

SUBJECT:	RECRUITMENT OF BSSG ADMIN OFFICER
MEETING:	Individual Cabinet Member Decision
DATE:	11th July 2018
DIVISION/WARDS AFFECTED:	all

1. PURPOSE:

This report seeks approval for the creation of a new fixed-term post within the Passenger Transport Unit to administer the Bus Services Support Grant. The post would be fixed-term and wholly externally funded.

2. RECOMMENDATIONS:

2.1 To approve the creation of a new fixed-term BSSG admin post

3. KEY ISSUES:

The Bus Services Support Grant (BSSG) is a grant paid by Welsh Government to five Welsh local authorities acting as regional lead authorities, to support and maintain the core strategic bus network, to improve bus quality standards, and for provision of certain bus, Community Transport and other local transport services.

Monmouthshire County Council is the current regional lead authority for BSSG for the Cardiff Capital Region (South East Wales). Following changes within Monmouthshire's Passenger Transport Unit, a new full-time Bus Funding Project Support & Admin Officer is required to undertake the work. The position would be for a fixed-term period to 31 March 2019. The post would be funded from the BSSG admin.

4. REASONS:

Alternative options are for another council to take on the role of regional lead authority, or to refuse the BSSG grant offered to MCC by Welsh Government. Other councils have been asked but none is currently willing to take on this role. Refusal to accept the grant would mean that Cardiff Capital Region local authorities and bus operators would lose £11m, which could be expected to lead to a substantial reduction in the regional and local bus networks.

5. RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS:

None. All costs would be paid out of the BSSG grant. The post will be set at Band E (SCP 21 – SCP 25, £20,541 – £23,111)

6. WELLBEING OF FUTURE GENERATIONS IMPLICATIONS (INCORPORATING EQUALITIES, SUSTAINABILITY, SAFEGUARDING AND CORPORATE PARENTING):

None direct. However failure to accept and administer the BSSG is likely to have substantial negative effects on regional and local bus services. For an analysis of the impact of this please see assessment of the Local Transport Plan

7. CONSULTEES:

- Kellie Beirne, Chief Officer Enterprise & Deputy CEO
- Mark Howcroft, Asst Head Of Finance
- Richard Cope, Business Manager Passenger Transport & Transport Planning
- Clare Cameron, Cardiff Capital Region Project Development Officer – Transport
- Cardiff Capital Region Transport Officers Group
- Cardiff Capital Region Bus Working Group
- Cardiff Capital Region Bus Funding Project Board

8. BACKGROUND PAPERS:

None

9. AUTHOR:

Christian Schmidt

10. CONTACT DETAILS:

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