

APPENDIX 4

From: [James Ainsworth](#)
To: [Andrew Byrne](#)
Cc: [Paul Burley](#); [Simon Hoard](#); [Tom Cole](#)
Subject: RE: KSP - Bus Services
Date: 21 May 2021 13:58:40
Attachments: [image07ba4e.PNG](#)
[image532cd8.PNG](#)

Dear Andrew

Following yesterday's site visit, please see below clarification on Bus Services to KSP.

Clarification on Bus Services to KSP

Trinity is proposing a bus service as part of this planning application to provide regular services to and from Sittingbourne Station throughout the day. This is in recognition of the need to provide sustainable transport options for staff and encourage public transport use. Trinity has already discussed this with local company Kings Ferry, who have confirmed their interest in providing the bus service. It will be secured via the S106 to ensure it is delivered. The bus service will provide access onto the site at the entrance gate and will include several stops inside the Kent Science Park. The previous service provided by Arriva was popular but, Arriva as a company decided across the country to only concentrate on profitable routes. This was pre-covid.

The bus service that Trinity are procuring from King's Ferry will pick up at the station which enables people to make a connection from local bus services at Sittingbourne Bus Hub as well as train services.

Trinity are looking at a 'coordinated connection' with services from Sheppey to the mainland, in other words the KSP route will be timed to coordinate with arrival times and if necessary wait a short time if there is a minor delay so that people from a wider area of the borough can benefit. Trinity would also like to route it through south Sittingbourne which is poorly served right now and also include a pick up point for people living there so they don't have to first go into the town centre, although this is subject to route testing to ensure that the roads can accommodate the proposed vehicle.

If it is possible to do so Trinity would be happy to open up the services to the public but at this stage we cannot give any absolute commitments right now as we would need to be registered with the Traffic Commissioner and also we would need the operator to undertake route testing to ensure that vehicles can negotiate the agreed route. Furthermore, there is some uncertainty about the future of the framework within which bus services will be delivered following the recent 'Bus Back Better' proposals <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/bus-back-better>. However, Trinity is also committed to working with the Council and Kent County Council on providing a public bus service in the future as an alternative.

Call at 4pm regarding Committee

Thank you for agreeing to a call at 4pm – it will be really useful to discuss committee timings with you.

Kind regards

James

JAMES AINSWORTH
PLANNER

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