

22nd September 2017

IMPACT REPORT REGARDING PROPOSED CHANGES TO THE CURRENT USE OF SECTION19 AND SECTION 22 PERMITS FOR ROAD PASSENGER TRANSPORT IN GREAT BRITIAN

South Somerset Community Transport currently employs 17 Drivers and operates with 14 Minibuses.

As a Not-For-Profit Organisation, our stream of income and profitability is restricted. The proposal by DfT that Community Transport Operators, defines that we would be required to operate under a PSV Operators Licence which would financially have a devastating impact on our organisation.

All of our drivers hold D1 restricted licence. Therefore we would have to retrain our entire work force, considering that the average age of our drivers is currently 62 years old. I am confident that many of them would not be interested in 18 hours training that they would be required to do should the proposal go ahead. Therefore I would then have to recruit a new drivers who have a current PSV Licence and are looking for Part Time hours. In the current recruitment climate in South Somerset. I feel this would not be an easy task.

Below is a breakdown of the cost implications in retraining all 17 Drivers, to include a medical, full training, both practical and theory test, would be £1406.00 per driver = £23,902.00.

A member of our management team would be required to gain an Operators CPC qualification costing £1496.25.

In addition to this we would be required to hold the following reserves in addition to those laid down by the Charity Commission We would be required to hold £7850.00 for the 1st vehicle and £4350.00 for each additional vehicle. In total we would have increase our current reserves by £77,450.00.



The total financial impact for SSVCA – South Somerset Community Transport would be £102,848.28.

Local authorities have already made it clear that additional funds to assist with this would not be available therefore South Somerset Community Transport would no longer be able to operate without outside funding to cover the additional cost and funds required to operate.

We currently transport over 400 individual clients reliant on wheelchair accessible vehicles. The disappearance on South Somerset Community would see all of these clients being isolated from attending medical appointments as well as regular lunch clubs and other social events.

Victoria Butcher SSVCA - South Somerset Community Transport Manager