

Report 05.490

Date 13 September 2005

File T/10/4/001

Committee Passenger Transport

Author Chrissy Dowland Manager Total Mobility

Total Mobility Scheme - Ministry of Transport Proposed Policy Framework

1. Purpose

The Ministry of Transport (MoT) has presented the findings of the Total Mobility Scheme Review (attachment 3) and has made a number of recommendations for improvements to the scheme. Attachment 2 is an initial response to the proposed policy framework. Further in depth analysis will be required to understand the full financial and administrative implications of the review

2. Significance of the decision

The matters in this report do not trigger the significance policy of the Council or otherwise trigger section 76(3)(b) of the Local Government Act 2002.

3. Background

Land Transport New Zealand undertook an initial review of the Scheme in 2002 as part of the Passenger Transport Social Services Review.

A second phase of the review was considered necessary to address issues identified during the Passenger Transport Social Services Review and to improve alignment with the New Zealand Transport Strategy. This second phase sought to identify options to improve the adequacy, consistency, portability, sustainability, and coverage of the Scheme and was carried out by the Ministry of Transport.

Between September and November 2004, the Ministry of Transport held a series of preliminary meetings with local authority transport managers, Total Mobility coordinators and some assessment agencies.

Following these meetings, a consultation document was developed to investigate possible improvements to: Scheme purpose; eligibility criteria; entitlement - including fare subsidy, maximum and minimum subsidised fares, number of trips, assessment services, administration, and transport operators.

WGN_DOCS-#287132-V1 PAGE 1 OF 2

The consultation programme was undertaken in April and May 2005.

After analysis of the submissions a final report paper, with recommendations for the scheme, was put up to the Minster of Transport in the middle of August 2005. A media release followed on the 30 August 2005 which announced a \$9.5 million funding boost to the scheme (see **Attachment 1**)

4. Comment

The Ministry of Transport has now put together a proposed policy framework and suggested implementation programme so scheme improvements can be introduced and receive associated additional funding. The officers have carried out an initial review of the proposed policy framework and its recommendations for achieving scheme improvements and national consistency. **Attachment 2** lists the recommendations and their impacts for Greater Wellington Regional Council.

5. Communication

There is nothing further to communicate until a full review of the Policy Framework is carried out.

6. Recommendations

That the Committee:

- 1. Receives the report.
- 2. **Notes** the content of the report.

Report prepared by: Report approved by:

Chrissy Dowland Rhona Nicol

Manager Total Mobility Manager - Transport

Procurement

Attachment 1: MOT Media Release 30 August 2005

Attachment 2: Initial Review of Total Mobility Proposed Policy Framework

Attachment 3: MOT Final Report including: Policy Framework, Funding & Implementation

Framework

WGN_DOCS-#287132-V1 PAGE 2 OF 2