

Equalities Comprehensive Impact Assessment v3 - optional ECIA review

Reference: ECIA558207397

Submitted: 29 November 2023 16:40 PM

Executive summary

Title of policy / decision: Supporting Local Bus Services 2024 onwards - outcome of consultation and next steps

Policy / decision type: Cabinet Member Action (CMA)

Overview of policy / decision: To seek approval to tender local bus contracts following consultation process between July and October 2023

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.

Executive Director responsible for policy / decision: Mark Ash (Climate, Environment and Customer Services)

Cabinet Member responsible for policy / decision: Cllr Tom Cunningham (Highways, Infrastructure and Sustainable Transport)

Is this a new policy / decision or a change to an existing one?: Change to an existing policy / decision

How will the impact of the policy / decision be monitored and evaluated?: Transport providers to send in a variety of data, including passenger data and revenue, KPI's. Contract Management to hold meetings throughout the period of the contract.

Will this policy / decision impact on:

Service users: Yes

Employees: No

Wider community or groups of people: Yes

What strategic priorities will this policy / decision support?: 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? - Economy?: Good jobs, Infrastructure, Future growth and investment, Green growth, Levelling up the economy

Which strategic priorities does this support? - Environment: Net zero, Transport and built environment, Green communities, Levelling up the environment

Which strategic priorities does this support? - Health: Healthy lifestyles, Promoting independence, Place based working, Carers, Levelling up health

Which strategic priorities does this support? - Families: Education outcomes, Family resilience and stability,

Safety, Outcomes for vulnerable children, Levelling up outcomes for families

What geographical areas of Essex will the policy / decision affect?: All Essex

Digital accessibility

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

Equalities - Groups with protected characteristics

Age

Nature of impact: Positive

Extent of impact: Low

Disability - learning disability

Nature of impact: Positive

Extent of impact: Low

Disability - mental health issues

Nature of impact: Positive

Extent of impact: Low

Disability - physical impairment

Nature of impact: Positive

Extent of impact: Low

Disability - sensory impairment

Nature of impact: Positive

Extent of impact: Low

Sex

Nature of impact: Positive

Extent of impact: Low

Gender reassignment

Nature of impact: None

Marriage / civil partnership

Nature of impact: None

Pregnancy / maternity

Nature of impact: None

Race

Nature of impact: None

Religion / belief

Nature of impact: None

Sexual orientation

Nature of impact: None

Rationale for assessment, including data used to assess the impact: Local bus services are used to provide access to employment, education, health facilities, food shopping and social journeys. They compliment existing commercial bus services.

What actions have already been taken to mitigate any negative impacts?: This decision could create a negative impact to a very small number of service users where 7 services are withdrawn. In such cases, impact assessments have been carried out to identify alternative solutions for those communities affected.

How could you strengthen any positive impact(s)?: Continue to review data and engage with transport providers and share information with communities across Essex.

Levelling up - Priority areas & cohorts

Children and adults with SEND, learning disabilities or mental health conditions (taking an all-age approach)

Nature of impact: Positive

Extent of impact: Low

Children on Free School Meals

Nature of impact: None

Working families

Nature of impact: None

Young adults (16-25 who have not been in education, training or employment for around 6-12 months)

Nature of impact: Positive

Extent of impact: Low

Residents of Harlow

Nature of impact: Positive

Extent of impact: Low

Residents of Jaywick and Clacton

Nature of impact: Positive

Extent of impact: Low

Residents of Harwich

Nature of impact: Positive

Extent of impact: Low

Residents of Basildon (Town) housing estates

Nature of impact: Positive

Extent of impact: Low

Residents of Canvey Island

Nature of impact: Positive

Extent of impact: Low

Residents of Colchester (Town) - Housing Estates

Nature of impact: Positive

Extent of impact: Low

Residents of Rural North of the Braintree District

Nature of impact: Positive

Extent of impact: Low

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Equalities - Inclusion health groups and other priority groups

Refugees / asylum seekers

Nature of impact: None

Homeless / rough sleepers

Nature of impact: None

People who experience drug and alcohol dependence

Nature of impact: None

Offenders / ex-offenders

Nature of impact: None

Victims of modern slavery

Nature of impact: None

Carers

Nature of impact: Positive

Extent of impact: Low

Looked after children / care leavers

Nature of impact: None

The armed forces community (serving personnel and their families, veterans, reservists and cadets)

