



Report to Scrutiny

Item Number:

Contains Confidential or Exempt Information

No

Subject of Report:	Revised Draft Travel Support Strategy – Further Information requested by the Panel at the last meeting on 1 March 2018.
Meeting:	Scrutiny Review Panel 4 – 2017/2018: Transport 19 April 2018
Service Report Author:	Cath Attlee (Head of Integrated Strategic Commissioning) attleec@ealing.gov.uk 0208 8825 7102
Scrutiny Officer:	Harjeet Bains, Scrutiny Review Officer, banish@ealing.gov.uk 020 8825 7120
Cabinet Responsibility:	Cllr Hitesh Tailor, Portfolio Holder for Health and Adults' Services tailorh@ealing.gov.uk
Director Responsibility:	Kim Carey, Interim Director Adult Services careyk@ealing.gov.uk 020 8825 6286
Brief:	To be Completed by the Scrutiny Officer On considering the Draft Travel Support Strategy at the last meeting on 1 March 2018, the Panel requested further information on the usage and associated budgets of the service provision.
Recommendations:	To be Completed by the Scrutiny Officer The Panel is asked to consider the additional information provided and make recommendations for further improvements accordingly.

1. The Draft Travel Strategy

1.1 The Draft Travel Strategy was presented to the Scrutiny Review Panel (Transport) meeting 1 March 2018. This report is providing the further information requested.

1.2 Costs of the council's transport service provision for the year 2016/17 detailed below:-

2016/17 figures	£ spend
Integrated Dementia Day Services	544,780
Michael Flanders Day Centre	241,570
Cowgate Day Centre	200,350
SPOT Adults Transport	900,000
SEN transport	4,475,610
TOTAL	6,362,310

Costs for children's transport spend showing increase in number and spend.

Year	Number of children on SEN transport	£ spend
2015/16	554	£3,630,102
2016/17	594	£4,475,612
2017/18	645	£4,715,789

The number of children on transport routes continue to rise, reflecting the increase in child numbers and recent special school expansions. Costs continue to rise due to demand for service and increases in transport operator price rates reflecting the 'market' conditions.

The current Information and Advice Services provider, Ealing Specialist Advice Service also reported a significant increase in people presenting with information and support needs regarding transport issues. The service has been successful in securing funding from external sources to help towards meeting increasing demand in this area.

1.3 A range of initiatives are in progress towards improving transport provision, and efficiencies in travel expenditure.

- A new Transport Hub has been established, centralising adults and childrens' transport and travel service to improve transport management and efficiencies.
- Provision of Travel Training Services is being reviewed.
- New commissioning methods are being explored, with some children's / SEN travel routes being exposed to a mini-tender with the view of achieving savings through economies of scale.
- All current adults travel routes are being reviewed and will be optimised to ensure value for money is maintained
- As part of the new voluntary sector funding programme, the specification for the new Information and Advice Service will include specific support regarding

signposting and assisting people with transport and travel information and advice needs - specifically focusing on access to TfL provision, blue badge, and taxi card, which will in turn reduce demand on Council resources.

- As part of the consultation exercise on the Draft Travel Support Strategy we (and our partners) will aim to develop an Action Plan on improving accessibility of the information and advice offer on Travel and Transport issues.
- A wider commissioning strategy is being developed to incorporate and integrate children's and adults transport functions with the aim of enabling more scope for cost reductions. The strategy is being developed as part of the overall Future Lives and Better Lives programme of work.

1.4 An updated version of the strategy is attached.

2. Legal Implications

2.1 Section 19 of the Children and Families Act sets out the general principles that local authorities must have regard to when supporting disabled children and young people and those with SEN under Part 3 of the Act. The Care Act 2014 under the Care and Support (Eligibility Criteria) Regulations 2015 sets out the process for determining a person's eligible care and support needs which may include transport.

3. Financial Implications

To be confirmed, but the expectation would be that the strategy will be delivered within existing resources.

4. Other Implications

The Equality Act 2010 protects disabled people in all areas including transport.

5. Background Papers

Appendix A Draft Travel Support Strategy
Draft Mayor's Transport Strategy
Draft Cycle Strategy for Scrutiny Panel
Why Community Matters

Consultation

Name of Consultee	Department	Date Sent to Consultee	Date Response Received from Consultee	Comments Appear in Report Para:
Internal				
Russell Roberts	Transport			
Louise Taylor	Public Health			
Helen Green	Children's Services			
Kim Carey	Director Adult Services			
Jackie Yates	Head of Older Peoples Services			
Cheryl Batt	Head of Disabilities			
External				
Anna Whitty	Ealing Community Transport			
Wendy Starkie	Ealing Centre for Independent Living			
Lesley Dodd	Ealing Mencap Power Group			
Joshua Dennis	Ealing Centre for Independent Living and Mencap			

Report History

Decision Type: For Information	Urgency item? No		
Authorised by Cabinet Member:	Date Report Drafted:	Report Deadline:	Date Report Sent:
XX.XX.06	XX.XX.06	XX.XX.06	XX.XX.06
Report No.:	Report Author and Contact for Queries:		
	First and Surname, Job Title		