

complex roads. Bikeability Plus is a suite of courses to meet individual needs which compliments level 2 and 3 training which includes bike maintenance and family rides.

Background

6. In September 2019, the Executive Member for Economy, Transport and Environment (ETE) gave approval to procure and spend and enter into the necessary contractual arrangements (Contract for Provision of Bikeability Training 2020-2022), to deliver Bikeability cycle training for a period of 2 years, extendable to a maximum of 4 years, from 1 August 2020.
7. The cost of Bikeability cycle training, estimated at a total estimated cost of £1.73 million (over the 4 years) is funded in full by Department for Transport (DfT) grant awards. Future delivery of Bikeability cycle training is subject to the award of DfT grant funding, which is applied for on a 4-year cycle and reviewed on an annual basis.

Funding

8. Cycle training for children is funded by DfT through The Bikeability Trust with over 7,000 level 2 and 3 courses delivered each year. The County Council has a contract in place with Mountbatten School Services to deliver Bikeability training. The contract does not include the districts of Test Valley, Fareham and Gosport which have their own arrangements but use the same provider. Courses are delivered mainly to schools during the school day and can be delivered as part of the PE curriculum.
9. The County Council manages the contract ensuring quality of training and the delivery of all places. This includes monitoring of instructors, meeting the contractor, DBS compliance and reporting directly to The Bikeability Trust.
10. Current funding is at a cost per place of £45. Mountbatten School Services receives £44 per place, with £1 per place retained to support client management activity by the County Council. This funding per place was increased in 2021/2022 from £40 to reflect the impact of the Covid-19 pandemic. The Bikeability Trust has confirmed that the cost per place will remain at £45 for 2022/23.
11. The Department for Transport has recently confirmed Hampshire County Council's Bikeability grant funding for the 2022/23 financial year. This is £423,855 which allows for a total of 9,419 training places at £45 per training place (9,119 level 2 and 300 level 3). Bikeability training is subject to funding and, in the event that this funding is discontinued, then Bikeability training will cease or require alternative funding.

Proposed change

12. The proposal is to deliver Bikeability cycle training through the County Council's Children's Services Hampshire Outdoors service from 1 August 2022 at the end of the contract with the current provider, Mountbatten School Services.

13. Children's Services Hampshire Outdoors has submitted a comprehensive plan to deliver Bikeability cycle training. The team does not currently deliver Bikeability cycle training but has staff who have and who are trained to be able to train instructors. In the plan, Children Services has demonstrated how it could deliver 7,000 places and grow the number of places if funding is available. To support the business plan, the team has used excellent examples of successes such as a large swimming programme and residential trips. Children Services would supplement training to give enhanced education and practice to younger pupils in preparation for level 2 and 3 cycle training, which would increase pass rates compared with the current arrangements and complement the Road Safety Team education programme such as Junior Road Safety Officers and StreetSense in secondary schools promoting independent, responsible riders. Children Services has good relationships with schools and the proposed model would include training teachers embedding training into schools' everyday life.
14. The Road Safety Team would continue as the client applying for funding for the foreseeable future. A memorandum of understanding (MoU) would be draw up with Children's Services to ensure a smooth transition of training for schools.
15. There is a requirement to give the current Bikeability cycle training provider two months' notice, and a decision is therefore needed now to enable a change of providers at the earliest opportunity, which is from 1 August 2022 and to allow for a smooth transition for the start of the new academic year in September to minimise disruption to schools. Children's Services would need to register as a provider, and the Children's Services Hampshire Outdoors service is ready with all the necessary documentation to submit and this can be done once a decision is made.

Transfer of Undertakings (Protection of Employment) TUPE

16. Consideration has been given to staff who are currently employed by the existing service provider being transferred to Children's Services under Transfer of Undertakings (Protection of Employment) (TUPE). Early discussions have taken place and it is understood that TUPE will apply for some staff. Any costs incurred will be the responsibility of Children's Services. There are approximately 40 full time staff which includes managers, office staff and instructors. During peak times of delivery there are also some part-time members of staff.
17. If the recommendation to deliver Bikeability Training through Children's Services is approved, notice of this change would be issued in March 2022 allowing time to address TUPE requirements.

