

REPORT TO: POLICY AND RESOURCES COMMITTEE - 13 NOVEMBER 2006

REPORT ON: NATIONAL ENTITLEMENT CARD FOR YOUNG PEOPLE

REPORT BY: ASSISTANT CHIEF EXECUTIVE (COMMUNITY PLANNING)

REPORT NO: 634-2006

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

To advise the Committee of the plan to adopt the National Entitlement Card for all Dundee Discovery Card holders starting with 16-18 year olds entitled to the new national travel concession

2. RECOMMENDATIONS

The Committee is asked to:

- 2.1 Note the issue of the National Entitlement Card for young people aged 16-18.
- 2.2 Agree to adopting the National Entitlement Card design for all Dundee Discovery Cards issued.

3. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

Travel concession scheme costs are covered by the Transport Agency for Scotland. The cost of processing the National Entitlement Card application form and card is covered by the Modernising Government Fund.

4. SUSTAINABILITY POLICY IMPLICATIONS

The card and transport scheme encourages use of public transport and shares resources.

5. EQUAL OPPORTUNITIES IMPLICATIONS

Young people entitled to the free bus travel scheme for disability reasons will already have a National Entitlement Card.

6. BACKGROUND

- 6.1 The next target group for the roll out of the National Entitlement Card is 16-18 year olds. There are approximately 6,000 in this group in Dundee. This is the first step in introducing a new travel concession scheme for Young People.
- 6.2 Approximately 87% of young people (12-18) in Dundee have been issued with a Dundee Discovery Card. Earlier this year the National Entitlement Card for those entitled to the free bus travel concession scheme was successfully introduced by the Dundee Discovery Card team to existing card holders. In a similar operation the Discovery Card team will be contacting existing card holders to make it easy for them to register for the new card. There will also be the opportunity for young people to get their new card at Customer Services in Tayside House.

- 6.3 Details of the travel concession scheme for young people have not been released yet. However, the Scottish Executive has asked for the cards to be available from January. The registration process for this will commence in November.
- 6.4 To avoid having two types of card in Dundee the Dundee Discovery Card team will plan to give all young people in Dundee aged 12-26 a National Entitlement card. Appendix 1 shows the agreed National Entitlement Card Design for young people. In addition to the new travel concession it will continue to have the range of services listed below:
- Young Scot membership and discounts
 - Proof of age
 - Library
 - Leisure
 - School Services (eg meals, library)
 - University Services (eg Abertay matriculation, library)
 - Credit Union
- 6.5 A briefing note will be issued to elected members on how young people can apply for the card. Communications through schools and direct mail to existing card holders will be supplemented by national advertising from the Scottish Executive.
- 6.6 To avoid having to re-issue cards all groups applying for a Discovery Card will be given the National Entitlement Card.

7. **CONSULTATIONS**

The Directors of Education, Leisure and Communities and Depute Chief Executive (Support Services) have been consulted on this report.

8. **BACKGROUND PAPERS**

None

Chris Ward

Assistant Chief Executive (Community Planning)..... 07/11/2006

