

CONSENT TO URGENT DECISION	PART 1 (to be completed by the person seeking consent)	
Proposed Decision Maker		Date for Decision
Councillor Les Caborn (Portfolio Holder for Adult Social Care and Health		15 September 2017
Title: Public Consultation on Proposed Adult Transport Policy		
<p>Summary of matter</p> <p>People Group Strategic Commissioning are seeking permission to undertake a public consultation on proposals to amend the existing Adult Transport policy.</p> <p>The new policy will replace the council's existing informal policies to provide transport routinely for customers who have been assessed as having certain social care needs that are eligible for funding from the council. The policy will introduce eligibility criteria for transport which take account of the national social care eligibility criteria introduced by the Care Act 2014.</p> <p>The aim of the policy is to introduce a fair and consistent way of offering transport and meeting the needs of those who need the service the most. By introducing eligibility criteria, the policy aims to empower customers and promote independence. The proposed changes will also help to contribute towards savings in the costs of providing this service.</p> <p>This policy introduces a systematic approach to meeting the transport needs of eligible customers with the aim of moving away from the routine use of assisted transport. During social care assessments and Care and Support planning, all relevant transport options will be considered and Assisted Transport will be offered as a last resort where appropriate to needs and circumstances.</p>		
<p>Proposed Decision</p> <p>People Group Strategic Commissioning are seeking permission from the Portfolio Holder for Adult Social Care and Health to approve the commencement of a consultation exercise to inform the proposed amendment of the existing Adult Transport arrangements.</p>		
<p>Reasons for urgency</p> <p>It was originally intended that this consultation run concurrently with the Home to School Transport consultation currently being progressed by the SEND service.</p> <p>In order to meet the publication deadlines informal approval was sought to commence the consultation process. It was subsequently advised by Legal Services that a more formal approach was required.</p>		

To ensure that the new policy can be implemented from April 2018; the deadline to seek Cabinet approval in January 2018 can be maintained and importantly, that sufficient time is allowed for a thorough public consultation process, it is essential that the consultation begins during September 2017.

All consultation documents have been approved by WCC Legal Services and Strategic Consultation and Engagement as required by the established approval arrangements.

Would the recommended decision be contrary to the Budget and Policy Framework? *[please identify relevant plan/budget provision]*

No

PART 2 (to be completed by the person giving consent)

Name

Councillor Wallace Redford



Office Held

Chair of Adult Social Care and Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee

Date consent is given

12.9.2017.