

EQUALITY IMPACT ASSESSMENT - TRAFFORD COUNCIL

A. Summary Details		
1	Title of EIA:	All Age Travel Assistance - 2018
2	Person responsible for the assessment:	Sarah Russ - TTCU
3	Contact details:	Sarah.russ@trafford.gov.uk
4	Section & Directorate:	Trafford Travel Co-ordination Unit, CFW
5	Name and roles of other officers involved in the EIA, if applicable:	Alison Milne, Head of Service Access and Inclusion Marilyn Golding, School Admissions Manager

B. Policy or Function		
1	Is this EIA for a policy or function?	Policy <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Function <input type="checkbox"/>
2	Is this EIA for a new or existing policy or function?	New <input type="checkbox"/> Existing <input type="checkbox"/> Change to an existing policy or function <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
3	What is the main purpose of the policy/function?	It is intended to amend the previous All age travel assistance policy which provides travel assistance to the following groups: - <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Children and young people of pre-school age (2-4 years); ● Children under compulsory school age starting reception; ● Children of compulsory school age (aged between 5 and 16 years) with their travel from home to school or place of learning; ● Disabled children 0 -18 accessing social care or similar; ● Persons of sixth form age (aged between 16 to 18 and those continuing

		<p>learners who started their programme of learning before their 19th birthday) to aid their attendance at school, college or place of learning;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Adult learners; • Adults with care and support needs. <p>It is proposed to update the wording of the policy for legal clarity and decrease the cost for providing travel assistance to pupils of nursery school age and those of 6th form age.</p>
4	Is the policy/function associated with any other policies of the Authority?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • School admissions policy • Health and Safety policy • Safeguarding children policy • Corporate Complaints policy • Adult Social Care
5	Do any written procedures exist to enable delivery of this policy/function?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Attendance management procedures for the management of passenger assistant staff • Code of conduct procedures for all staff • Contract procedure rules which govern the Council's procurement of goods. • Appeals procedure for managing travel assistance appeals • Complaints procedure for managing complaints in relation to travel assistance. • Process to agree funded support for Adults with care and support needs & Children / young people with complex needs
6	Are there elements of common practice not clearly defined within the written procedures? If yes, please state.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Behaviour management for assisting with the management of difficult behaviours whilst on transport • Route planning for ensuring the most cost effective journeys • Council approach for charging for services
7	Who are the main stakeholders of the policy? How are they expected to benefit?	<p>Stakeholders</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Children and young people of pre-school age 2 to 4 years; • Children under compulsory school age starting reception; • Children of compulsory school age • Young people with Special Educational Needs and Disability (SEND) aged

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 16 to 19 years ● Young people aged 16 to 19 years without and Education, Health and Care Plan in mainstream provision and in financial hardship; ● Adult learners; ● Adults accessing social care; ● Parents/Carers; ● Heads and Governing Bodies; ● School staff; ● Adult social care providers; ● Educational placement providers for adults; ● Passenger Assistants; ● Bus/taxi contractors; ● Elected members <p>Benefits</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Easy to read policy with clear and transparent eligibility and suitability criteria and appeals process; ● Enables accessibility to educational establishments so that children, young people and adults can participate in education and learning; ● Supports sustainable travel; ● Supports and promotes independence; ● Offers a range of travel assistance solutions to support choice and flexibility for families; ● Supports local economy by employing local people as Passenger Assistants and by commissioning local taxi/bus companies; ● A reduction in the charge will reduce the financial impact for families with young children and young people aged 16 to 19 years old with SEND ● Affordable for those in hardship (a hardship scheme is available for those receiving a chargeable service).
8	How will the policy/function (or change/improvement), be implemented?	Following a public consultation, the new policy will be implemented from the start of the academic year September 2018.
9	What factors could contribute or detract	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Political support, or lack of;

	<p>from achieving these outcomes for service users?</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Legal challenge; • Ability of families to pay the proposed charges, even those eligible for hardship; • Capacity and resources to manage income recovery for non-payers; • Capacity and resources to manage an increase in applications if the demand rises; • Capacity and resources to provide passenger assistants if the demand increases; • Capacity to provide enough vehicles if demand increases.
<p>10</p>	<p>Is the responsibility for the proposed policy or function shared with another department or authority or organisation? If so, please state?</p>	<p>Children, Families and Wellbeing Service:-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Trafford Travel Co-ordination Unit – responsible for administering the All Age Travel Assistance Policy with the exception of those responsibilities detailed below; • School Admissions – responsible for administering bus passes for children of compulsory school age; • Education, Health and Care Panel – responsible for recommending school and nursery assessment places for children with special educational needs and disabilities; • Children with Complex and Additional Needs Service – responsible for undertaking child in need assessments; • Community Nursing Team – responsible for medical training of Passenger Assistants who support children with complex needs; • Adults Social Care – responsible for undertaking assessments under the Care Act 2014 to determine if an adult has eligible needs; • Social Care funding panel members and others managers with delegated funding decision making as described in the process to agree funded support for adults with care and support needs & Children / young people with complex needs. <p>The Carers centre who undertake carers assessments on behalf of Trafford Council</p>

