

EXECUTIVE BOARD

3RD FEBRUARY 2020

SCHOOL TRANSPORT REVIEW ADVISORY PANEL

RECOMMENDATION

To approve the, membership and terms of reference of the cross party School Transport Advisory Panel.

REASONS:

The Public Service Vehicle Access Regulations came into force in January 2020 and requires all school transport vehicles which are registered to carry fare paying passengers to be DDA/PSVAR compliant, this means that many pupils who use commercial school bus services as a fare-paying passenger will no longer be able to do so.

The Authority has lobbied Welsh and UK governments for a change to the rules to allow an exemption for services provided for schools as this is a national issue, and not a Council decision, however, in view of the impact on Carmarthenshire pupils, the Authority has agreed to carry out a general review of its school transport policy.”

Relevant Scrutiny Committee Consulted N/A -

Exec Board Decision Required YES

Council Decision Required NO

Executive Board Portfolio Holder – Cllr Emlyn Dole (Leader) & Cllr Hazel Evans (Environment)

Directorates Chief Executive & Environment

Linda Rees Jones/Ruth Mullen

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

3RD FEBRUARY 2020

SCHOOL TRANSPORT REVIEW ADVISORY PANEL

The Executive Board at its meeting held on the 20th January 2020 (Minute 11 refers) considered a report on Fare Paying School Bus Services. As part of the report, the Executive Board Member for Environment announced that she proposed to establish a School Transport Review Advisory Panel to undertake a general review of the Authority's school transport policy, and this was agreed by the Board.

It is proposed that the Panel be established on a political balanced basis of 6 members plus the Executive Board Member for Transport. The Executive Board member will also Chair the advisory panel.

Group Leaders have been asked to nominate representatives to sit on the Panel and the following nominations have been received:

Plaid Cymru Group (3)

Councillors Mansel Charles, Ann Davies and Ken Howell

Labour Group (1)

Councillor Dot Jones

Independent Group (1)

Councillor Irfon Jones

New Independent Group (1)

Councillor Louvain Roberts

The proposed terms of reference of the Advisory Panel and timescale for review are attached as Appendix A to this report.

DETAILED REPORT ATTACHED ?

YES – Terms of Reference & Timeline (Appendix A)

IMPLICATIONS

I confirm that other than those implications which have been agreed with the appropriate Directors / Heads of Service and are referred to in detail below, there are no other implications associated with this report :

Signed: Linda Rees Jones, Head of Administration & Law

Policy, Crime & Disorder and Equalities	Legal	Finance	ICT	Risk Management Issues	Staffing Implications	Physical Assets
NONE	NONE	YES	NO – see below	NONE	NONE	NONE

Policy, Crime and Disorder

The role of the Advisory Panels is to assist the Executive Board in its prime role of policy formulation. Scrutiny Committees will be involved at this stage in policy formulation through non-executive membership of the panel.

Financial

Members of the advisory panel will be able to claim reimbursement of travel and costs of care when attending meetings of the Advisory Panel. It is expected that these costs will be minimal and will be met from existing budgeted resources

Staffing Implications

The advisory panel will be serviced from existing resources.

CONSULTATIONS

I confirm that the appropriate consultations have taken in place and the outcomes are as detailed below

Signed: Linda Rees Jones, Head of Administration & Law

1.Scrutiny Committee

Not applicable

2.Local Member(s)

Not applicable

3.Community / Town Council

Not applicable

4.Relevant Partners

Not applicable

5.Staff Side Representatives and other Organisations

Not applicable

Section 100D Local Government Act, 1972 – Access to Information List of Background Papers used in the preparation of this report:

Title of Document	File Ref No.	Locations that the papers are available for public inspection
Executive Board Agenda and Minutes 20 th January 2020	N/A	http://modern.gov/ieListDocuments.aspx?CIId=131&MIId=3063&Ver=4