Consultation and Equalities

18. The training provided is fully inclusive and should have no impact on groups with protected characteristics. Training will be adapted to suit the needs of any child where appropriate and individual risk assessments will be undertaken.

19. This decision seeks to change the service provider, with no change to the service being delivered, so has been assessed as having a neutral impact on groups with protected characteristics.

Climate Change Impact Assessments

20. Hampshire County Council utilises two decision-making tools to assess the carbon emissions and resilience of its projects and decisions. These tools provide a clear, robust, and transparent way of assessing how projects, policies and initiatives contribute towards the County Council's climate change targets of being carbon neutral and resilient to the impacts of a 2°C temperature rise by 2050. This process ensures that climate change considerations are built into everything the Authority does.

Climate Change Adaptation / Carbon Mitigation

21. The carbon mitigation tool and climate change adaptation tool were not applicable because the decision for this report relates to changing provider for the existing Bikeability Cycle Training. Whilst there is a change of provider there are no other changes and as such the decision does not have any significant climate change considerations.

Conclusions

22. The County Council receives Bikeability grant funding for up to 7,000 cycle training places. A contract in place with Mountbatten School Services to deliver the training comes to an end on 31 July 2022 and a decision is sought on whether to extend the contract, re-tender or deliver this training in-house. A decision is needed now to enable a change of providers at the earliest opportunity, which is from 1 August 2022 and to allow for a smooth transition for the start of the new academic year in September to minimise disruption to schools.
23. The recommendation is to deliver this training in-house through Children's Services Hampshire Outdoors, which will enhance training to support younger pupils develop cycle skills ready for level 2 and 3 cycle training, and build on established relationships with schools, including training teachers and embedding training into schools' everyday life.

REQUIRED CORPORATE AND LEGAL INFORMATION:

Links to the Strategic Plan

Hampshire maintains strong and sustainable economic growth and prosperity:	no
People in Hampshire live safe, healthy and independent lives:	yes
People in Hampshire enjoy a rich and diverse environment:	no
People in Hampshire enjoy being part of strong, inclusive communities:	no

Other Significant Links

Links to previous Member decisions:	
<u>Title</u>	<u>Date</u>
Contract for Provision of Bikeability Training 2020-2022	17 September 2019
Direct links to specific legislation or Government Directives	
<u>Title</u>	<u>Date</u>

Section 100 D - Local Government Act 1972 - background documents	
<p>The following documents discuss facts or matters on which this report, or an important part of it, is based and have been relied upon to a material extent in the preparation of this report. (NB: the list excludes published works and any documents which disclose exempt or confidential information as defined in the Act.)</p>	
<u>Document</u>	<u>Location</u>
None	

EQUALITIES IMPACT ASSESSMENT:

1. Equality Duty

The County Council has a duty under Section 149 of the Equality Act 2010 ('the Act') to have due regard in the exercise of its functions to the need to:

- Eliminate discrimination, harassment and victimisation and any other conduct prohibited by or under the Act with regard to the protected characteristics as set out in section 4 of the Act (age, disability, gender reassignment, marriage and civil partnership, pregnancy and maternity, race, religion or belief, sex and sexual orientation);
- Advance equality of opportunity between persons who share a relevant protected characteristic within section 149(7) of the Act (age, disability, gender reassignment, pregnancy and maternity, race, religion or belief, sex and sexual orientation) and those who do not share it;
- Foster good relations between persons who share a relevant protected characteristic within section 149(7) of the Act (see above) and persons who do not share it.

Due regard in this context involves having due regard in particular to:

- The need to remove or minimise disadvantages suffered by persons sharing a relevant characteristic connected to that characteristic;
- Take steps to meet the needs of persons sharing a relevant protected characteristic different from the needs of persons who do not share it;
- Encourage persons sharing a relevant protected characteristic to participate in public life or in any other activity which participation by such persons is disproportionately low.

2. Equalities Impact Assessment:

The training provided is fully inclusive and should have no impact on groups with protected characteristics. Training will be adapted to suit the needs of any child where appropriate and individual risk assessments will be undertaken.

This decision seeks to change the service provider, with no change to the service being delivered, so has been assessed as having a neutral impact on groups with protected characteristics.