LOCAL AUTHORITY BUS SUBSIDY RING-FENCED (REVENUE) GRANT: DETERMINATION 2019/20

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 19th 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 reports annually (by completing a short survey issued by the Department for Transport) which 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.

Richard Botham
Strategic Director (Interim) – Services
Winchester City Council
Devolved BSOG Grant - Annual Outputs Report 2019

SECTION A: BACKGROUND AND CONTACTS

Q1. What is your local transport authority name?
Winchester City Council

Q2. Which geographical region are you in?
South East England

Q3. What type of authority are you?
Other – please specify below if you feel you do not fit into one of the categories given:
District Council

Q4. How would you classify yourself geographically (NTS Area type definitions)?
Other – please specify below if you feel you do not fit into one of the categories given:
Large Rural District with population in excess of 100,000 which also includes the City of Winchester with population in excess of 40,000

Q5. Name of the reporting officer:
Mr Daniel Massey

Q6. Contact phone number of the reporting officer:
01962848534 & 07980732176

Q7. Email address of the reporting officer:
dmassey@winchester.gov.uk

SECTION B: TENDERED BUS NETWORK

Q8. What have you used the developed funds for?
A. Maintain current tendered services

Q10. If you have observed any direct or indirect impacts as a result of the way in which you have used the devolved funds?
A. Cost reductions to the local authority
Q11. Please provide a short description of whether you took any mitigating action to reduce the impact of the transfer of BSOG on operators?

To ensure there was no negative impact on the transfer of BSOG we continued to fully utilise the BSOG payment in support of the Winchester Park & Ride Service. The incumbent operator continues to receive the BSOG in support of this service, there for there was no impact on services, the operation or the operator.

Q12. Please specify how much your local transport authority spent on tendered bus services in 2017/18?

877556

Q13. Please specify how much your local transport authority spent on tendered bus services in 2018/19?

967261

Q14. Did you spend all of your allocated BSOG 2018/19 grant?

Yes