

Equality Impact Assessment

Reference: EQIA160987675

Submitted: 06 December 2019 11:59 AM

Executive summary

Title of policy or decision: Community Transport Funding for the financial years 2020/21 and 2021/22

Describe the main aims, objectives and purpose of the policy (or decision): To seek approval for the continuation of Essex County Council's continuation of funding for Community Transport (CT) schemes in Essex for the financial years 2020/21 and 2021/22.

What outcome(s) are you hoping to achieve?: Enable inclusive economic growth, Help people get the best start and age well, Help create great places to grow up, live and work, Transform the council to achieve more with less

Which strategic priorities does this support? - Enable inclusive economic growth: Help people in Essex prosper by increasing their skills

Which strategic priorities does this support? - Help people get the best start and age well: Enable more vulnerable adults to live independent of social care, Improve the health of people in Essex

Which strategic priorities does this support? - Help create great places to grow up, live and work: Help to secure stronger, safer and more neighbourly communities

Which strategic priorities does this support? - Transform the council to achieve more with less: Limit cost and drive growth in revenue

Is this a new policy (or decision) or a change to an existing policy, practice or project?: a change to an existing policy, practice or project

Please provide a link to the document / website / resource to which this EqIA relates:

<https://www.essexhighways.org/getting-around/bus/accessible-transport/community-transport.aspx>

Please upload any documents which relate to this EqIA, for example decision documents:

<https://www.essexhighways.org/getting-around/bus/accessible-transport/community-transport.aspx>

Assessing the equality impact

Use this section to record how you have assessed any potential impact on the communities likely to be affected by the policy (or decision): The County Council recognises that CT contributes a vital element to the county's transport infrastructure, allowing vulnerable and isolated people to keep independent and active within the community, making journeys to access services and amenities they would not otherwise be able to for shopping, social interaction and healthcare purposes. Without continued ECC funding some or all of the currently funded CT schemes are likely to be unable to continue the essential services ECC wish to secure.

Does or will the policy or decision affect:

Service users: Yes

Employees: No

The wider community or groups of people, particularly where there are areas of known inequalities: Yes

Which geographical areas of Essex does or will the policy or decision affect?: All Essex

Will the policy or decision influence how organisations operate?: Yes

Will the policy or decision involve substantial changes in resources?: No

Is this policy or decision associated with any of the Council's other policies?: Yes

Description of impact

Description of Impact. If there is an impact on a specific protected group tick box, otherwise leave blank.
You will be given the opportunity to rate identified impacts as positive, negative or neutral on the next page: Age, Disability - learning disability, Disability - mental health issues, Disability - physical impairment, Disability - sensory impairment

I confirm that I have considered the potential impact on all of the protected characteristics: I confirm that I have considered the potential impact on all of the protected characteristics

Age

Nature of impact: Positive

Please provide more details about the nature of impact: Essex County Council currently provides funding for CT schemes operating in each of the 12 districts of Essex. The current funding agreement with each of the providers, totalling £1.1m, ends on 31st March 2020. ECC's contribution will allow this to continue with a positive impact.

Extent of impact: Low

Please provide more details about the extent of impact: Together these services provide approximately 500,000 passenger journeys each year, offering a lifeline to many of the most disadvantaged people in Essex. Access to key services such as health services, shopping and social facilities would remain.

Disability - learning disability

Nature of impact: Positive

Please provide more details about the nature of impact: Essex County Council currently provides funding for CT schemes operating in each of the 12 districts of Essex. The current funding agreement with each of the providers, totalling £1.1m, ends on 31st March 2020. ECC's contribution will allow this to continue with a positive impact.

Extent of impact: Low

Please provide more details about the extent of impact: Together these services provide approximately 500,000 passenger journeys each year, offering a lifeline to many of the most disadvantaged people in Essex. Access to key services such as health services, shopping and social facilities would remain.

Disability - mental health issues

Nature of impact: Positive

Please provide more details about the nature of impact: Essex County Council currently provides funding for

CT schemes operating in each of the 12 districts of Essex. The current funding agreement with each of the providers, totalling £1.1m, ends on 31st March 2020. ECC's contribution will allow this to continue with a positive impact.

Extent of impact: Low

Please provide more details about the extent of impact: Together these services provide approximately 500,000 passenger journeys each year, offering a lifeline to many of the most disadvantaged people in Essex. Access to key services such as health services, shopping and social facilities would remain.

Disability - physical impairment

Nature of impact: Positive

Please provide more details about the nature of impact: Essex County Council currently provides funding for CT schemes operating in each of the 12 districts of Essex. The current funding agreement with each of the providers, totalling £1.1m, ends on 31st March 2020. ECC's contribution will allow this to continue with a positive impact.

Extent of impact: Low

Please provide more details about the extent of impact: Together these services provide approximately 500,000 passenger journeys each year, offering a lifeline to many of the most disadvantaged people in Essex. Access to key services such as health services, shopping and social facilities would remain.

Disability - sensory impairment

Nature of impact: Positive

Please provide more details about the nature of impact: Essex County Council currently provides funding for CT schemes operating in each of the 12 districts of Essex. The current funding agreement with each of the providers, totalling £1.1m, ends on 31st March 2020. ECC's contribution will allow this to continue with a positive impact.

Extent of impact: Low

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Action plan to address and monitor adverse impacts

Does your EqIA indicate that the policy or decision would have a medium or high adverse impact on one or more equality groups?: No

Details of person completing the form

I confirm that this has been completed based on the best information available and in following ECC guidance: I confirm that this has been completed based on the best information available and in following ECC guidance

Date EqIA completed: 06/12/2019

Name of person completing the EqlA: Karen Saunders

Email address of person completing the EqlA: karen.saunders@essex.gov.uk

Your function: Economy, Localities & Public Health

Your service area: Passenger Transport

Your team: IPTU

Are you submitting this EqlA on behalf of another function, service area or team?: No

Email address of Head of Service: helen.morris@essex.gov.uk