

7<sup>th</sup> September 2020

## LOCAL AUTHORITY BUS SUBSIDY RING-FENCED (REVENUE) GRANT: DETERMINATION 2020/21

Following the Government's decision in 2013 to devolve to local authorities the payment of the Bus Service Operators Grant (BSOG) and as part of compliance with the grant conditions local authorities are required to report on how they have made use of the devolved funds and any decision making processes followed.

The principle of passing on, in full, to the service operator the BSOG grant received by the City Council for the Winchester Park and Ride bus service was approved by means of a PORTFOLIO HOLDER DECISION NOTICE 553 – WINCHESTER PARK AND RIDE: CHANGES TO BUS CONTRACT FUNDING agreed 19<sup>th</sup> March 2014

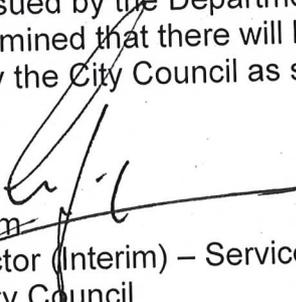
This decision was reinforced in the Winchester Park & Ride - Invitation to Tender (2015) (para 9.3):

*Tenderers must price their Tender on the basis of net price excluding VAT without any consideration or reference to BSOG. Whilst currently Winchester City Council receives £45,356 per Annum as a BSOG, this payment is used to supplement the cost to the Council of the Park & Ride.*

The City Council also confirms that:

- The annual BSOG payment received is £45,356
- The funds are used entirely in support of the Winchester Park & Ride service, i.e. Maintaining tendered services.
- The Park & Ride continues to operate as a bus service subsidised by the local authority
- The role of the Park & Ride remains an important element of the City's parking and transport strategy in that it encourages cars to be left outside the centre and thereby improves congestion and air quality.

This confirmation is normally made by an annual reports via the completion of a short survey issued by the Department for Transport, due to Covid-19 restrictions the DfT have determined that there will be no survey undertaken or required – but the confirmation by the City Council as set in the preceding paragraph is sufficient.

  
Richard Botham  
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