

Equality Impact Assessment - head of service review

Reference: EQIA194124049

Submitted: 09 April 2020 14:03 PM

Executive summary

Title of policy or decision: Coronavirus Outbreak – payments to operators for local bus and home to school contracted services (including ticketing agreements) and Park and Ride services

Describe the main aims, objectives and purpose of the policy (or decision): To decide on the level of payment to make to operators who are at risk of financial distress (due to COVID-19 related service disruptions) to secure continuity and retention of services over the medium to long term for:

- Local bus contracts (2020/21 budgetary envelope £8.5m)
- Home to school transport - Hired transport contract and ticketing agreements (mainstream & SEN) (2020/21 budgetary envelope £29.3m)
- Park and Ride services contracts (2020/21 budgetary envelope £2.7m)

during the current pandemic when services are disrupted and/or not running.

What outcome(s) are you hoping to achieve?: Help people get the best start and age well, Help create great places to grow up, live and work

Which strategic priorities does this support? - Help people get the best start and age well: Help keep vulnerable children safer and enable them to fulfil their potential, Enable more vulnerable adults to live independent of social care

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, Help secure sustainable development and protect the environment

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: TBA

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

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): Older people, younger people and people with a disability are disproportionately users of these services

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?: 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

Age

Nature of impact: Positive

Please provide more details about the nature of impact: Supporting operators will ensure that more bus routes are running and accessible to older people and younger people.

Extent of impact: Medium

Please provide more details about the extent of impact: Any reduction in bus routes or amongst home to school transport providers would limit travel opportunities

Disability - learning disability

Nature of impact: Positive

Please provide more details about the nature of impact: Supporting operators will ensure that more bus routes are running and accessible to people with a disability

Extent of impact: Medium

Please provide more details about the extent of impact: Any reduction in bus routes or amongst home to school transport providers would limit travel opportunities

Disability - mental health issues

Nature of impact: Positive

Please provide more details about the nature of impact: Supporting operators will ensure that more bus routes are running and accessible to people with a disability

Extent of impact: Medium

Please provide more details about the extent of impact: Any reduction in bus routes or amongst home to school transport providers would limit travel opportunities

Disability - physical impairment

Nature of impact: Positive

Please provide more details about the nature of impact: Supporting operators will ensure that more bus routes are running and accessible to people with a disability

Extent of impact: Medium

Please provide more details about the extent of impact: Any reduction in bus routes or amongst home to school transport providers would limit travel opportunities

Disability - sensory impairment

Nature of impact: Positive

Please provide more details about the nature of impact: Supporting operators will ensure that more bus routes are running and accessible to people with a disability

Extent of impact: Medium

Please provide more details about the extent of impact: Any reduction in bus routes or amongst home to school transport providers would limit travel opportunities

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: 09/04/2020

Name of person completing the EqIA: Helen Morris

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

Your function: Economy, Localities & Public Health

Your service area: Highways and Transport

Your team: IPTU

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

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