



Hampshire
County Council

18 September 2024

Councillor Rob Mocatta,
Chairman, Universal Services Select
Committee
(by email)

Elizabeth II Court

*Hampshire County Council
The Castle, Winchester
Hampshire, SO23 8UJ*

E-mail: bill.withers@hants.gov.uk

Cc: Councillor Jackie Branson, Vice
Chairman

Dear Councillor Rob Mocatta,

Health and Adult Social Care Select Committee: Resolution regarding Passenger Transport

At our meeting held on Tuesday 17 September 2024 the Health and Adult Social Care Select Committee (HASC) considered the report of our SP25 Working Group. Through the course of our deliberations the Working Group had concerns about the potential impact of proposed reductions in Passenger Transport on social care service users. While this proposal is not subject to scrutiny by the Health and Adult Social Care Select Committee, the Working Group made the following recommendations which were supported by the full Committee:

1. That the Health and Adult Social Care Select Committee ask the Chairman to write to the Chairman of the Universal Services Select Committee, to highlight the concerns identified by the HASC Working Group that any proposed reductions in passenger transport should not adversely impact social care service users.
2. Should the decision be taken to reduce passenger transport, that the Health and Adult Social Care Select Committee reviews the impact on social care service users 6 months after any decision is made.

Therefore, I am writing to you to bring to your attention our concerns. The HASC Working Group were concerned that the potential withdrawal of the Council of Voluntary Services Infrastructure grant when combined with any withdrawal of funding from community transport could have additional unexpected impacts on voluntary organisations and their users. The combination of both proposals could lead to the cessation or serious reduction in services impacting users who are the most vulnerable in society and in many cases Adult Social Care clients. This could lead to additional unforeseen support needs and budget pressures.

Without passenger transport available, social care service users could become isolated and their health deteriorate and increase their need for social care services. I would be grateful if your Select Committee could take these concerns into account when pre-scrutinising the proposals to reduce the funding for Passenger Transport services.

If you have any queries regarding the views of the Health and Adult Social Care Select Committee please get in touch.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Bill Withers', written in a cursive style.

Cllr Bill Withers
Chairman, Health and Adult Social Care Select Committee