



## Equality Impact Assessment

### What is an Equality Impact Assessment (EIA) and why does the County Council do them?

The [Public Sector Equality Duty](#) (PSED) is an obligation within the [Equality Act 2010](#) ("the Act"), which asks public authorities, like Hampshire County Council, to give 'due regard' to equality considerations, in particular to:

- Eliminate unlawful discrimination, harassment and victimisation and other conduct prohibited by the Act.
- Advance equality of opportunity between people who share a protected characteristic and those who do not.
- Foster good relations between people who share a protected characteristic and those who do not.

This includes assessing the impact of policies and practices on individuals and communities with a protected characteristic, as defined in the Act and some other specific groups. The County Council uses EIAs to ensure it has paid 'due regard' to equalities considerations when there are changes to a service or policy, a new project or certain decisions.

EIA author	Position & Department	Contact
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Title:	Publication of the Hampshire Concessionary Travel Scheme 2023-24
Related EIAs:	EIA Number: 251

EIA for Savings Programme:	No
Service affected	<p>The concessions that will be available for Concessionary Bus Pass holders in 2023/24. This paper proposes the approval of the existing discretionary enhancements, and therefore this EIA only covers the approval of existing discretionary enhancements. It should be noted that the report notes that outcome of the Passenger Transport SP23 Savings Proposals decision day report, and that the recommendations within that report to remove specified enhancements to the Concessionary Travel Scheme in Hampshire, if any, would be reflected in the 2023/24 Scheme. The EIA for the Passenger Transport SP23 Savings Proposals decision day report outlines the impact of the proposal to remove some of the existing discretionary enhancements. The wider bus network will be affected by the level of support provided to bus operators through concessionary reimbursements</p>
Description of the service/policy/project/project phase	<p>The statutory scheme provides for free off-peak travel on local bus services for eligible older and disabled persons. Off-peak is defined as between 09:30 and 23:00 on Monday to Friday, and at all times at weekends and on Bank Holidays. The enhancements to the statutory scheme are currently as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>· Free travel at all times for holders of Hampshire disabled persons bus passes on journeys commencing in Hampshire to destinations in England;</li> <li>· Companion travel – the scheme will allow certain Hampshire pass holders who have been issued with a ‘Companion pass’ to be accompanied by a companion who is eligible for the same free travel benefits as the pass holder. The companion may be anyone whom the pass holder considers appropriate to provide assistance;</li> <li>· Free travel on some Taxishare schemes for pass holders;</li> <li>· 25% discount on Community Transport Services such as Dial-a-Ride and Call &amp; Go providing that the pass holder meets all relevant eligibility criteria; and</li> <li>· Alternative discretions – Travel vouchers worth £36 are offered as an alternative concession for those entitled to a disabled person’s pass. These are valid on participating taxis, voluntary car schemes, Dial-a-Ride and Call &amp; Go services. Currently the scheme will revert to normalising operator reimbursement payments for concessionary travel in 2023/24, however the proposal is to delegate authority to the Director of Economy, Transport and Environment so that changes may be made to the scheme with consideration to Department for Transport guidance and in response to the local operational environment which will be clearer after winter patronage figures are known.</li> </ul>

New/changed service/policy/project	No changes are proposed to either the statutory or enhancements to the statutory scheme within this report. The impact of the proposal to remove some of the existing discretionary enhancements is covered in the EIA attached to in the Passenger Transport SP23 Savings Proposals Decision Day report.
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Engagement
<p>Under the proposals in this report, Scheme eligibility and the concessions offered for 2023/24 remain unchanged from eligibility in the current year and therefore there will be no further impact upon those groups with protected characteristics.</p> <p>Any delegated decision taken around how operators are reimbursed will be with the specific aim of assist the local bus sector to successfully adjust to new levels of patronage.</p>

## Equalities considerations - Impact Assessment

### Age

Impact on public	Neutral
Impact on staff	Neutral
Rationale	Under the proposals in this report, Scheme eligibility and the concessions offered for 2023/24 remain unchanged from eligibility in the current year and therefore there will be a neutral impact upon those groups with protected characteristics.
Mitigation	

## Disability

Impact on public	Neutral
Impact on staff	Neutral
Rationale	Under the proposals in this report, Scheme eligibility and the concessions offered for 2023/24 remain unchanged from eligibility in the current year and therefore there will be a neutral impact upon those groups with protected characteristics.
Mitigation	

## Gender Reassignment

Impact on public	Neutral
Impact on staff	Neutral
Rationale	Under the proposals in this report, Scheme eligibility and the concessions offered for 2023/24 remain unchanged from eligibility in the current year and therefore there will be a neutral impact upon those groups with protected characteristics.
Mitigation	

## Pregnancy and Maternity

Impact on public	Neutral

Impact on staff	Neutral
Rationale	Under the proposals in this report, Scheme eligibility and the concessions offered for 2023/24 remain unchanged from eligibility in the current year and therefore there will be a neutral impact upon those groups with protected characteristics.
Mitigation	

## Race

Impact on public	Neutral
Impact on staff	Neutral
Rationale	Under the proposals in this report, Scheme eligibility and the concessions offered for 2023/24 remain unchanged from eligibility in the current year and therefore there will be a neutral impact upon those groups with protected characteristics.
Mitigation	

## Religion or Belief

Impact on public	Neutral
Impact on staff	Neutral
Rationale	Under the proposals in this report, Scheme eligibility and the concessions offered for 2023/24 remain unchanged from eligibility in the current year and therefore there will be a neutral impact upon those groups with protected characteristics.

Mitigation	

## Sex

Impact on public	Neutral
Impact on staff	Neutral
Rationale	Under the proposals in this report, Scheme eligibility and the concessions offered for 2023/24 remain unchanged from eligibility in the current year and therefore there will be a neutral impact upon those groups with protected characteristics.
Mitigation	

## Sexual Orientation

Impact on public	Neutral
Impact on staff	Neutral
Rationale	Under the proposals in this report, Scheme eligibility and the concessions offered for 2023/24 remain unchanged from eligibility in the current year and therefore there will be a neutral impact upon those groups with protected characteristics.
Mitigation	

## Marriage and Civil Partnership

Impact on public	Neutral
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Impact on staff	Neutral
Rationale	Under the proposals in this report, Scheme eligibility and the concessions offered for 2023/24 remain unchanged from eligibility in the current year and therefore there will be a neutral impact upon those groups with protected characteristics.
Mitigation	

## Poverty

Impact on public	Neutral
Impact on staff	Neutral
Rationale	Under the proposals in this report, Scheme eligibility and the concessions offered for 2023/24 remain unchanged from eligibility in the current year and therefore there will be a neutral impact upon those groups with protected characteristics.
Mitigation	

## Rurality

Impact on public	Neutral
Impact on staff	Neutral
Rationale	Under the proposals in this report, Scheme eligibility and the concessions offered for 2023/24 remain unchanged from eligibility in the current year and therefore there will be a neutral impact upon those groups with protected characteristics.

Mitigation	
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Geographical Impact:All Hampshire

## Equality Statement

Additional information:

None

## Overview Statement:

Assessment to show that due regard has been given and that there is no requirement for a full EIA:

EIA reference number: 00318

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