

Meeting: Sustainable Communities Overview and Scrutiny Committee

Date: 7 September, 2010

Subject: Local Bus Services and Community Transport Interim Support Strategy

Report of: Cllr David McVicar, Portfolio Holder for Safer and Stronger Communities

Summary: This report asks the Overview and Scrutiny Committee to consider a draft interim strategy for supporting local bus and community transport services in the face of budget pressures and to make a recommendation to the Executive meeting on 28 September to support the recommendations included within the attached report.

The attached report includes detail of the progress of the transport review and the development of the strategy, improvements to local bus service contract management, improvements to the Council's Bus Service Evaluation Toolkit, and the latest financial position in respect of local bus service, community transport and concessionary fares support.

It proposes withdrawing support from a number of local bus services that are performing poorly against the BSET criteria, restricting the use of concessionary passes to the statutory minimum time criteria and either restricting or charging for the use of concessionary passes on dial-a-ride. It further proposes consulting publicly on the principles involved, between 1 October and 15 November, before returning to the Executive meeting on 7 December with a revised proposal.

Contact Officer: John Taylor, Leader of the Transforming Transport Team

Public/Exempt: Public

Wards Affected: All (list attached for those affected by specific recommendations)

Function of: Council

RECOMMENDATION(S):

- 1. That the Sustainable Communities Overview and Scrutiny Committee considers the recommendations to the Executive contained in the body of the report and comments as necessary.**

Reason for Recommendation(s): To provide the Sustainable Communities Overview and Scrutiny Committee with an opportunity to inform the decision to be taken by the Executive and provide any comments necessary.