

## URGENT ACTION PROCEDURE – CONCESSIONARY FARE SCHEME

**EXECUTIVE MEMBER:** Councillor Allan Holliday  
**LEAD OFFICER:** Georgina Ayling  
**REPORT AUTHOR:** Carole Carre

### Summary and Recommendation:

This report advises the Executive of action taken under the Executive Procedure Rules – Urgent Action Procedure. The one year trial offering a rail card option as part of Copeland Borough Council's concessionary fare scheme has been extended for a further year.

Executive are asked to note this action.

### 1. INTRODUCTION

- 1.1 For the financial year 2007/08 the Council offered the option for eligible persons to be given a rail card as an alternative to the statutory bus pass scheme. This option was offered on a trial basis.
- 1.2 The trial run has been very successful, with the rail card option proving popular. It is estimated that by the end of the 2007/08 financial year 1700 railcards will have been issued, at a cost to the Council of £30,000.
- 1.3 The proposed 2008/09 budget contains provision to cover the costs of extending the trial scheme for a further year.
- 1.4 In order to ensure that eligible users are able to receive railcards from the start of the financial year, and that the concessionary fare scheme is able to be implemented it has been necessary to take action under the Authority's Urgent Action Procedure. The relevant portfolio holder and the chair of the relevant Overview and Scrutiny Committee have approved the request and have agreed to extend the rail card trial for a further year to cover the 2008/09 scheme.

### 2. FINANCIAL AND HUMAN RESOURCES IMPLICATIONS (INCLUDING SOURCES OF FINANCE)

The proposed 2008/09 revenue budgets contain provision for the trial to extend.

### 3. PROJECTS AND RISK MANAGEMENT

By using the Executive Procedure Rules for Urgent Action the Council is able to project manage the implementation of the 2008/09 Concessionary Fare Scheme and to manage the risk that the scheme will not be fully implemented by 1 April 2008.

**4. IMPACT ON CORPORATE PLAN**

This action supports the delivery of the Corporate Plan.

**List of Appendices**

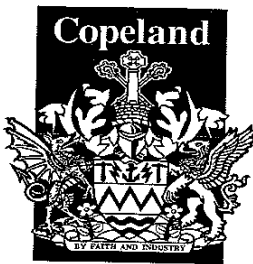
Appendix A Request for Agreement to Urgent Action under Executive Procedure Rules

**CHECKLIST FOR DEALING WITH KEY ISSUES**

Please confirm against the issue if the key issues below have been addressed. This can be by either a short narrative or quoting the paragraph number in the report in which it has been covered.

Impact on Crime and Disorder	None
Impact on Sustainability	None
Impact on Rural Proofing	Yes – concessionary travel assists eligible persons in travelling both within and outside of the borough.
Health and Safety Implications	None
Project and Risk Management	None
Impact on Equality and Diversity Issues	Yes – assists elderly and disabled persons.
Children and Young Persons Implications	None
Human Rights Act Implications	None
Section 105 Officer Comments	
Monitoring Officer Comments	No comments

Please say if this report will require the making of a Key Decision NO



Ref Number	Date Issued	Officer/Dept	Rec'd by Secretariat	Reported to the Executive
01108	22.01.08	PR/FBD	15.2.08	814108
Prior to processing this form it must be referenced by the Secretariat				

**REQUEST FOR AGREEMENT TO URGENT ACTION UNDER EXECUTIVE PROCEDURE RULES**

**STAGE A**

Portfolio:	Originating Officer <i>Paul Robson Interim Deputy S157 Officer</i>
Date of next Executive meeting:	
Action proposed: <i>That a railcard be offered to eligible users as an alternative discretion to the statutory bus pass scheme. The one year trial run during 2007/08 has been highly successful, and the proposal is to extend for a 2nd year trial in 2008/09.</i>	
Financial/Resource Implications: <i>Based on latest available information it is estimated that 1700 railcards will be issued during the financial year 2008/09 at a cost of £30,000. This has been built in to the latest budget proposals due for approval at full Council on 26.2.08</i>	
Reason(s) for urgency: <i>Failure to gain Member approval may result in a delay in implementing the discretionary concessionary scheme beyond 1.4.08.</i>	
Implications of not taking action before next Executive: <i>Railcard issues not made before 1.4.08 which could result in a receipt of complaints from eligible users.</i>	
Comments of Head of Legal & Democratic Services on grounds for urgency: <i>This action needs to be dealt with urgently on the grounds that arrangements need to be in place by April 1st and it is not practicable to wait until the next Executive for approval.</i> <i>M. J. G. C.</i>	

Certified and Agreed as Urgent:

Signed: *P. Robson*

Dated: *28.1.08*

STAGE B

Ref No	
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**Portfolio Holder**

Comments on action proposed

Action: AGREED/NOT AGREED

Signed *A. Hollis* ..... Dated *30/1/08* .....

**Overview and Scrutiny Chair**

Comments on action proposed

Action: ~~AGREED/NOT AGREED~~

Signed *M. G. Clanton* ..... Dated *15.2.2008* .....

**Head of Finance and Business Development**

Comments on action proposed

Action: AGREED/NOT AGREED

Signed *M. G. Clanton* ..... Dated *30.1.08* .....

**Head of Legal and Democratic Services (Monitoring Officer)**

Comments on action proposed

Action: AGREED/NOT AGREED

Signed *M. G. Clanton* ..... Dated *30.1.08* .....

**Other Consultees (State Name)**

Comments on action proposed

Action: AGREED/NOT AGREED

Signed ..... Dated .....

**STAGE C**

Ref No	
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**To be completed by Originating Officer**

I certify that Stages A and B of this procedure have been completed and the Urgent Action proposed will be implemented on or after the date of this certification

Signed..... P. B. ..... Dated 28.1.08 .....