



Committee and Date

People Overview Committee

27 March 2019

Item

Public

Discretionary School and College Transport – previous Cabinet reports

Responsible Officer

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1.0 Summary

1.1 This report provides committee members with copies of past Cabinet reports regarding discretionary school and college transport, in order to support their scrutiny of proposals to changes to the support that the council provides.

2.0 Recommendations

2.1 Members read the reports and prepare any questions that they might have regarding discretionary school and college transport.

3.0 Opportunities and risks

3.1 Officers have identified that proposed changes to discretionary school and college transport could result in a medium negative impact on protected characteristic groupings, in particular those for age, disability, and social inclusion. They could also potentially be seen as running against the corporate aims of the council with regard to children and young people and their life chances.

4.0 Financial assessment

4.1 Proposed changes to discretionary school and college transport could provide a budget saving of £202,000 annually.

5.0 Report

5.1 At the meeting of the People Overview Committee on 20 February 2019, the committee agreed to consider proposals for changes to support for discretionary school and college transport. Cabinet considered this matter at its meeting on 6 March 2019, agreeing to consult on proposals to the following:

- To increase the lower rate contribution to 50% of the cost of the mainstream scheme, which provides a travel pass or transport on a school transport service, for young people aged 16 or over attending school or college greater than three miles from home. This would increase the contribution from £142.50 to £437.50, while maintaining the upper limit of the scheme at its current £875 per year.

- To expand the contributions scheme to include students aged 16 or over with a special educational need or disability (SEND), in line with the above mainstream scheme
- To withdraw the council’s financial support for pupil transport to nursery for children with a special educational need or disability.

5.2 Committee members requested a number of documents to support their scrutiny of proposals for changes to support for discretionary school and college transport.

- The report that Cabinet considered on 6 March 2019 is attached as **Appendix A**.
- A report that Cabinet considered on assisted home to school transport on 15 June 2011 is considered as **Appendix B**.

List of Background Papers (This MUST be completed for all reports, but does not include items containing exempt or confidential information)

Cabinet Member (Portfolio Holder)

Cllr Nick Bardsley, Children and Young People

Local Member

All members

Appendices