

Budget Proposals 2013/14: Major Decision: Business Unit: Residents & Visitors Services (RVS) Ring and Ride Facility

Combined Impact Assessment: Full assessment (Part 2)

The council and its partners are facing a significant challenge in the savings it needs to make over the next couple of years. This Full Impact Assessment has been developed as a tool to enable business units to fully consider the impact of proposed major decisions on the community. As a council we need to ensure that we are able to deliver the savings that we need to make from the 1st April and be able to justify our decisions through any legal challenge.

This full assessment, combined with the initial review, will evidence that you have fully considered the impact of your proposed changes and carried out appropriate consultation on those changes with the key stakeholders. The Combined Impact Assessment will allow Councillors to make informed decisions as part of the decision-making process regarding the council's budget.

Name: Sue Cheriton

Position: Executive Head – Residents & Visitor Services

Business Unit: Residents & Visitor Services

Department: Streetscene

Date Commenced: November 2012

Date: January 2013

Summary from Overall Proposal

Proposals – Outline	Savings 2013/14		Implementation Cost Include brief outline + year incurred	Delivery In place 01/04/13 If earlier or later state date	Risks / impact of proposals <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Potential risks Impact on community Knock on impact to other agencies 	Type of decision*		
	Income £ 000's	Budget reduction £ 000's				Internal	Minor	Major
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Replace ring and ride with alternative forms of transport. 		50		1/4/13	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> There could potentially be an increase in the demand for transport currently delivered by the Ring & Ride service dependant on the type of provision in the future. 			X

Section 1: Purpose of the proposal/strategy/decision

No	Question	Details
1.	Clearly set out the purpose of the proposal	<p>The Ring and Ride service is currently a mini bus owned by the Council which provides a transport service for people who are unable to use regular public transport. The proposal is that this service will now be provided by alternative transport options rather than a dedicated mini bus.</p> <p>The service currently operates 4.5 hours per day on five days each week and serves approx 125 passengers a month. The service runs set bus journey's which link some isolated communities (pick up at addresses of user) to key services like shops and town centres. The service is programmed on set days and fares range from £3.50 to £5.60 per journey. The service is offered to residents who have difficulty using conventional transport due to disability, age or mobility restrictions.</p>
2.	Who is intended to benefit / who will be affected?	The users of the service will be most affected.
3.	What is the intended outcome?	<p>There will be a continuity of service, however users will experience a change in how the service is provided.</p> <p>It is now more cost effective for the service to be run in this way due to the low number of users (previously the bus was used for school transport, however this is no longer the case)</p>

Section 2: Equalities, Consultation and Engagement

Torbay Council has a moral obligation as well as a duty under the Equality Act 2010 to eliminate discrimination, promote good relations and advance equality of opportunity between people who share a protected characteristic and people who do not.

The **Equalities, Consultation and Engagement** section ensures that, as a council, we take into account the Public Sector Equality Duty at an early stage and provide evidence to ensure that we fully consider the impact of our decisions/proposals on the Torbay community.

Evidence, Consultation and Engagement

No	Question	Details
4.	Have you considered the available evidence?	<p>The service currently carries approximately 125 passengers a month. Benchmarking with other local authorities has found that this service is delivered in a number of ways and in some cases not at all. The service is a non-statutory service.</p> <p>It also carries 10 school children and a carer each day for Children's Services however they have indicated that from 1st April 2013 they are looking for an alternative provider for this service.</p> <p>Torbay Council originally inherited the Ring and Ride Service from Torbay Voluntary Services during March 2002. Officers are unaware of any voluntary organisation or bus operator that wishes to manage this service. The Ring and Ride service is not a commercially viable service and a previous enquiry with a local operator some years ago produced a quote in excess of what the Council were already paying.</p>
5.	How have you consulted on the proposal?	<p>Children's Services have indicated that they no longer wish to use the service.</p> <p>This proposal has been included as part of the public budget consultation running throughout January 2013 (closing date 21st January 2013). The questionnaire has been sent to members of the Viewpoint Panel and has been made publicly available in all connections offices, libraries and also online.</p>

