

HAMPSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

Executive Decision Record

Decision Maker:	Executive Member - Environment
Date:	7 September 2010
Title:	New Contracts for Community Transport Group Hire Schemes: Consultation with Operators and District Councils
Reference:	2008
Report From:	Director of Environment

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1. The decision: (PROPOSED)

- a) That the results of the consultation with operators and district councils on the arrangements for new contracts be noted.
- b) That single tender contracts be awarded to the Councils of Voluntary Service identified in Confidential Appendix 2 to the report, for the support of the area-wide group hire community transport schemes for a two year period commencing 1 October 2010.
- c) That the items for specific inclusion in the new contracts, as set out in Table 1 (part c) of the report, be agreed.
- d) That contracts be awarded at the proposed funding levels, subject to confirmation where necessary of contributions from other funding partners.

2. Reason for the decision:

- 2.1. Maintaining and developing the services provided by these group hire schemes in Hampshire contributes towards maximising well-being. These decisions will enable the work of the these schemes to be maintained and developed and contribute towards the well-being agenda.

3. Other options considered and rejected:

3.1. One option would be not to provide any financial support to these schemes. However, not providing any financial support would leave these schemes with a shortfall in their finances and this would almost certainly affect their longer term viability. It could also reduce their ability to provide affordable transport to community groups and therefore reduce their contribution to community cohesion and the older persons' well-being agenda.

3.2. A further option would be to provide a lower level of support than currently offered, leaving schemes with the task of recovering the remaining sum required by raising the charges to user groups. The level of increased charges which may be necessary in this situation may make this form of transport unaffordable for many voluntary and community groups and in turn would go against one of the original objectives of these schemes – to provide cost-effective transport to the local community. Increased charges could also be counter-productive if they resulted in lower vehicle utilisation.

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 Standards Committee: none.

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

7. Statement from the Decision Maker:

Approved by: ----- Executive Member for Environment Councillor M J Kendal	Date: 7 September 2010
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