

HAMPSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

Executive Decision Record

Decision Maker:	Executive Member for Environment and Transport
Date:	2 April 2013
Title:	Government Funding for Community Transport
Reference:	4779
Report From:	Director of Economy, Transport and Environment

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1. The decision:

- a) That the additional government funding for community transport be used during 2013/14 to implement the following initiatives which are detailed in Section 4.1 of the report:
 - (i) Set up or extend voluntary car schemes in partnership with the Good Neighbour Support Service with a further payment of £10,500 being made through a variation to the current contract with the Good Neighbour Support Service.
 - (ii) Co-ordinate and develop the volunteer driver recruitment campaign in partnership with the voluntary sector.
 - (iii) Plan for a second Hampshire Minibus Event to be held at the Hampshire Court Hotel in Basingstoke in June 2014.
 - (iv) Provide a programme of community transport training and briefing sessions for community transport operators.
 - (v) Produce a Minibus Operator's Manual for community transport operators.
 - (vi) Provide a Transport Challenge Fund, with an initial budget allocation of £10,000, to help local communities develop and implement their own solutions to local transport needs.
 - (vii) Implement a strategy for replacing vehicles at Community Transport Minibus Group Hire Schemes.
 - (viii) Provide designated business support to at least three further Community Transport Group Hire Minibus Schemes subject to the results of the support given to the first scheme.
 - (ix) Provide financial assistance for schemes implementing the results of the business support provided by consultants.
 - (x) Finalise improvements to the community transport pages on the Passenger Transport website and review and improve the community transport searches.

- (xi) Implement promotional and marketing initiatives which better promote community transport services for users and reinforce the profile of funding from stakeholders.

- b) That the Director of Economy, Transport and Environment be given delegated authority in consultation with the Executive Member for Environment and Transport to utilise the government funding during 2013/14 to implement any further initiatives which may be identified which support the five areas set out in 2.5 of the report.

2. Reasons for the decision:

2.1. Developing and supporting services provided by Community Transport operators in Hampshire contributes towards maximising well being. In particular these proposals will:

- (i) build capacity within the community transport sector;
- (ii) raise standards in the community transport sector;
- (iii) promote and support local transport initiatives;
- (iv) enable the community transport sector to play a greater role in providing passenger transport services; and
- (v) improve the promotion of Community Transport Services.

2.2 This will also use the additional government funding provided to support community transport and build on the work programme which was approved and implemented during 2012/13.

3. Other options considered and rejected:

3.1. Return the additional grant funding for community transport services to the government. The opportunity to build capacity within the community sector, raise standards, and support the introduction of new local transport initiatives would be lost.

3.2. Use the funding to support initiatives which require ongoing revenue support. Ensuring the sustainability of any initiatives which are implemented is important if the most effective use of this funding is to be achieved and longer term benefits secured. Given the one-off nature of this funding, any initiatives which would not be sustainable in the longer term without on-going revenue support from the council have not been considered as suitable options for this funding.

4. Conflicts of interest:

4.1. Conflicts of interest declared by the decision-maker: None.

4.2. Conflicts of interest declared by other Executive Members consulted: None.

5. **Dispensation granted by the Conduct Advisory Panel: none.**

6. **Reason(s) for the matter being dealt with if urgent: not applicable.**

7. **Statement from the Decision Maker:**

Approved by:

Date:

2 April 2013

**Executive Member for Environment and Transport
Councillor M J Kendal**

