

50/07(01) - **FREE BUS TRAVEL – COMMUNITY TRANSPORT:** The Cabinet Member for Planning and Transport submitted a written report, arising from a Notice of Motion proposed by Councillor Clark and seconded by Councillor Willis, calling on the Government to secure a level playing field in respect of the important role played by Community Transport in the Harrogate District, and for the free facility to be offered at no cost to users of community transport. The meeting with the mover and seconder of the motion had considered the new concessionary fares scheme, and whilst the financial impact that the enhanced scheme would have on the Council was still unclear the Government were currently consulting on three options for the distribution of new grant, none of which were likely to be sufficient to cover the costs. However, the points made by Councillor Clark about the inequity in terms of availability to the elderly and infirm, of the Government's current proposals were justified and the Cabinet Member was happy to support community transport in lobbying for the extension of the free concessionary fares scheme to The Little Red Bus, provided that it was at no significant cost to the Council.

Moved by Councillor Don MacKenzie      Seconded by Councillor Andrew Jones

and **RESOLVED:**

That the report and action of the Cabinet Member be accepted.