

## Equality Impact Assessment - head of service review

Reference: EQIA153468342

Submitted: 29 November 2019 11:34 AM

### Executive summary

**Title of policy or decision:** Proposals to withdraw free concessionary pass travel on Park and Ride services in Essex from April 2020 and charge a £1.50 fare

**Describe the main aims, objectives and purpose of the policy (or decision):** To withdraw the offer of free travel on Chelmsford and Colchester Park and Ride services after 09:00 for age related (but not disability related) pass holders. Disability related pass holders will still be offered free travel;

To set a £1.50 fare for age-related concessionary pass holders at all times and;

To set a reduced fare of £1.50 for disability based pass holders travelling before 9am (whom currently pay full fare) and similarly for a person travelling as a companion to a disability-based pass holder with the C+ companion pass.

**What outcome(s) are you hoping to achieve?:** Transform the council to achieve more with less

**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 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

**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

### 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):** A full public consultation was held between 8th May 2019 and July 31st, 2019. Analysis is included in the main paper. Those most directly affected are people who hold an age related concessionary bus pass and use the park and ride services in Chelmsford or Colchester. 1,115 age related pass holders responded. Most used the service to shop or go to medical appointments

**Does or will the policy or decision affect:**

**Service users:** Yes

**Employees:** Yes

**The wider community or groups of people, particularly where there are areas of known inequalities:** No

**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?:** Yes

**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

**Describe any actions that have already been taken to mitigate negative impacts on any of the protected characteristics:** A reduced fare of £1.50 will be available to age related pass holders. Disability related pass holders will still be able to travel free after 09:00 as now, and will benefit from a reduced fare before 09:00 (£1.50 vs £3.00 or £3.60 at present)

## Age

**Nature of impact:** Adverse

**Please provide more details about the nature of impact:** People with an age related concessionary bus pass will not be able to travel free on ECC run park and ride services

**Extent of impact:** Low

**Please provide more details about the extent of impact:** The large majority of people who use the service already have access to a car so could continue to drive into the relevant town and park. Alternatively they could continue to use the Park and Ride sites at a reduced fare of £1.50 On this basis, while clearly an adverse impact it is the view of the County Council that the impact on service users will be low.

## Disability - learning disability

**Nature of impact:** Positive

**Please provide more details about the nature of impact:** Disability related pass holders will still be able to travel free after 09:00 as now and will benefit from the new reduced rate for pass holders using the bus before 09:00 of £1.50 (compared to £3.00 or £3.60 now)

**Extent of impact:** Low

**Please provide more details about the extent of impact:** While clearly a positive outcome this reduced fare is unlikely in and of itself to make a significant difference to the lives of people with disabilities

## Disability - mental health issues

**Nature of impact:** Positive

**Please provide more details about the nature of impact:** Disability related pass holders will still be able to travel free after 09:00 as now and will benefit from the new reduced rate for pass holders using the bus before 09:00 of £1.50 (compared to £3.00 or £3.60 now)

**Extent of impact:** Low

**Please provide more details about the extent of impact:** While clearly a positive outcome this reduced fare is unlikely in and of itself to make a significant difference to the lives of people with disabilities

## Disability - physical impairment

**Nature of impact:** Positive

**Please provide more details about the nature of impact:** Disability related pass holders will still be able to travel free after 09:00 as now and will benefit from the new reduced rate for pass holders using the bus before 09:00 of £1.50 (compared to £3.00 or £3.60 now)

**Extent of impact:** Low

**Please provide more details about the extent of impact:** While clearly a positive outcome this reduced fare is unlikely in and of itself to make a significant difference to the lives of people with disabilities

## Disability - sensory impairment

**Nature of impact:** Positive

**Please provide more details about the nature of impact:** Disability related pass holders will still be able to travel free after 09:00 as now and will benefit from the new reduced rate for pass holders using the bus before 09:00 of £1.50 (compared to £3.00 or £3.60 now)

**Extent of impact:** Low

**Please provide more details about the extent of impact:** While clearly a positive outcome this reduced fare is unlikely in and of itself to make a significant difference to the lives of people with disabilities

## 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:** 29/11/2019

**Name of person completing the EqlA:** Richard Gravatt

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

**Your function:** Infrastructure & Environment

**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