

S151 Officer commentary

There are no specific financial implications arising from this report, other than a relatively small one off sum, (£10-12,000), for project management support to implement some of the recommendations. Management have indicated that this can be identified from within existing resources.

Risk Implications

Implementation of the recommendations will avoid the risk of an uncoordinated approach that provides neither best value for money nor services that meets the differing needs of residents'.

Equalities Implications

The community transport service has an important positive impact on two of the protected characteristics as defined by the Equality Act 2010 (old age and disability) and one of the recommendations of the review is to extend the reach of the service to individuals with these characteristics who live in rural areas. An equality impact assessment will need to be undertaken as options for a new service are developed

Employment Issues

None directly identified as arising from this report other than the requirement in the body of the report – namely to identify a short term project management resource to deliver some of the above recommendations. If this comes from within existing resources the creation of a secondment arrangement is recommended. There will also be a need to ensure the existing duties of the secondee (prior to transfer) are suitably managed.

Sustainability Issues

The recommendations aim to provide a service that supports those residents who rely on community transport in order to live a full life connected to key services, friends and family. This helps to support communities, particularly those more rural ones, as well as the local economy of those communities by making them viable places to live for all ages. There are environmental gains from providing public transport through the use of buses thus reducing reliance on private cars.

Consultation

None for the purposes of this report.

Communications

An appropriate press release will be issued.

Background Papers

None

