Urgent Decision Record – Public Consultation on Proposed Adult Transport Policy

Cabinet Portfolio Holder taking the decision

Councillor Les Caborn

Adult Social Care and Health

Date of Decision

15 Sept 2017

Decision Taken

That the Portfolio Holder for Adult Social Care and Health approves the commencement of a consultation exercise to inform the proposed amendment of the existing adult transport arrangements.

Reasons for Decisions

The Council's Constitution requires that approval is obtained from Portfolio Holders for the undertaking of consultation exercises.

Background Information

The existing Adult Transport Policy describes how transport will generally be provided for customers whose care and support needs are being met by the County Council. It sets a distinct set of criteria, which Social Care Assessors will use to determine whether an individual should be provided with local authority assisted transport as part of a care and support plan.

Assisted Transport is arranged or provided by the County Council using taxis, minibuses and volunteer drivers, for people whose care and support needs are met by the local authority. It helps people who need support to access day opportunities, respite care, leisure services, employment and training opportunities and other activities in the community.

This policy applies to all adults aged 18 years and over that access care and support provided directly or commissioned by Adult Social Care and/or are in receipt of direct payments in any of the following categories:

Older People Services
Physical Disability and Sensory Services
Mental Health Services
Learning Disability Services

This policy does not cover travel assistance for customers under the age of 25 who need assistance to travel to and from education establishments.

The Adults Transport 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.

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.

It is intended to ensure that people travel as independently and safely as possible. It seeks to promote independent travel through the use of commonly available transport, such as public transport; private



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vehicle or a vehicle provided through the Motability Scheme; and by encouraging walking, or mobilising with the use of aids either independently or with support.

Financial Implications

The costs of the consultation will be covered within existing People Group Strategic Commissioning Service budget.

Report Author	Sue Green
Head of Service	Chris Lewington
Strategic Director	John Dixon
Portfolio Holder	Councillor Les Caborn

Checklist

Urgent matter?	Yes
	The matter was considered under the Council's urgency procedure as it is necessary to proceed with the consultation exercise as soon as possible.
Confidential or Exempt?	No
Is the decision contrary to the budget and policy framework?	No

List of Reports considered - please include link to the report

Link to published proposed decision report:

https://democratic.warwickshire.gov.uk/cmis5/CalendarofMeetings/tabid/128/ctl/ViewMeetingPublic/mid/6 45/Meeting/4086/Committee/589/Default.aspx

List of Background Papers - please include a contact for access to background papers

None

Members and officers consulted or informed – please include any comments

Portfolio Holder - Councillor Les Caborn

Legal - Jane Pollard

Finance – Virginia Rennie

Equality - Polly Sharma

Democratic Services - Paul Wiliams

Councillor Wallace Redford and Councillor Les Caborn



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