

Feasibility responses Topic 141 – Contract School Bus Service

From Director of Children's Services

1. Does this overlap with work in your area or another area of the Council you are aware of and if so what?

No

2. Can you see the positive potential in progressing this topic? Please give reasons.

Yes

3. Can you see any immediate pitfalls to progressing this topic?

No

4. If the topic were progressed would you encourage officer support from your area?

Yes

5. Are you aware of existing papers or research documents that might help Members (e.g. a recent Audit report or feedback from regulatory bodies)? If so what and could you provide them?

No

6. Any other comments based on the registration form content.

This has already been discussed with the Chair of the Scrutiny Panel,

From Policy Development Team

I've no additional/ background information available on this issue unfortunately but I'm not aware of any specific work planned which would overlap with this scrutiny topic

From Performance Improvement Team

Having looked at the form, it seems that the proposal has fairly weak links to a small number of BV and local PIs.

First obvious link is regarding road safety figures (i.e. BVPI 99 - children killed and/or seriously injured on York's roads). Obviously, making it safer for children to travel on our roads is a positive thing. However, I would be surprised if any of the recent KSI figures come from school bus incidents.

Second positive outcome would be around encouraging parents to allow their children to travel to school via the school bus, rather than driving them to school in their cars (BVPI 102). Making this option safer (i.e. by adding seatbelts to buses) may help to encourage some parents to make the change. However, once again, I would be surprised if this improvement made any difference to current attitudes and preferences.

Barbara. I've read Peter Lowe's response to you and agree with what he says. In CPA terms, I don't think that this is a directly relevant issue apart from via the PIs Pete mentioned.

However I think it would be of indirect interest to CPA - as the corporate inspection will look at what the council achieves in respect of issues such as road safety, congestion, children's safety etc. Mike

From Marketing and Communications

We have not done any research on this topic, sorry! Best wishes

From Equalities Team

don't know if the current use of contract buses includes provision for transporting disabled students (either on these buses or via another method). Either way the new service would need to provide the same or an improved service for disabled students. For example if the current contract buses are not able to take disabled students but the yellow school busses would be able to do this then this would be a welcome improvement.

If the service provision was changed an Impact Assessment would need to be done to ensure the new service doesn't discriminate against any group.

Should consult with Disabled Groups - People First, York Access Group, York Blind and Partially Sighted Society; Youth Forum