

TRANSPORT FOR THE COMMUNITY PROJECT

Report of the Director of Housing & Customer Service

1. SUMMARY OF REPORT

This report provides Local Housing Board members with an interim update on the above project and the progress made to date.

2. RECOMMENDATION

The Local Housing Board is asked to note the content of this report and receive a further report in February 2009 when the project has been running for six months.

3. MATTER FOR CONSIDERATION

- 3.1 The Community Projects initiative has been developed to provide a manageable way to engage volunteers. Incorporating Community Kitchen, Community Garden and Community Café, Community Projects aims to offer a wide range of social opportunities for our tenants which are supported or facilitated by volunteers.
- 3.2 In April 2008 the Local Housing Boards approved funding of £40,000 from the Estates Pride Quick Fix funding to provide free transport to enable tenants to access the community activities on offer through the wider projects.
- 3.3 The initial funding is limited to the first year, during which time Derby Homes and the Derby Association of Community Partners (DACP) are tasked with securing independent funding to take the project forward. The Local Housing Boards requested a six month update on the progress of the project.
- 3.4 The DACP entered into a contract with Translinc from 1 July 2008. There is now a comprehensive bus schedule covering all areas of the City.
- 3.5 During the service we did 672 trips (336 customers). The majority of the use, as shown on Appendix 1, was transport to and from social activities in common rooms with others using the new service to independently shop for themselves and also enjoy meals out with other tenants.

- 3.6 During the month of October there were a total of 704 trips (352 customers). We are very encouraged by this growth and expect that this will continue to increase over the coming months.
- 3.7 A further report will be presented to the Local Housing Boards in February 2008.

4 EQUALITIES IMPACT ASSESSMENT

- 4.1 The transport is fully adapted for use by disabled passengers. This enables equal access to all facilities. Outside venues included on the schedule are DDA compliant.

The areas listed below have no implications directly arising from this report

- Financial and Business Plan
- Legal and Confidentiality
- Consultation
- Personnel
- Environmental
- Health & Safety

If Board members or others would like to discuss this report ahead of the meeting please contact the author, or the Chief Executive, phil.davies@derbyhomes.org - Tel 01332 711010

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Background Information: None.

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