



Department
for Transport

Department for Transport
Great Minster House
33 Horseferry Road
London
SW1P 4DR
Tel: 0300 330 3000

To Local Transport Authority Transport Officers
via email

Web Site: www.gov.uk/dft

19 October 2020

Dear colleague,

Local Transport Authority COVID-19 Bus Service Support Grant Restart Scheme

Following on from my letter of 14 September, I am writing to provide an update on the Local Transport Authority (LTA) COVID-19 Bus Service Support Grant (CBSSG) Restart scheme.

Final funding allocations for 4 August – 28 September (second tranche of LTA CBSSG Restart funding)

Provided alongside this letter are the final funding allocations for this period, including the Section 31 Grant Conditions and the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) for the funding. The only material change to the MOU is that we now only require sign-off for your spend during the LTA CBSSG Restart scheme at the end of the scheme, instead of at the end of each tranche. We have also taken into account feedback from Local Transport Authorities and where an LTA does not have an internal audit function, are content to allow Section 151 Officer sign off of spending, replacing the previous requirement for the Chief Executive/Chief Auditor to sign these off. This will be reflected in an updated MOU which will be issued alongside the final funding allocations for the period 29 September – 23 November.

For LTAs with a final funding allocation of £0, this is due to one of the following circumstances:

- Your underspend from the first tranche of LTA CBSSG Restart funding exceeds your second tranche claim, and this underspend has therefore been carried forward;
- Your claim was not finalised and will be carried forward into the next tranche; or
- You did not submit a claim.

Payments will be made to LTAs on 30 October. This includes payments for tendered service only operator claims for reasonable PPE, restart, and safe operating costs where applicable. LTAs who are receiving a payment for these costs should have been contacted by officials to confirm the list of operators that this funding should be passed onto.

Indicative funding allocations for 29 September – 23 November (third tranche of LTA CBSSG Restart funding)

Based on LTAs' responses to the LTA CBSSG Restart survey, we have determined initial funding allocations for the 8-week period 29 September – 23 November. For LTAs who did not claim funding under the previous tranche, or did not provide final claim figures, please submit a completed Word document version of the original LTA CBSSG Restart survey using the form provided alongside this letter.

For LTAs that have already provided claims for this period, your indicative funding allocations, which are presented in Annex A, were determined based on the extent to which LTAs' funding claims aligned with the list of allowable uses of LTA CBSSG Restart funding.

If your funding requirement for this period has changed, please contact us with an updated claim figure, including a breakdown of the new claim figure and details of how you calculated the claim.

Future tranches of LTA CBSSG Restart funding

Subject to the 8-week notice period, should the CBSSG Restart scheme continue, LTA submissions of future funding claims under the LTA CBSSG Restart scheme will be used to determine future tranches of funding as is being done for the third tranche of funding. Where LTAs have refined estimates of their next funding requirements, these should be sent to the mailbox, along with final spend figures for the period 4 August – 28 September to enable DfT to determine future payments.

LTA CBSSG underspend

LTAs who have not yet provided final spend figures under the original LTA CBSSG scheme which ran from 17 March – 8 June should contact the mailbox with these figures, as per the grant conditions of the funding any underspend must be returned to DfT.

LTAs who reported an underspend and have been contacted by officials to return this underspend should do so, as required by the grant conditions of the funding.

Other Public Sector Support

DfT remains grateful to those authorities that have continued to maintain payment levels to bus and coach operators (for tendered services, concessionary fares and home to school transport) at the levels before the downturn in service provision or patronage. The budget for the commercial and LTA CBSSG Restart schemes have been calculated on the basis that this funding will continue at previous levels, and DfT will be circulating a guidance note on concessionary travel shortly.

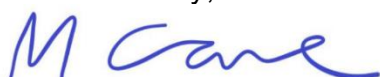
Spotlight Pre and Post-award Checks

Additional vehicles for dedicated school or college services tendered via the new Department for Education (DfE) funding are not eligible to claim CBSSG Restart funding. This is to avoid double funding these services with other public sector support. Taxis for private hire and community transport must be licensed.

To mitigate the risk of service operators claiming duplicate funding for the same service, DfE, in conjunction with DfT recommends that LTAs sign up to 'Spotlight', the Government's automated due diligence tool which quickly conducts a range of checks and provides a risk based output. Thousands of applications are processed in minutes so awards can be made safely, quickly and efficiently. Post-award notifications are automatically generated if the applicant's circumstances should change. The documents provided alongside this letter provide further information about Spotlight and you can contact the Spotlight Team for more details: spotlight@cabinetoffice.gov.uk.

We are happy to answer your questions about the LTA CBSSG Restart scheme. Please email the team at cbssg@dft.gov.uk.

Yours faithfully,



Matthew Crane

Deputy Director, Local Transport COVID-19 Response Division, Department for Transport

Annex A – Indicative Funding Allocations

Local Transport Authority	Funding (£) for 29 September – 23 November 2020
Bedford Borough Council	70,120
Blackburn with Darwen Borough Council	16,615
Blackpool Council	TBC
Bournemouth, Christchurch and Poole Council	45,000
Bracknell Forest Council	47,500
Brighton and Hove City Council	0
Buckinghamshire Council	65,013
Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Combined Authority	153,000
Central Bedfordshire Council	43,540
Cheshire East Council	188,728
Cheshire West and Chester Council	76,000
City of Stoke-on-Trent	30,080
City of York Council	60,078
Cornwall Council (including Isles of Scilly)	622,929
Cumbria County Council	TBC
Derby City Council	17,240
Derbyshire County Council	388,000
Devon County Council	355,000
Dorset Council	105,264
East Riding of Yorkshire Council	63,109
East Sussex County Council	104,291
Essex County Council	TBC
Gloucestershire County Council	TBC
Greater Manchester Combined Authority	713,000
Hampshire County Council	339,615
Herefordshire Council	80,000
Hertfordshire County Council	44,000
Hull City Council	65,000
Isle of Wight Council	TBC
Kent County Council	856,076
Lancashire County Council	145,634
Leicester City Council	TBC
Leicestershire County Council	145,299
Lincolnshire County Council	82,500
Liverpool City Region Combined Authority	790,651
Medway Council	80,000
Milton Keynes Council	0

Norfolk County Council	856,559
North East Joint Transport Committee	1,910,000
North East Lincolnshire Council	9,110
North Lincolnshire Council	TBC
North Somerset Council	32,561
North Yorkshire County Council	245,000
Northamptonshire County Council	25,000
Nottingham City Council	74,000
Nottinghamshire County Council	116,500
Oxfordshire County Council	68,321
Plymouth City Council	74,405
Portsmouth City Council	30,000
Reading Borough Council	87,960
Royal Borough of Windsor and Maidenhead	18,744
Rutland County Council	52,542
Sheffield City Region Combined Authority	834,710
Shropshire Council	231,256
Slough Borough Council	15,000
Somerset County Council	110,000
Southampton City Council	17,577
Southend-on-Sea Borough Council	TBC
Staffordshire County Council	0
Suffolk County Council	294,328
Surrey County Council	TBC
Swindon Borough Council	TBC
Tees Valley Combined Authority	100,000
Telford and Wrekin Council	14,000
Thurrock Council	19,337
Torbay Council	30,500
Warrington Borough Council	46,812
Warwickshire County Council	158,179
West Berkshire Council	20,911
West Midlands Combined Authority	1,200,403
West of England Combined Authority	941,840
West Sussex County Council	155,165
West Yorkshire Combined Authority	712,000
Wiltshire Council	246,168
Wokingham Borough Council	118,658
Worcestershire County Council	TBC