

Equality Impact Assessment - head of service review

Reference: EQIA382510778

Submitted: 01 December 2021 15:41 PM

Executive summary

Title of policy or decision: Concessionary Fares Settlement 2022/23

Describe the main aims, objectives and purpose of the policy (or decision): The decision sets out how ECC will negotiate with bus operators to agree how much to pay them for carrying concessionary fare passengers in 2022/23. Passengers using the national concessionary fares scheme represent a third of all bus journeys.

What outcome(s) are you hoping to achieve?: Strong, Inclusive and Sustainable Economy, High Quality Environment, Health, Independence and Wellbeing for All Ages, A good place for Children and Families to Grow

Which strategic priorities does this support? - Enable inclusive economic growth: Good jobs, Future growth and investment, Green growth, Levelling up the economy

Which strategic priorities does this support? - Help people get the best start and age well: Net zero, Transport and built environment, Green communities, Levelling up the environment

Which strategic priorities does this support? - Help create great places to grow up, live and work: Healthy lifestyles, Promoting independence, Levelling up health

Which strategic priorities does this support? - Transform the council to achieve more with less: Educating outcomes, Family resilience and stability, Outcomes for vulnerable children, Levelling up outcomes for families

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

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): Concessionary passes are available to older people and to those with a qualifying disability. There are therefore direct benefits to these groups. A concessionary fares scheme which also provides broader network stability will additionally benefit older and younger people, those with a non qualifying disability, women and those on lower incomes all of whom use the bus network disproportionately.

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

Is the new or revised policy linked to a digital service (website, system or application)?: No

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

Describe any actions that have already been taken to mitigate negative impacts on any of the protected characteristics: The impacts of the scheme are positive

Age

Nature of impact: Positive

Please provide more details about the nature of impact: The concessionary fares scheme is available to those of retirement age

Extent of impact: Medium

Please provide more details about the extent of impact: Off peak bus travel is taxpayer funded

Disability - learning disability

Nature of impact: Positive

Please provide more details about the nature of impact: The concessionary fares scheme is available to those with a qualifying disability

Extent of impact: Medium

Please provide more details about the extent of impact: Off peak bus travel is funded by the taxpayer

Disability - mental health issues

Nature of impact: Positive

Please provide more details about the nature of impact: The concessionary fares scheme is available to those with a qualifying disability

Extent of impact: Medium

Please provide more details about the extent of impact: Off peak bus travel is funded by the taxpayer

Disability - physical impairment

Nature of impact: Positive

Please provide more details about the nature of impact: The concessionary fares scheme is available to

those with a qualifying disability

Extent of impact: Medium

Please provide more details about the extent of impact: Off peak bus travel is funded by the taxpayer

Disability - sensory impairment

Nature of impact: Positive

Please provide more details about the nature of impact: The concessionary fares scheme is available to those with a qualifying disability

Extent of impact: Medium

Please provide more details about the extent of impact: Off peak bus travel is funded by the taxpayer

Action plan to address and monitor adverse impacts

Does your EqlA 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 EqlA completed: 01/12/2021

Name of person completing the EqlA: Helen Morris

Email address of person completing the EqlA: Helen.Morris@essex.gov.uk

Your function: Place and Public Health

Your service area: Highways and 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