C. Data Collection

1	<p>What monitoring data do you have on the number of people (from different equality groups) who are using or are potentially impacted upon by your policy/ function?</p>	<p><u>School census data (Appendix A)</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • the total pupil headcount • headcount by gender • headcount by ethnicity • headcount by school of pupils in receipt of FSM <p><u>Trafford Travel Co-ordination Unit Data</u> 489 children and young people currently accessing travel assistance – all of who have SEND. 342 (70.1%) are male and 146 (29.9%) are female.</p> <p>54 adult learners/social care service users being transported door to door. 29 (52.7) are male and 26 (47.3%) are female.</p> <p><u>School Admissions Bus Pass Data</u></p> <p>Travel Assistance Analysis details that in the autumn term 2017 278 children and young people received bus passes to travel to school, of these:-</p> <p>146 passes were issued to pupils from low income families 55 passes were issued to pupils based upon the distance from home to school 77 passes were issued to pupils attending a grammar school that is not their nearest grammar school as they are not eligible to attend their nearest grammar school (i.e did not pass that school's entrance exam)</p>
2	<p>Please specify monitoring information you have available and attach relevant information*</p>	<p>School census data which includes headcount by age, gender, ethnicity, free school meals</p>
3	<p>If monitoring has NOT been undertaken, will it be done in the future or do you have access to relevant monitoring data?</p>	<p>Adult social care - When assessments / reassessments are undertaken we will consider if an adult with care and support requires council funded travel assistance to meet their assessed needs and outcomes (in accordance with the policy). We will</p>

	include this information on all funding tracking sheets and look to develop a field in LL to generate automated reporting.
--	--

**Your monitoring information should be compared to the current available census data to see whether a proportionate number of people are taking up your service*

D. Consultation & Involvement		
1	Are you using information from any previous consultations and/or local/national consultations, research or practical guidance that will assist you in completing this EIA?	Yes Review of previous Council consultations
2	Please list any consultations planned, methods used and groups you plan to target. (If applicable)	Future consultations will be via:- <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The web including the Council's website and Local Service Directory • Social media – twitter, facebook, parent partnership, parents forum • Schools e-bulletin and the early years bulletin • Materials will be made available in different formats if requested. • Parents forum to be requested to provide formal feedback • Letters to be sent to parent/carers who receive travel assistance • Neighbouring local councils to be notified and asked to provide feedback • Contractors and local colleges to be notified and feedback requested • Internal services such as Adult Social Care and Children's Complex and Additional Needs within the council to be notified
3	**What barriers, if any, exist to effective consultation with these groups and how will you overcome them?	Parents who are disabled may struggle to access information/attend consultation events. – Ensure accessible information available on-line via the Council's website and SEND local offer on Service Directory.

E: The Impact – Identify the potential impact of the policy/function on different equality target groups

The potential impact could be negative, positive or neutral. If you have assessed negative potential impact for any of the target groups you will also need to assess whether that negative potential impact is high, medium or low

	Positive	Negative (please specify if High, Medium or Low)	Neutral	Reason
Gender – both men and women, and transgender;		L		Over representation of boys with SEND. School pupil population gender split is 51% boys and 49% girls whilst 71% of boys receive travel assistance as CYP with SEND. No known gender impact for adults with care and support needs.
Pregnant women & women on maternity leave			√	For an adult with care and supports needs access to council funded travel assistance will be determined by the assessing officer in consideration of all their individual circumstances, assessed needs and outcomes
Gender Reassignment			√	
Marriage & Civil Partnership			√	
Race - include race, nationality & ethnicity (NB: the experiences may be different for different groups)		L		English as a second language presents barriers to accessing and understanding services. For an adult with care and supports needs access to council funded travel assistance will be determined by the assessing officer in consideration of all their individual circumstances, assessed needs and outcomes
Disability – physical, sensory & mental impairments	√			Majority of children and young people accessing door to door travel assistance have SEND. This Policy supports this group of people to access

