

## EQIA Submission – ID Number

### Section A

**EQIA Title**

Maintain KTS Price in 23-24 and Revised Price Uplift Cap in Future Years

**Responsible Officer**

Stephen Pay - GT TRA

**Type of Activity****Service Change**

No

**Service Redesign**

No

**Project/Programme**

No

**Commissioning/Procurement**

No

**Strategy/Policy**

No

**Details of other Service Activity**

Maintain price in 23-24 and charging regime in future years

**Accountability and Responsibility****Directorate**

Growth Environment and Transport

**Responsible Service**

Public Transport/Highways and Transportation

**Responsible Head of Service**

Philip Lightowler - GT TRA

**Responsible Director**

Haroona Chughtai - GT TRA

**Aims and Objectives**

In previous years, price increases on the Kent Travel Saver, have been capped at 5% of the gross cost of the scheme. This a decision from 2015, when other elements of the scheme were also established.

At the county budget setting, on the 19th of February 2023, members voted as part of the budget to increase the cost of the Kent Travel Saver, to cover both anticipated operator inflation in 23/24 of £1.488M, but also the inflation shortfall of £1.018M for 22/23. A sum of £2.606M, which based on the current number of standard passes, 14,500, would require the cost of the pass to be increased by £180. This is a substantial increase, at a time when users are facing a significant cost of living crisis and more than 5% of the gross cost of the scheme.

The recent award of National Bus Strategy, Bus Service Improvement Plan (BSIP) funding, provides an opportunity to not implement this increase in 23/24, instead funding the inflation from this BSIP funding. It maintains the cost of the KTS in 23/24, at a time of challenge for users and at no cost to KCC.

However, it is only one year of funding relief and unless other internal/external funding is found in 24/25, then potentially a significant cost increase to KTS will be required.

Hence the need for future increases not to be constrained by a cap, linked to scheme costs and a new key decision required in respect of KTS cost increases.

## Section B – Evidence

**Do you have data related to the protected groups of the people impacted by this activity?**

No

**It is possible to get the data in a timely and cost effective way?**

Yes

**Is there national evidence/data that you can use?**

Yes

**Have you consulted with stakeholders?**

No

**Who have you involved, consulted and engaged with?**

The proposal will be going to the Environment and Transport Cabinet Committee on the 23rd May 2023.

**Has there been a previous Equality Analysis (EQIA) in the last 3 years?**

Yes

**Do you have evidence that can help you understand the potential impact of your activity?**

Yes

## Section C – Impact

**Who may be impacted by the activity?**

**Service Users/clients**

Service users/clients

**Staff**

No

**Residents/Communities/Citizens**

No

**Are there any positive impacts for all or any of the protected groups as a result of the activity that you are doing?**

No

**Details of Positive Impacts**

Not Applicable

### Negative impacts and Mitigating Actions

19. Negative Impacts and Mitigating actions for Age

**Are there negative impacts for age?**

No

**Details of negative impacts for Age**

Not Applicable

**Mitigating Actions for Age**

Not Applicable

**Responsible Officer for Mitigating Actions – Age**

Not Applicable

20. Negative impacts and Mitigating actions for Disability

**Are there negative impacts for Disability?**

Yes

**Details of Negative Impacts for Disability**

In future years, as there will be no cap on the increase in the cost of the standard pass, pass increases will be significant. Potentially a parent who is disabled, but not accessing free school meals for their child, could be more adversely affected than others within the standard pass cohort.

It is not possible to identify the size of this potential group.

**Mitigating actions for Disability**

There is no mitigation. Access to a low income pass, is through eligibility to free school meals.

**Responsible Officer for Disability**

Not applicable
<b>21. Negative Impacts and Mitigating actions for Sex</b>
<b>Are there negative impacts for Sex</b>
No
<b>Details of negative impacts for Sex</b>
Not Applicable
<b>Mitigating actions for Sex</b>
Not Applicable
<b>Responsible Officer for Sex</b>
Not Applicable
<b>22. Negative Impacts and Mitigating actions for Gender identity/transgender</b>
<b>Are there negative impacts for Gender identity/transgender</b>
No
<b>Negative impacts for Gender identity/transgender</b>
Not Applicable
<b>Mitigating actions for Gender identity/transgender</b>
Not Applicable
<b>Responsible Officer for mitigating actions for Gender identity/transgender</b>
Not Applicable
<b>23. Negative impacts and Mitigating actions for Race</b>
<b>Are there negative impacts for Race</b>
No
<b>Negative impacts for Race</b>
Not Applicable
<b>Mitigating actions for Race</b>
Not Applicable
<b>Responsible Officer for mitigating actions for Race</b>
Not Applicable
<b>24. Negative impacts and Mitigating actions for Religion and belief</b>
<b>Are there negative impacts for Religion and belief</b>
No
<b>Negative impacts for Religion and belief</b>
Not Applicable
<b>Mitigating actions for Religion and belief</b>
Not Applicable
<b>Responsible Officer for mitigating actions for Religion and Belief</b>
Not Applicable
<b>25. Negative impacts and Mitigating actions for Sexual Orientation</b>
<b>Are there negative impacts for Sexual Orientation</b>
No
<b>Negative impacts for Sexual Orientation</b>
Not Applicable
<b>Mitigating actions for Sexual Orientation</b>
Not Applicable
<b>Responsible Officer for mitigating actions for Sexual Orientation</b>
Not Applicable
<b>26. Negative impacts and Mitigating actions for Pregnancy and Maternity</b>
<b>Are there negative impacts for Pregnancy and Maternity</b>
No
<b>Negative impacts for Pregnancy and Maternity</b>

Not Applicable
<b>Mitigating actions for Pregnancy and Maternity</b>
Not Applicable
<b>Responsible Officer for mitigating actions for Pregnancy and Maternity</b>
Not Applicable
<b>27. Negative impacts and Mitigating actions for Marriage and Civil Partnerships</b>
<b>Are there negative impacts for Marriage and Civil Partnerships</b>
No
<b>Negative impacts for Marriage and Civil Partnerships</b>
Not Applicable
<b>Mitigating actions for Marriage and Civil Partnerships</b>
Not Applicable
<b>Responsible Officer for Marriage and Civil Partnerships</b>
Not Applicable
<b>28. Negative impacts and Mitigating actions for Carer's responsibilities</b>
<b>Are there negative impacts for Carer's responsibilities</b>
No
<b>Negative impacts for Carer's responsibilities</b>
Not Applicable
<b>Mitigating actions for Carer's responsibilities</b>
Not Applicable
<b>Responsible Officer for Carer's responsibilities</b>
Not Applicable