

Norfolk County Council

Record of Decision made by Head of Paid Service using Emergency Powers

Concessionary travel (bus) pass scheme – hours of operation

Responsible Executive Director: Tom McCabe, Head of Paid Service.

Background and Purpose:

Due to the emerging situation regarding the Coronavirus pandemic, the Head of Paid Service has made this decision using Emergency Powers as set out in APPENDIX 5 - SCHEME OF DELEGATED POWERS TO OFFICERS of the Norfolk County Council Constitution.

Norfolk County Council operates a concessionary travel (bus) pass scheme and issues passes to those who qualify for an age related travel pass or a disabled travel pass. Under the current scheme, pass holders are entitled to free travel on all on and off-peak services from 9.30am to 11pm Monday to Friday and at all times during weekends and Bank Holidays.

Decision:

From Monday 23 March, to extend the Norfolk concessionary travel (bus) pass scheme to allow pass holders to travel for free before 9.30am Monday to Friday. Free travel at all times during weekends and Bank Holidays will continue.

Is it a key decision?

No

Is it subject to call in?

No

If Yes – Deadline for Call in

Date: N/A

Impact of the Decision:

Extending the scheme will enable travel pass holders to access travel for longer hours. This is crucial during the Coronavirus pandemic as individuals need to be able to easily access the free transport that they are entitled to, to enable them to access the facilities and support they need during this period. For example, it will enable older people to travel to shops that have introduced special, early morning opening times for older people, reducing their risk of mixing with larger groups.

Evidence and reason for the decision:

Extending the hours of the scheme enables individuals to access additional options for transport and will enable them to access the transport that they need to be able to respond to the Coronavirus pandemic.

Alternative options considered and rejected:

The scheme could remain unchanged, but the proposal enables us to better support individuals during the pandemic at no extra cost to the public purse.

Financial, Resource or other implications considered:

There are no financial implications. Bus operators have agreed to permit travel pass holders to access their transport for free during the extended period within the existing financial 'fixed pot' agreed with the County Council.

Record of any conflict of interest:

None.

Background Documents:

None.

Date of Decision:

20 March 2020

Publication date of decision:

23 March 2020

Signed by Head of Paid Service:

I confirm that I have made the decision set out above, for the reasons also set out

Signed:



Print name: Tom McCabe

Date: 20 March 2020

Accompanying Documents

None.

Once you have completed your internal department clearance process and obtained agreement of the Cabinet Member, send your completed decision notice together with the report and green form to committees@norfolk.gov.uk