

CABINET MEMBER DECISION MEETING FOR TRANSPORT, WASTE AND INFRASTRUCTURE SERVICES

30TH NOVEMBER 2022

Cabinet Member: Cllr. Edward Thomas	Portfolio: Transport, Waste and Infrastructure Services
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CARMARTHEN SHOPMOBILITY	
Purpose: To approve support for Carmarthen Shopmobility for September 2022 to September 2023.	
Recommendations / key decisions required: It is recommended that Shopmobility in Carmarthen continues to be supported for the period September 2022 to September 2023 with a grant of £15,236.	
Reasons: Shopmobility is one of many initiatives being encouraged by the Authority to support the town and is an important element of ensuring that access to shops, businesses and services within Carmarthen is inclusive and caters for those with mobility impairments. Shopmobility is a registered charity based in Carmarthen Town Centre which provides facilities such as wheelchairs and mobility scooters for visitors to use within the town. The grant is funded from the County Council's Community Transport element of the Bus Services Support Grant provided by Welsh Government.	
Directorate: Environment Name of Head of Service: Steve Pilliner	Designation Head of Transportation and Highways SGPilliner@Carmarthenshire.gov.uk
Report Author: Richard Waters	Highways & Transportation Services Manager rwaters@carmarthenshire.gov.uk

Declaration of Personal Interest (if any):

None

Dispensation Granted to Make Decision (if any):

None

DECISION MADE:

Signed: _____ DATE: _____

CABINET MEMBER

The following section will be completed by the Democratic Services Officer in attendance at the meeting

Recommendation of Officer adopted	YES / NO
Recommendation of the Officer was adopted subject to the amendment(s) and reason(s) specified:	
Reason(s) why the Officer's recommendation was not adopted:	

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY
CABINET MEMBER DECISION MEETING FOR
TRANSPORT, WASTE AND INFRASTRUCTURE SERVICES
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CARMARTHEN SHOPMOBILITY

The County Council has supported the Carmarthen Shopmobility scheme since 2011. The current funding is an annual arrangement renewed each September.

The Carmarthen scheme provides a valuable service for those with mobility impairments and has been successful with a pre-covid usage of around 1,289 customers per annum. The covid pandemic had a significant impact on customer numbers and additional financial support was provided in 2021/2022. The Trustees and volunteers have worked hard to sustain the operation through Covid and new Trustees have also been recruited to support the continuing provision of the service.

The scheme is mainly reliant on the County Council's financial support and an annual grant is normally provided which is funded from the County Council's Community Transport element of the Bus Services Support Grant.

In recognition of increased operational pressures it is proposed that the grant is increased by 4% for the period making the annual grant payable in 2022/23 a total of £15,236.

Shopmobility supports the County Council's updated *Corporate Strategy 2018-2023* which includes specific recognition of the importance of inclusive mobility in:

- Providing integrated and affordable access for businesses, for residents and visitors can stimulate economic development, reductions in deprivation and social exclusion and an increase in well-being.
- Sustaining access to services will deliver improvements in health and well-being for all sections of the community e.g. that includes walking, cycling, passenger and road transport.

In light of the current dynamic geopolitical and economic environment it may be necessary to provide additional support to Shopmobility to sustain operations during the period. This will be subject to liaison with the Trustees and a further Cabinet paper if required.

Should there be any operating surplus in the Shopmobility account at the end of their financial year it would be relatively modest and reinvested in supporting the improvement of the service.

Recommendation: It is recommended that Shopmobility in Carmarthen continues to be supported for the period September 2022 to September 2023 with a grant of £15,236.

DETAILED REPORT ATTACHED ?

NO

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: S G Pilliner

Head of Transportation and Highways

Policy and Crime & Disorder	Legal	Finance	ICT	Risk Management Issues	Organisational Development	Physical Assets
YES	NONE	YES	NONE	NONE	NONE	NONE

1. Policy, Crime & Disorder and Equalities

Providing more facilities for the mobility impaired is an important element supporting the Authority's updated Corporate Strategy 2018-23.

2. Finance

All associated costs will be funded from the community transport element of the Bus Services Support Grant.

CONSULTATIONS

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

Signed: S.G.Pilliner

Head of Transportation and Highways

1. Scrutiny Committee – N/A

2. Local Member(s) - N/A

3. Community / Town Council – N/A

4. Relevant Partners - N/A

5. Staff Side Representatives and other Organisations - N/A

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

THESE ARE DETAILED BELOW

Title of Document	File Ref No.	Locations that the papers are available for public inspection
Corporate Strategy 2018-23 (Updated April 2021)		https://www.carmarthenshire.gov.wales/home/council-democracy/strategies-and-plans/corporate-strategy-2018-2023-updated-april-2021/