

Equality Impact Assessment - head of service review

Reference: EQIA382262339

Submitted: 14 December 2021 14:56 PM

Executive summary

Title of policy or decision: Procurement of Essex ENCTS Administrative Contracts for 2022

Describe the main aims, objectives and purpose of the policy (or decision):

To approve the award of new contracts to deliver the English National Concessionary Travel Scheme (ENCTS) for Essex, through the West Midlands Combined Authority (WMCA) National Framework number 2014/S 033-053901 to run between 1st April 2022 and 31st March 2026

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: 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, Levelling up the environment

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

Which strategic priorities does this support? - Transform the council to achieve more with less: Family resilience and stability, 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)

Please provide a link to the document / website / resource to which this EqIA relates: J:\IPTU\6 Strategy, Growth, Infrastructure & Integration\6.3 CMA and Decisions\ENCTS Admin Contracts 2022.2026

Please upload any documents which relate to this EqIA, for example decision documents: J:\IPTU\6 Strategy, Growth, Infrastructure & Integration\6.3 CMA and Decisions\ENCTS Admin Contracts 2022.2026

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 decision is to approve the purchase of services to deliver the English National Concessionary Travel Scheme (ENCTS) bus pass in Essex. This is a statutory duty placed on ECC by the Concessionary Bus Travel Act 2007. The beneficiaries are older people above retirement age and people with a qualifying level of disability who obtain free off-peak travel through the passes. These are known to be highly valued by recipients on both economic and independent living grounds, including many of the most vulnerable Essex residents

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?: No

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)?: Yes

Please describe the steps you have taken to meet the digital accessibility requirements: Through the continued provision of the current online web portal system for application for both older persons and disabled persons passes, which can be found through the ECC website pages about concessionary fares

Please describe the steps you have taken to test the accessibility of the website, system or application:
The current web portal has been in operation in Essex since 2015 and also with other local authorities across the UK. This has been tested through thousands of individual applications and has been adopted where issues have been raised. Alternate paper and telephone assisted application options (with minicom) are also available for those who cannot make use for the portal for whatever reason.

Please describe the steps you have taken to maintain accessibility once it has gone live: Continued access is maintained through exception reporting by customers and regular testing by the supplier (Euclid Ltd) and participating councils

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: There are no negative impacts arising from this decision

Age

Nature of impact: Positive

Please provide more details about the nature of impact: Will enable current and new pass holders to receive their free bus passes.

Extent of impact: Medium

Please provide more details about the extent of impact: Pass holders will continue to be able to make use of their free bus passes to access work, health, education leisure and other services

Disability - learning disability

Nature of impact: Positive

Please provide more details about the nature of impact: Will enable current and new pass holders to receive

their free bus passes.

Extent of impact: Medium

Please provide more details about the extent of impact: Pass holders will continue to be able to make use of their free bus passes to access work, health, education leisure and other services

Disability - mental health issues

Nature of impact: Positive

Please provide more details about the nature of impact: Will enable current and new pass holders to receive their free bus passes.

Extent of impact: Medium

Please provide more details about the extent of impact: Pass holders will continue to be able to make use of their free bus passes to access work, health, education leisure and other services

Disability - physical impairment

Nature of impact: Positive

Please provide more details about the nature of impact: Will enable current and new pass holders to receive their free bus passes.

Extent of impact: Medium

Please provide more details about the extent of impact: Pass holders will continue to be able to make use of their free bus passes to access work, health, education leisure and other services

Disability - sensory impairment

Nature of impact: Positive

Please provide more details about the nature of impact: Will enable current and new pass holders to receive their free bus passes.

Extent of impact: Medium

Please provide more details about the extent of impact: Will enable current and new pass holders to receive their free bus passes. Pass holders will continue to be able to make use of their free bus passes to access work, health, education leisure and other services

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: 14/12/2021

Name of person completing the EqlA: Richard Gravatt

Email address of person completing the EqlA: Richard.Gravatt@essex.gov.uk

Your function: Place and Public Health

Your service area: Highways and Transportation

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