

DECISIONS TAKEN IN THE BEST INTERESTS OF THE AUTHORITY

ITEM 23

(Item 28, page 3.7-11 of the Constitution - Authority given to the all Business Managers)

Officer's name: Graham Smith	Direct Line: 01865 252352 Fax:01865 794339	Key Decision: Yes
To: Cllr Paskins Portfolio Holder		Name:
Opposition Representatives for noting Councillors Goddard Simmons and Craft		

What action needs to be taken?

Bus companies operating the concessionary fares scheme within the City have to be informed of the proposed method of reimbursement to them by the City Council from 1st April 2006. The date that this information has to given to them is 1st December 2005.

The Department of Transport has produced guidance on how to calculate the level of reimbursement . Within those guidelines are suggested reimbursement formulas, which local authorities can use if they wish. There is a view from some bus companies that the formulas from the Department for Transport produce a reimbursement payment that makes them worse off financially than the present reimbursement method. Given that the formulae are proposed by the Department of Transport and until evidence is provided by the bus companies that these formulae are inappropriate, it is proposed that reimbursement should be calculated by using Toolkit 4 of the reimbursement options produced by the Department of Transport. It should be noted that there may be opposition from the bus companies and negotiations will take place between now and March 2006. The reimbursement method finally used could be a compromise on the current proposal.

Why does this need to happen?

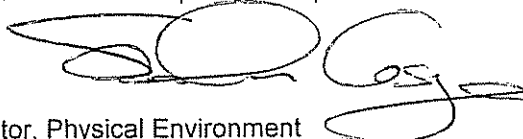
The Government, under the Transport Act 2000, intends that the concessionary fares scheme for all District Councils will go to a full fare scheme from 1st April 2006. The Transport Act 2000 requires that authorities inform participating bus companies the method of reimbursement payments four months before the implementation date of the changes to the scheme.

What alternative causes of action have been considered?

Not applicable

Officers should fill in all sections and provide a completed form for inclusion in Executive Board papers.

Signed by:



Date: 15/1/05.

Strategic Director, Physical Environment

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COUNCILLOR REPLY SLIP

Return to:

Officer's name: **Graham Smith – Transport & Parking Business Manager**
Reference: **Concessionary Bus Fares Scheme**

From: Councillor Dan Paskins

Please tick one:

I agree the action proposed to be taken and detailed in the attached form, in accordance with delegated power 28 in the officers scheme of delegation

I do not agree the action proposed to be taken and detailed in the attached form, in accordance with delegated power 28 in the officers scheme of delegation

Date: 10/1/06

Signed:

