

**COMMENTS OF THE ENVIRONMENT AND TRANSPORT
SCRUTINY COMMITTEE 31 MAY 2018**

PASSENGER TRANSPORT POLICY AND STRATEGY (PTPS)

On 31 May 2018 the Committee considered a report of the Director of Environment and Transport. The purpose of this report was to advise the Environment and Transport Overview and Scrutiny Committee of the engagement and consultation exercise on the draft Passenger Transport Policy and Strategy (PTPS) and to seek the Committee's views as part of the consultation exercise.

Arising from discussion, members raised the following points:

- i. Alternatives to Direct Responsive Transport (DRT) elsewhere had been looked into; however, services such as 'Arriva Click' were expensive to set up and not currently feasible. If a similar cost effective service were available, in the future it would be looked into.
- ii. There had been confusion between commercial services and what the County Council could offer or subsidise and limited awareness around DRT. The County Council was putting on DRT trials to raise awareness in communities.
- iii. It was noted Community Transport projects provide accessible public transport services and were delivered in partnership with voluntary sector providers and are available to all in the community, not just the elderly.
- iv. Decisions have to be made by the Council in the short to medium term to deal with the immediate challenges facing transport. If the Strategic Growth Plan is agreed and finalised it would be accompanied by a Strategic Transport Plan. Until further detail is known then the Council cannot start formulating detailed plans to accommodate the vision.
- v. The unused bus passes given back from Section 106 money were not a loss of money to the Council. The Council received money from the developer to mitigate any severe impact, if households decided not to use them then they are given back.
- vi. The cost to residents of DRT would be equivalent to a bus ticket and Bus Passes would still be valid, so users would see no difference in cost.
- vii. Concerns were raised over the lack of a same day DRT service. Whilst this was the rule, some operators would take on the day bookings. The County Council would not make decisions on where the DRT service would take users, the decision would be made in conjunction with the community in terms of assessing shopping, primary healthcare and employment. Schoolchildren

would not be stopped from using DRT but it would not be designed around the school that already have its own home to school transport policy.

Mr Pain CC, lead member for Environment and Transport, thanked the members for their comments.

RESOLVED:

That the Director of Environment and Transport be requested to include the views of the Committee in the final report presented to Cabinet.