

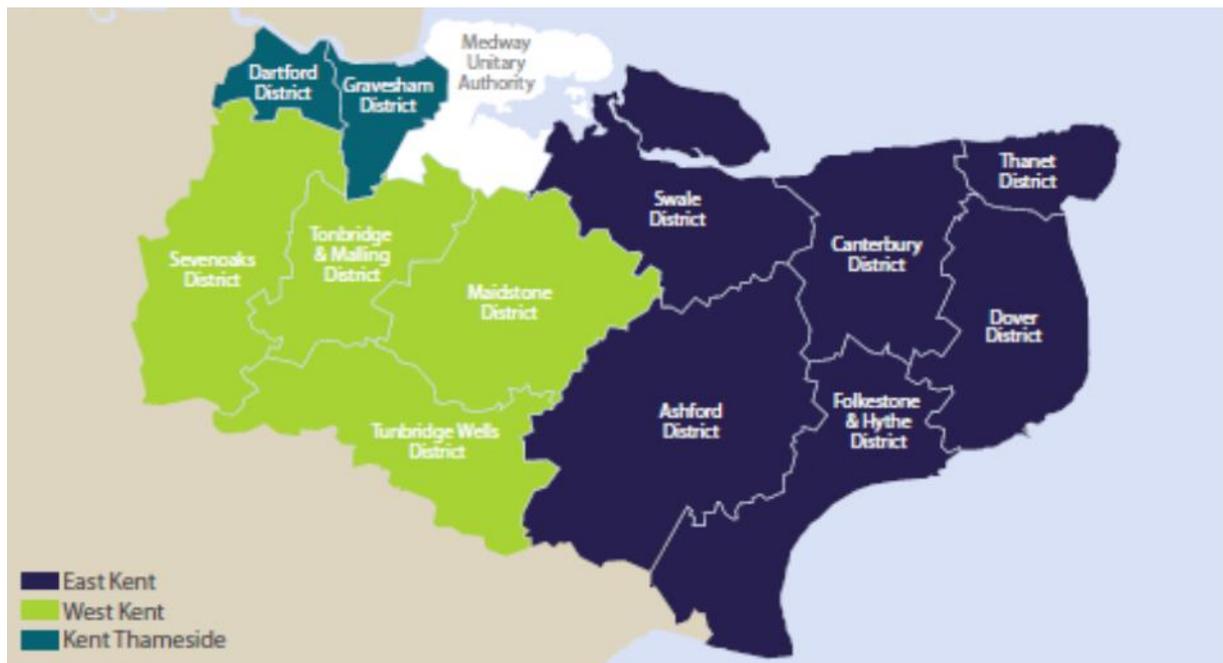
## **Notice that an Enhanced Partnership has been Made**

***In line with Section 138G of the Transport Act 2000 and Section 9 of the Bus Services Act 2017***

### **Introduction**

The Kent Bus Service Improvement Plan (BSIP) set out objectives and initiatives to produce exciting improvements to the bus network in the county. These are ambitious plans that build on the Government's National Bus Strategy which has allocated funding across England to achieve these aims.

KCC issued a notice in June 2021 of the intention to develop an Enhanced Partnership (EP) to cover the whole of Kent. The Enhanced Partnership is the method by which the BSIP can be delivered and KCC have been in close discussion with the bus operators and other parties, including the public feedback from the BSIP work, to produce a draft EP Plan for the County, together with three EP Schemes. These cover East Kent, West Kent and Kent Thameside as shown on the map below:



This notice has been produced, as required under Section 138G of the Transport Act 2000 and Section 9 of the Bus Services Act 2017, to advise that, following a provisional meeting of the Kent Enhanced Partnership Board on 29 March 2022, an Enhanced Partnership Plan and Schemes in Kent were made and took effect from 1 April 2022.

Copies of the Enhanced Partnership documents can be examined and downloaded from the KCC website at [kent.gov.uk/busfuture](https://kent.gov.uk/busfuture)

## **Commitments and Obligations**

The Enhanced Partnership schemes place a number of firm commitments on the County Council, together with other district and borough authorities, and these commitments are set out in full in the documents placed on the website.

In addition, local bus service operators in Kent will have to comply with a number of obligations. These are again included in the partnership documents. It is anticipated that there will be revised EP Schemes later this year once KCC has established the use of Kent's BSIP allocation, which has a range of requirements and conditions placed against it from the Department of Transport.

For further advice or if you have any comments, please contact Kent County Council at [busfuture@kent.gov.uk](mailto:busfuture@kent.gov.uk)