			<p>education, learning and social care activities to meet their assessed needs.</p> <p>The Policy sets out a range of travel assistance solutions and is aimed at promoting independence and providing life skills, these include Independent Travel Training and Passenger Assistants accompanying people on public transport.</p> <p>Pre-school age children age 2 to 4 years who have an EHCP or are undergoing an Assessment and are at a Trafford special school will be able to apply for travel assistance.</p> <p>Pupils of 6th form age are able to apply for travel assistance.</p> <p>For an adult with care and supports needs access to council funded travel assistance will be determined by the assessing officer in consideration of all their individual circumstances, assessed needs and outcomes.</p>
Age Group - specify eg; older, younger etc)		L	<p>The new proposals to the policy has an increase in charge element for pre-school children age 2 to 4 years, young people in sixth form aged between 16 to 19 years.</p> <p>The number affected by the charge is low compared to the total number of people receiving travel assistance.</p> <p>Students aged 16-19 years in mainstream provision without an Education, Health and Care Plan can apply for travel assistance on the basis of financial hardship.</p> <p>Adult learners, children of compulsory school age and children in need aged 0 to 18 years will receive free travel assistance if deemed eligible</p>

				For an adult with care and supports needs access to council funded travel assistance will be determined by the assessing officer in consideration of all their individual circumstances, assessed needs and outcomes
Sexual Orientation – Heterosexual, Lesbian, Gay Men, Bisexual people			√	
Religious/Faith groups (specify)		L		<p>The Council continues to support primary age pupils from low income families to attend a denominational school. Eligibility mirrors that of the Council’s statutory duties for secondary age pupils from low income families.</p> <p>Although Trafford is well served by a mixture of Church of England and Catholic schools some other religious/faith groups may be disadvantaged by the lack of in Borough provision. Parents who choose a denominational school based on religious beliefs will be ineligible for travel assistance unless the school is their child’s nearest qualifying school.</p> <p>For an adult with care and supports needs access to council funded travel assistance will be determined by the assessing officer in consideration of all their individual circumstances, assessed needs and outcomes.</p>

As a result of completing the above what is the potential negative impact of your policy?

High

Medium

Low

F. Could you minimise or remove any negative potential impact? If yes, explain how.

Race:

Information about services for children, young people and adults is held on Trafford’s Service Directory with specific information for children and

	<p>young people with SEND on the local offer pages. Translation services are available on request.</p> <p>The use of electronic application forms may assist applicants as they may be able to seek the help of other family members or community workers.</p> <p>The TTCU and other services are also available for telephone or 121 support. Sometimes people may not be able to read English but are sufficiently proficient to be able to speak to someone for advice and support.</p>
Gender:	The removal of all charges for all groups. However this may have a negative impact elsewhere as the Council is committed to allocating resources to people most in need.
Disability:	No as one eligibility criterion for travel assistance is “Special educational needs, disability or mobility problems”
Age:	<p>For those age groups who will incur a charge there will be a low income or hardship element. Those eligible under low income or hardship will be charged 50%.</p> <p>Independent travel training can be provided to young people and adults but not to younger children.</p>
Also consider the following:	
1	<p>If there is an adverse impact, can it be justified on the grounds of promoting equality of opportunity for a particular equality group or for another legitimate reason?</p> <p>All Age Travel Assistance Policy will discharge Trafford’s statutory duties; it is proposed that the Council uses its discretionary powers to provide travel assistance to groups of children, young people and adults who are not eligible under the existing policy or statute.</p>
2	<p>Could the policy have an adverse impact on relations between different groups?</p> <p>No</p>
3	<p>If there is no evidence that the policy <i>promotes</i> equal opportunity, could it be adapted so that it does? If yes, how?</p> <p>The Policy does promote equality of opportunity.</p>


G. EIA Action Plan

Recommendation	Key activity	When	Officer Responsible	Links to other Plans eg; Sustainable Community Strategy, Corporate Plan, Business Plan,	Progress milestones	Progress
Review the impact of the AATP 2017	Review the impact of charging and overall review of the Policy and its implementation	October 2017	Alison Milne Sarah Russ	Corporate Plan	Internal review completed with feedback from Social Care, Admissions and Legal	Completed
Ensure accessible consultation	Public consultation	February 2018	Sarah Russ/Alison Milne	Corporate Plan	Consultation from 19/02/2018 to 16/03/2018	Completed
Create a consultation response document	Collate and review feedback	March 2018	Sarah Russ	Corporate Plan		Completed

Review consultation responses	Review consultation responses and recommend additional changes to Policy	March 2018	Alison Milne	Corporate Plan	No further amendments required	Completed
Review the impact of the AATP 2018	Review the impact of reduction of charging and overall review of the Policy	October 2018	Alison Milne/Sarah Russ	Corporate Plan		

Please ensure that all actions identified are included in the attached action plan and in your service plan.

Signed *Sarah Russ*
Lead Officer Sarah Russ
Date 16th February 2018

Signed 
Service Head Alison Milne HoS: Access and Inclusion
Date 12th February 2018

Updated 19th March 2018