Nature of impact: None

People who are unemployed / economically inactive

Nature of impact: None

People on low income

Nature of impact: None

Sex workers

Nature of impact: None

Ethnic minorities

Nature of impact: None

Gypsy, Roma, and Traveller communities

Nature of impact: None

People with multiple complex needs or multi-morbidities

Nature of impact: None

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Equalities - Geographical Groups

People living in areas of high deprivation

Nature of impact: Positive

Extent of impact: Low

People living in rural or isolated areas

Nature of impact: Positive

Extent of impact: Low

People living in coastal areas

Nature of impact: Positive

Extent of impact: Low

People living in urban areas

Nature of impact: Positive

Extent of impact: Low

Rationale for assessment, including data used to assess the impact: Local bus services are used to provide access to employment, education, health facilities, food shopping and social journeys. They compliment existing commercial bus service

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How could you strengthen any positive impact(s)?: Continue to review data and engage with transport providers and share information with communities across Essex.

Families

Family formation (e.g. to become or live as a couple, the ability to live with or apart from children)

Nature of impact: None

Families going through key transitions e.g. becoming parents, getting married, fostering or adopting, bereavement, redundancy, new caring responsibilities, onset of a long-term health condition

Nature of impact: None

Family members' ability to play a full role in family life, including with respect to parenting and other caring responsibilities

Nature of impact: None

Families before, during and after couple separation

Nature of impact: None

Families most at risk of deterioration of relationship quality and breakdown

Nature of impact: None

Rationale for assessment, including data used to assess the impact: Local bus services are used to provide access to employment, education, health facilities, food shopping and social journeys. They compliment existing commercial bus service

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Crime & Disorder

Crime and disorder

Nature of impact: None

The misuse of drugs, alcohol and other substances

Nature of impact: None

Re-offending

Nature of impact: None

Serious violence

Nature of impact: None

Rationale for assessment, including data used to assess the impact:

Local bus services are used to provide access to employment, education, health facilities, food shopping and social journeys. They compliment existing commercial bus service. With regard to the detail in terms of safety of passengers and staff, the response is none, this would be a matter for a providers own policy and procedures. In terms of incident data - this is provided as part of the contract specification.

(If negative impact assessed) What actions will be undertaken to mitigate negative impacts, including timescales:

What actions have already been taken to mitigate any negative impacts?:

The impacts of this decision will create no negative impacts

How could you strengthen any positive impact(s)?:

Climate

Does your decision / policy involve development or re-development of buildings or infrastructure?: No

Does your decision / policy take place in, or make use of, existing buildings or infrastructure?: No

Does your decision / policy involve elements connected to transport, travel or vehicles? This includes travel needs / requirements of both service users and staff (including staff you're planning to recruit): Yes

Where are staff or service users coming from and how are they travelling?: Local bus services are provided across Essex and its neighbouring authorities and can travel on a number of local bus services across the district. They can also connect to other forms of transport such as trains, cycling and walking.

If car travel is unavoidable, are you specifying electric cars and vehicles?: No

What is your transition plan to introduce electric vehicles?: Not applicable at this stage

Are you undertaking a procurement exercise?: No

Does your decision / policy involve the purchase of goods or materials?: No

Will any waste be generated by this decision? This includes waste from construction, waste generated by service users / staff, and waste generated by replacing existing products / materials with new: No

Nature of impact

Built Environment / Energy: None

Sustainable Transport / Travel: None

Waste: None

Rationale for assessment, including data used to assess the impact: There will be sustainable transport impacts but it is too early to make a full assessment. this will be assessed in future ECIA's. Social Value - Providers commit to social value requirements for contracts over £100k pa in value. Companies will be asked to provide information on Carbon Reduction Plans but this has yet to become an easy measurable that could be used as part of evaluation for selecting operators.

What actions have already been taken to mitigate any negative impacts?: Not applicable at this stage

Action plan to address and monitor adverse impacts

Does your ECIA indicate that the policy or decision would have a medium or high adverse impact on one or more of the groups / areas identified?: 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 ECIA completed: 30/10/2023

Name of person completing the ECIA: Wendy Jackson

Email address of person completing the ECIA: wendy.jackson@essex.gov.uk

Your function: Climate, Environment and Customer Services

Your service area: Highways and Transport

Your team: IPTU

Are you submitting this ECIA on behalf of another function, service area or team?: Yes

Function: Climate, Environment and Customer Services

Service area:

Team:

Email address of Head of Service: Helen.Morris@essex.gov.uk