

Community Bus Use

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Classification:	Public – Community Services Policy – Transport Services
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Responsible Officer(s):	Manager Community Development
Council File Reference:	17.91.2
Applicable Legislation:	Passenger Transport Act and Regulations, 1994
Relevant Policies:	Community Transport
Related Procedures:	Community Bus Terms and Conditions of Hire Application to Hire Community Bus Application to become a nominated driver
Delegations:	Nil

PURPOSE

To set out guidelines for the use of Council's community bus(es) by Council and the Community.

PRINCIPLES

The primary purpose of the community bus is to provide transport to the transport disadvantaged in our district. The following principles will be used to support this target:

1. Council will provide specific community bus services, driven by Council volunteers, that aim to support affordable access to activities and services across our district to residents who may not otherwise be able to access those services, including leisure activities that benefit their health and wellbeing.
2. In achieving the above (item 1) Council will not allow community bus use where it will be to the detriment of commercial opportunities available.
3. Each Council Bus Service shall be reviewed annually, reflecting changes in other transport opportunities, eligibility of users and suitability of activity against current priorities.
4. When not being used for Council Transport Services, the community bus may be made available to support (allowing for item 2) not for profit community groups and organisations that provide services and activities to the Riverland community.
5. The Community bus is only available for the hirer and will not be available for third party use. Appropriate documentation outlined in associated procedures must be completed for each Hire occasion.
6. The buses must only be driven on sealed roads within the boundaries identified.
7. The nominated driver(s) shall provide evidence of holding of the appropriate licence. Each nominated driver shall complete appropriate 'nominated driver' documentation before the first use and subsequently after each successive 12 month period.
8. The hirer will be required to comply with the operational and health and safety guidelines provided.
9. The Council reserves the right to refuse a request for hire of the community bus.
10. The costs applicable (including provision of bond) to users of the community buses shall be those determined annually by the Council and appearing in Council's Schedule of Fees and Charges.

VERSION CONTROL

The electronic version of this policy stored on the intranet is the controlled version.

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LIST OF AMENDMENTS

August 2010

- 1) Minor spelling and Reference updating;
- 2) change of 'at discretion of' in point 5 from CEO to Transport Coordinator

August 2012

- 1) Reference updating;

August 2016

- 1) Changes to principle 4 to recognise regional investment into community bus assets by regional Councils.
Removal of former item 5 to also reflect regional investment;
- 2) Minor wording updates to procedure and document principles to items 5 and 7 (formerly items 6 and 8)