

## EQUALITY IMPACT ASSESSMENT - TRAFFORD COUNCIL

A. Summary Details		
1	Title of EIA:	All Age Travel Assistance - 2019
2	Person responsible for the assessment:	Sarah Russ - TTCU
3	Contact details:	<a href="mailto:Sarah.russ@trafford.gov.uk">Sarah.russ@trafford.gov.uk</a>
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"> <li>● Children and young people of pre-school age (2-4 years);</li> <li>● Children under compulsory school age starting reception;</li> <li>● Children of compulsory school age (aged between 5 and 16 years) with their travel from home to school or place of learning;</li> <li>● Disabled children 0 -18 accessing social care or similar;</li> <li>● Persons of sixth form age (aged between 16 to 18 and those continuing</li> </ul>

		<p>learners who started their programme of learning before their 19<sup>th</sup> birthday) to aid their attendance at school, college or place of learning;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Adult learners;</li> <li>• Adults with care and support needs.</li> </ul> <p>It is proposed to update the wording of the policy for legal clarity and proposed to make changes to the support provided to complex medical cases</p>
4	Is the policy/function associated with any other policies of the Authority?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• School admissions policy</li> <li>• Health and Safety policy</li> <li>• Safeguarding children policy</li> <li>• Corporate Complaints policy</li> <li>• Adult Social Care</li> </ul>
5	Do any written procedures exist to enable delivery of this policy/function?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Attendance management procedures for the management of passenger assistant staff</li> <li>• Code of conduct procedures for all staff</li> <li>• Contract procedure rules which govern the Council's procurement of goods.</li> <li>• Appeals procedure for managing travel assistance appeals</li> <li>• Complaints procedure for managing complaints in relation to travel assistance.</li> <li>• Process to agree funded support for Adults with care and support needs &amp; Children / young people with complex needs</li> <li>• Emergency Care Pathway to be followed by Passenger Assistants in the case of a medical emergency whilst transporting children, young people and adults.</li> <li>• Epilepsy Care Plan to be followed by Passenger Assistant for those children, young people and adults known to have epilepsy travelling on transport.</li> <li>• Epilepsy Care Pathway will be followed by Passenger Assistants in the case of a medical emergency whilst transporting those children, young people and adults known to have epilepsy.</li> </ul>
6	Are there elements of common practice not clearly defined within the written	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Behaviour management for assisting with the management of difficult behaviours whilst on transport</li> <li>• Route planning for ensuring the most cost effective journeys</li> </ul>

	procedures? If yes, please state.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Council approach for charging for services</li> </ul>
7	Who are the main stakeholders of the policy? How are they expected to benefit?	<p><b>Stakeholders</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Children and young people of pre-school age 2 to 4 years;</li> <li>• Children under compulsory school age starting reception;</li> <li>• Children of compulsory school age</li> <li>• Young people with Special Educational Needs and Disability (SEND) aged 16 to 19 years</li> <li>• Young people aged 16 to 19 years without and Education, Health and Care Plan in mainstream provision and in financial hardship;</li> <li>• Adult learners;</li> <li>• Adults accessing social care;</li> <li>• Parents/Carers;</li> <li>• Heads and Governing Bodies;</li> <li>• School staff;</li> <li>• Adult social care providers;</li> <li>• Educational placement providers for adults;</li> <li>• Passenger Assistants;</li> <li>• Bus/taxi contractors;</li> <li>• Elected members</li> </ul> <p><b>Benefits</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Easy to read policy with clear and transparent eligibility and suitability criteria and appeals process;</li> <li>• Clear pathways of support to be followed in the case of a medical emergency;</li> <li>• Enables accessibility to educational establishments so that children, young people and adults can participate in education and learning;</li> <li>• Supports sustainable travel;</li> <li>• Supports and promotes independence;</li> <li>• Offers a range of travel assistance solutions to support choice and flexibility for families;</li> <li>• Supports local economy by employing local people as Passenger Assistants and by commissioning local taxi/bus companies;</li> <li>• Affordable for those in hardship (a hardship scheme is available for those</li> </ul>