No	Question	Details												
6.	Outline the key findings	<p data-bbox="562 212 931 240"><u>Torbay Budget Consultation:</u></p> <p data-bbox="562 280 1081 309">Q6.3) Do you support this proposal?</p> <table border="1" data-bbox="1128 352 1568 528"> <thead> <tr> <th></th> <th>Number</th> <th>Percent</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Yes</td> <td>252</td> <td>86.9%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>No</td> <td>38</td> <td>13.1%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Total</td> <td>290</td> <td>100.0%</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p data-bbox="562 568 1984 596">Nearly all respondents (86.9%) support replacing the Ring and Ride service with alternative forms of transport.</p> <p data-bbox="562 638 2040 699">There is little difference in the proportions of respondents who support this proposal between those with disabilities (83.7% in support) and those without disabilities (88.5% in support).</p> <p data-bbox="562 780 2123 876">Respondents who said no, they did not support the proposal were asked to say why they didn't support it. Key issues from these responses with examples of comments regarding the proposal are outlined in the Torbay Budget Consultation report.</p> <p data-bbox="562 917 1581 946">Please see Torbay Budget Consultation Report 2013 – 14 for more information</p>		Number	Percent	Yes	252	86.9%	No	38	13.1%	Total	290	100.0%
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Yes	252	86.9%												
No	38	13.1%												
Total	290	100.0%												
7.	What amendments may be required as a result of the consultation?	To be considered following ratification at Full Council												

Positive and Negative Equality Impacts

No	Question	Details		
8.	Identify the potential positive and negative impacts on specific groups			
		Positive Impact	Negative Impact	Neutral Impact
	All groups in society generally	Currently the service is only provided 5 days a week, however there is the potential that under a different provider customers will be able to access the service 7 days a week.		
	Older or younger people		An unintended benefit for some of the users of the service is an element of socialisation whilst on the bus. The use of smaller vehicles will limit this benefit, however the service will continue to meet its intended outcome of transporting individuals	The service will continue to the same frequency.
	People with caring responsibilities			No differential impact
	People with a disability		The existing bus has a tail lift for wheelchairs which will be lost.	The service will still provide transport which is accessible for the people with a disability.
	Women or men			Whilst the service is available to all, the higher percentage of users are women. The service will still be available to all.
	People who are black or from a minority ethnic background (BME)			No differential impact.

No	Question	Details		
	Religion or belief (including lack of belief)			No differential impact.
	People who are lesbian, gay or bisexual			No differential impact.
	People who are transgendered			No differential impact.
	People who are in a marriage or civil partnership			No differential impact.
	Women who are pregnant / on maternity leave			No differential impact.
	Socio-economic (including child poverty)			No differential impact.
9.	Is there scope for your proposal to eliminate discrimination, promote equality of opportunity and/or foster good relations?	We will continue to provide a service, although it will be provided in a different way by a different form of transport than the currently provided dedicated bus		

Section 3: Steps required to manage the potential impacts identified

No	Action	Details		
10.	Summarise any positive impacts and how they will be realised most effectively?	Currently due to lack of resources the times when the service can be booked is restricted, by using an alternative service with its own call operator, calls could potentially be taken 7 days a week.		
11.	Summarise any negative impacts and how these	The new service provider will be encouraged to pick up numerous customers to allow social interaction. The provider will also be required to provide DDA compliant vehicles.		

	will be managed?	
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Section 4: Recommended Course of Action

No	Action	Details
12.	State a recommended course of action	<p>Outcome 1: No major change required - EIA has not identified any potential for adverse impact in relation to equalities and all opportunities to promote equality have been taken.</p> <p>It is recommended that this proposal is implemented.</p>

Section 5: Monitoring and Action Plan

No	Action	Details
13.	Outline plans to monitor the actual impact of your proposals	A customer satisfaction survey will be carried out at regular intervals to monitor the quality of the service.

Action plan

No.	Action	Reason for action / contingency	Resources	Responsibility	Deadline date
1	Procurement of Service	To ensure a cost effective service is provided.	Public Transport Team	R Brown	Feb 2013
2	Publicity Campaign	To inform existing and potential users of the changes	Public Transport Team	R Brown	March 2013
3	Commence new service		Public Transport Team	R Brown	April 2013