

Ref:

606/15

Executive Decision Record

Please leave blank for completion by DS officers

A1 Service Area:

Cultural Services

A2 Title

Amendments to the Leisure Pass Qualification criteria

A3 Decision Taken By

Deputy Leader; Cllr Colin Whittaker

A4 Chief Officer

Please print name Mark Bink

Please sign

A5 Leader/Deputy Leader

Please print name Cllr Colin Whittaker

Please sign

A6 Date of Decision

17th September 2015.

A7 Is this Decision confidential by containing exempt information as described in Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972?

No

A7.1 If yes, please state relevant paragraph from Schedule 12A LGA 1972.

A8 Which Scrutiny Committee should this decision be submitted to?

(please tick as appropriate)

Scrutiny (Promoting Local Economic Growth) Committee

Scrutiny (Value for Money Council Services) Committee

Scrutiny (Protecting and Strengthening Communities) Committee

B1 What is the Decision?

To amend the leisure pass qualification criteria in respect of disabled persons and their carers. The qualifying criteria will be amended to reflect the changes brought about by the Equalities Act and benefits schemes as they relate to disabled persons. The new qualifying criteria will be one of the following; Blue badge holders, letter from a medical professional on headed NHS paper, persons in receipt of an Education Health and Care plan (EHC) etc. In addition, if the disabled person's carer is accompanying the disabled person to assist and support them in undertaking their activity, then they (the carer) will be permitted into the facility at no charge. Carers will still be permitted to apply for a Leisure Pass in their own right if they are caring for a person who is in receipt of any of the above qualifying criteria items.

B2 What are the reasons for the Decision?

To fully comply with the Equalities Act and to take account of changes to the benefits system.

B3 What are the contributions to Corporate Priorities?

The project contributes to the Protecting and Strengthening Communities.

B4 What are the Human Rights considerations?

There are no Human Rights issues arising from this decision.

B5 What are the financial implications?

There are no financial implications arising from this amendment to the scheme. If carers wish to use the facilities from the implementation date they will require a leisure pass as is currently the case. If they are attending to support the disabled person, they are not using the facilities directly.

B6 Is the Decision wholly in accordance with the Council's policy framework?

Yes.

B6.1 If No, does it fall within the urgency provisions (Part 3 of the Constitution)?

AND

B6.2 Has it got the appropriate approvals under those provisions?

B7 Is the Decision wholly in accordance with the Council's budget?

Yes

B7.1 If No, does it fall within the urgency provisions (Part 3 of the Constitution)?

AND

B7.2 Has it got the appropriate approvals under those provisions?

B8 What are the Equalities implications?

B8.1 An Equality Health and Impact Assessment will be completed to support this amendment to the Leisure Pass qualifying criteria.

B9 What are the Risk Assessment implications?

B9.1 Positive (Opportunities/Benefits):

- i. Compliance with the Equalities Act.
- ii. Brings the scheme in line with current benefits/evidence.
- iii. Makes access to the leisure facilities easier for disabled persons and their carers.

B9.2 Negative (Threats):

N/A

B9.3

B10 What are the Legal Considerations?

B10.1 There are no significant legal issues arising from this decision.

B11 What are the Sustainability implications?

B11.1 N/a.

B12 What are the Health & Safety implications?

B12.1 Risk Assessments will be undertaken as part of the normal operating procedure.

B13. Is this a Key Decision?

No

Note A Key Executive Decision is one where:

- i) **REVENUE** – Any contract or proposal with an annual payment or saving of more than £100,000
- ii) **CAPITAL** – Any capital project with a value in excess of £150,000
- iii) **A decision which significantly affects communities living or working in an area comprising two or more wards.**

The questions contained in this questionnaire are not to be altered in any way. If you have any queries regarding the contents of this document, please contact Andrea Davies Ext 1306 or refer to Part 3 Section 6 of the Constitution.

B13.1 If this is a Key Decision, is this an urgent decision such that a delay caused by use of the Call-in Procedure would seriously prejudice the public interest?

B13.2 If Yes, has the Mayor or in his/her absence the Deputy Mayor or in his/her absence the Chair of the relevant Scrutiny Committee agreed that the decision will be exempt from Call-in?

NOTE: If this decision is subject to the Call-in Procedure it will come into force, and may then be implemented, on the expiry of 3 working days after publication – unless 10 Members of the Council call in the decision.

Please send the original signed document to Andrea Davies, Democratic Services.