

Statutory Notice

Pursuant to Section 95 of the Transport Act 1985 and Section 150 of the Transport Act 2000.

FREE CONCESSIONARY TRAVEL SCHEME

Hartlepool, Middlesbrough, Redcar & Cleveland and Stockton-on-Tees Borough Councils ("The Councils") hereby give notice of their intention to continue the Tees Valley Enhanced Concessionary Travel Scheme for those persons qualifying by way of age or disability with effect from 1st April 2007. Free travel will be provided at any time anywhere within the area covered by the Boroughs of Hartlepool, Middlesbrough, Redcar & Cleveland and Stockton-on-Tees.

The Councils also give notice under the 1985 Transport Act and Section 150 (1) of the Transport Act 2000 of their intention to reimburse operators for the year from 1st April 2007 to 31 March 2008 under a revenue displacement system. This will be based on the number of concessionary journeys made with each operator, the average fare for concessionary pass holders and a reimbursement factor based on Department for Transport guidance. Reimbursement will be consistent with the principle set out in the Travel Concession Scheme Regulations 1986 that operators 'both individually and in the aggregate are financially no better and no worse off as a result of their participation in the scheme'.

The operation of the scheme and payments to operators beyond 31 March 2008 will be subject to the new statutory concessionary travel scheme for England scheduled to be introduced on 1st April 2008.

Should agreement fail to be reached with operators by 3 March 2007, the Councils reserve the right to serve notices under Section 97 of the 1985 Transport Act or implement the statutory minimum concessionary travel scheme limiting travel to destinations to within each travel concession authority between the hours of 9.30am and 11.30pm Monday to Friday and at any time on Saturdays, Sundays or Bank Holidays.

Issued on 28 November 2006 by
Head of Technical Services, Hartlepool Borough Council
Head of Transport and Design Services, Middlesbrough Borough Council
Head of Highways and Transportation, Redcar & Cleveland Borough Council
Head of Integrated Transport and Environmental Policy, Stockton-on-Tees Borough Council.