

HAMPSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

Executive Decision Record

Decision Maker:	Executive Member for Environment and Transport
Date:	12 October 2016
Title:	Proposed Community Transport Operating Model and Contractual Arrangements
Reference:	7529
Report From:	Director of Economy, Transport and Environment

Contact name: Kevin Ings

Tel: 01962 846986

Email: kevin.ings@hants.gov.uk

1. The decision:

- 1.1. That the results of the engagement process with key stakeholders on the proposed new operating model, outlined in Appendix 1, for how the County Council provides and supports community transport services in the future be noted and that the proposal outlined in 5.1 of this report for developing this further be agreed.
- 1.2. That prior to the new operating model being agreed, the proposed interim arrangements for replacing vehicles for community transport schemes, where this is possible, as set out in Section 6 of this report, be approved.
- 1.3. That the Executive Member for Environment and Transport gives authority to procure and spend up to a value of £450,000 to enable the award of one year contracts under the Dynamic Purchasing System such contracts to commence on 1 April 2017, with the option to extend for a further year, for the services identified in 7.1 of this report, subject where appropriate to the agreement of the respective district councils who support these services.
- 1.4. That approval be given for the County Council to enter into Deeds of Agreement for funding with each of the respective funding partners for the initial contract term and subsequently to cover any contract extensions, as outlined in this report.

2. Reasons for the decision:

- 2.1. To obtain approval for a proposal which will continue the process of developing a future operating model for providing and supporting community transport services in Hampshire which would seek to deliver the maximum benefit from the available resources in a challenging financial environment.

This will include changes to the way in which some community transport services, which support the County Council's well being agenda, are procured in the future.

- 2.2. Interim arrangements are proposed to maintain the continuity of services whilst the new model is developed. These include new vehicle replacement arrangements which will help to ensure the continued reliability and financial sustainability of existing community transport services and the award of a number of interim contracts to help to maintain accessibility by providing people with access to key services including retail.

3. Other options considered and rejected:

- 3.1. One option would be to continue using the existing arrangements to provide services but this approach may not be viable longer term. The opportunity to modify delivery models to meet changing needs and the transformation agenda would also be lost.
- 3.2. A second option would be not to award interim contracts for the services outlined in this report. This could leave people who rely on the current arrangements with no access to a number of services. Not providing financial support would almost certainly affect the longer term viability of these schemes and their ability to provide affordable transport to community groups, and therefore reduce their contribution to community cohesion and the Older Person's Well-being Strategy.
- 3.3. A further option would be to award the interim contracts for the services outlined in this report at reduced values. This would reduce service levels and could, depending on the funding reduction, reduce the number of journey opportunities which existing users have. Voluntary groups and users may also find charges unaffordable and this could have an impact on their activities. Together this would worsen accessibility in Hampshire, with missed opportunities to support the well-being agenda.

4. Conflicts of interest:

- 4.1. Conflicts of interest declared by the decision-maker:
- 4.2. Conflicts of interest declared by other Executive Members consulted:

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:

12 October 2016

**Executive Member for Environment and Transport
Councillor Rob Humby**