		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 2019.
9	What factors could contribute or detract from achieving these outcomes for service users?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Political support, or lack of;</li> <li>• Legal challenge;</li> <li>• Ability of families to pay the proposed charges, even those eligible for hardship;</li> <li>• Capacity and resources to manage income recovery for non payers;</li> <li>• Capacity and resources to manage an increase in applications if the demand rises;</li> <li>• Capacity and resources to provide passenger assistants if the demand increases;</li> <li>• Capacity to provide enough vehicles if demand increases.</li> </ul>
10	Is the responsibility for the proposed policy or function shared with another department or authority or organisation? If so, please state?	<p>Children, Families and Wellbeing Service:-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Trafford Travel Co-ordination Unit – responsible for administering the All Age Travel Assistance Policy with the exception of those responsibilities detailed below;</li> <li>• School Admissions – responsible for administering bus passes for children of compulsory school age;</li> <li>• Education, Health and Care Panel – responsible for recommending school and nursery assessment places for children with special educational needs and disabilities;</li> <li>• Children with Complex and Additional Needs Service – responsible for undertaking child in need assessments;</li> <li>• Epilepsy Care Plan – agreed between Epilepsy Nurse Specialist, parents and school and provided to the TTCU.</li> <li>• Assistants who support children with complex needs;</li> <li>• Adults Social Care – responsible for undertaking assessments under the Care Act 2014 to determine if an adult has eligible needs;</li> <li>• 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 &amp; Children / young people with complex</li> </ul>

needs.

- The Carers centre who undertake carers assessments on behalf of Trafford Council.

## C. Data Collection

1 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?

### **School census data (Appendix A)**

- the total pupil headcount
- headcount by gender – October 2018 Census
- headcount by ethnicity – January 2018 Census
- headcount by school of pupils in receipt of FSM – October 2018 Census

Please note January 2019 Census data not yet available.

### **Trafford Travel Co-ordination Unit Data**

534 children and young people currently accessing travel assistance – all of who have SEND. 385 (72.10%) are male and 149 (27.90%) are female.

62 adult learners/social care service users being transported door to door. 32 (51.61) are male and 30 (48.38%) are female.

### **School Admissions Bus Pass Data**

Travel Assistance Analysis details that in the autumn term 2018, 285 children and young people received bus passes to travel to school, of these:-

147 passes were issued to pupils from low income families

31 passes were issued to pupils based upon the distance from home to school

107 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)

2	Please specify monitoring information you have available and attach relevant information*	School census data which includes headcount by age, gender, ethnicity, free school meals
3	If monitoring has NOT been undertaken, will it be done in the future or do you have access to relevant monitoring data?	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 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*

<b>D. Consultation &amp; Involvement</b>		
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"> <li>• The web including the Council's website and Local Service Directory</li> <li>• Social media – twitter, Facebook, parent partnership, parents forum</li> <li>• Schools e-bulletin and the early years bulletin</li> <li>• Materials will be made available in different formats if requested.</li> <li>• Parents forum to be requested to provide formal feedback</li> <li>• Letters to be sent to parent/carers who receive travel assistance</li> <li>• Neighbouring local councils to be notified and asked to provide feedback</li> <li>• Contractors and local colleges to be notified and feedback requested</li> <li>• Internal services such as Adult Social Care and Children's Complex and Additional Needs within the council to be notified</li> </ul>

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.
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*\*\*It is important to consider all available information that could help determine whether the policy/ function could have any potential adverse impact. Please attach examples of available research and consultation reports*

**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 72% 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			√	

<p><b>Race-</b> include race, nationality &amp; ethnicity (NB: the experiences may be different for different groups)</p>		L	<p>English as a second language presents barriers to accessing and understanding services.</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>
<p><b>Disability –</b> physical, sensory &amp; mental impairments</p>	√		<p>Majority of children and young people accessing door to door travel assistance have SEND.</p> <p>This Policy supports this group of people to access 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 6<sup>th</sup> 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</p>



				<p>will be determined by the assessing officer in consideration of all their individual circumstances, assessed needs and outcomes.</p> <p>The policy has a specific care pathway for the management of epilepsy.</p>
<b>Age Group</b> - specify eg; older, younger etc)			√	<p>It is not proposed to increase the level of charges 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> <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>
<b>Sexual Orientation</b> – Heterosexual, Lesbian, Gay			√	

Men, Bisexual people				
<b>Religious/Faith groups</b> (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** ⑤

**Medium** ⑤

**Low** ⑤

**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 young people with SEND on the local offer pages.

	<p>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**

<b>Recommendation</b>	<b>Key activity</b>	<b>When</b>	<b>Officer Responsible</b>	<b>Links to other Plans eg; Sustainable Community Strategy, Corporate Plan, Business Plan,</b>	<b>Progress milestones</b>	<b>Progress</b>
Ensure accessible consultation	Public consultation	Nov18-Jan19	Sarah Russ/Alison Milne	Corporate Plan		Complete
Create a consultation response document	Collate and review feedback	Feb 19	Alison Milne	Corporate Plan Included in Executive Report		Complete
Review the impact of the AATP	Review the impact of charging and review an overall review of the policy	October 2019	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 31.1.19

Signed  
Service Head Alison Milne HoS: Access and Inclusion  
Date 31.1.19