

10(a) CASUAL USER MILEAGE RATE (AN97-2013)

The decision of the Policy and Resources Committee, at its budget meeting on 14th February, 2013 (Article III refers) to reduce the casual car user mileage rate from 45p per mile to 25p per mile, for employees, whether full-time or part-time, whose basic salary is calculated on a SCP higher than SCP36 (currently £20,064 per annum for a full time employee) has been monitored on a monthly basis since implementation.

The Council's Staff Travel Plan was implemented on 1st June, 2012 and this plan included clear guidance for employees regarding business travel, ensuring employees consider whether the journey is actually necessary and promoting bus travel and the use of existing pool cars. Analysis of the cost of mileage claimed shows a reduction of 45.6 % for April/May/June, 2013 compared to April/May/June, 2012 and, whilst difficult to separate, it is considered that the reduction has resulted, in the main, from the effective implementation of the Staff Travel Plan.

It is therefore proposed to reinstate the casual user mileage rate of 45p with effect from 1st September, 2013. This will prevent any impact on essential services where employees have a business case to use their cars in accordance with the Staff Travel Plan. It is also proposed to provide all employees with comprehensive information regarding the Staff Travel Plan and management information to departments to ensure ongoing and consistent application of the Staff Travel Plan.

The financial implications of this change will be monitored to ensure the delivery of budget savings through the effective implementation of the Staff Travel Plan.