



# CONCESSIONARY TRAVEL CONSULTATION

TOWN COUNCIL MEETING

REPORT 75/19

9 SEPTEMBER 2019

The purpose of this Report is to ask Members' if they want to submit a response to the current consultation by the Isle of Wight Council on its Concessionary Travel Scheme before its closure on 8 October.

## No. DETAILS

### 1) BACKGROUND

- The mandatory English National Concessionary Travel Scheme (ENCTS) was introduced by the government in April 2008 to provide free off-peak local bus travel for eligible older and disabled people.
- Off peak is defined as anytime Saturday, Sunday or Bank Holidays and between 9.30am and 11pm on any other day.
- The Isle of Wight Council added discretionary elements for both bus and Islandline travel for residents with an ENCTS pass on the grounds of disability.
- The Isle of Wight Council also introduced the New Islander Card from 2008 that provides free travel on local bus and Islandline services for both people with a 'severe and enduring' mental health problem and for a travelling companion for someone with either an ENCTS pass issued on the grounds of a disability or holding a New Island Card on the grounds of mental health.
- There are 31,471 older Island residents and 3,721 qualifying disabled people benefiting from the mandatory elements of the ENCTS and a further 1,543 residents currently with a New Islander Card.
- The total cost to the Isle of Wight Council of concessionary travel schemes in 2017/18 was £4.72M, including £452k for the discretionary elements.

### 2) PROPOSED CHANGES

- The proposal is to remove the remaining discretionary concessionary travel enhancements and retain only the mandatory English National Concessionary Travel scheme.
- The following diagram from the consultation background shows the changes involved:

Pass Type	Current				Proposed			
	Bus*		Rail*		Bus*		Rail*	
	Off peak	Peak	Off peak	Peak	Off peak	Peak	Off peak	Peak
ENCBP (age-related) - Island-issued	Yes	No	No	No	Yes	No	No	No
ENCBP (disability-related) - Island-issued	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	No	No
ENCBP (age-related) - not Island-issued	Yes	No	No	No	Yes	No	No	No
ENCBP (disability-related) - not Island-issued	Yes	No	No	No	Yes	No	No	No
New Island Card - Gold (Mental Health)	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	No	No	No
New Island Card - Silver (Travelling Companion)	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	No	No	No