whom we cannot provide new funding at this time to set out the support on offer, which will include a further capacity support grant which should be sufficient to enable the council to employ a dedicated bus Enhanced Partnership support officer, and appropriate training for that officer under the auspices of the new Bus Centre of Excellence.



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